

Dakota College at Bottineau Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title:

American Literature I: English 261
3 Credits

Course Description:

A survey of major works and writers in American Literature from the European discovery to the Civil War. The course will focus on the developing literary tradition and how events and people shaped that tradition. Issues such as slavery, womens rights, Native American rights, United States independence, state secession and the Civil War are reflected in the writing of the varied authors as they create a national literature.

Course Objectives:

To discuss important themes in United States literature
To learn about major United States wilters and their works
To analyze and write about United States literary themes and works
To analyze and discuss how varied ethnicities affected and were affected a developing literary tradition

Instructor:

Mr. Michael Porter
Office: Thatcher Addition: Room 2209
Telephone: 228-5445
E-mail:mike.porter@dakotacollege.edu

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday: 9:00 to 10:00
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 2:00 to 3:00

Lecture/Lab Schedule:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:00 to 1:50

Textbooks:

Baym, Nina, et. al. ed. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. Seventh Edition. Volumes A and B. New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 2007.

Course Requirements:

Daily reading assignments
Class discussion
Reflective papers
Tests and quizzes

General Education Goals/Objectives:

Goal 6: Demonstrates the knowledge of the human experience throughout history

Objective 2: Recognizes the world of human diversity

Skill 1: Demonstrates knowledge of varying cultural standards throughout the world

Skill 2: Identifies the varieties of human social groupings

Goal 7: Demonstrates the ability to create and analyze art; evaluate aesthetics; and synthesize interrelationships among the arts, the humanities, and society.

Objective 1: Creates art

Skill 1: Demonstrates knowledge of fundamentals of genres

Objective 2: Analyzes art

Skill 1: Possesses a base knowledge of art forms

Skill 2: Uses base knowledge to critique art works

Objective 3: Evaluates aesthetics

Skill 1: Demonstrates knowledge of systems of aesthetics as those vary through time and among cultures

Skill 2: Evaluates relationship of content and form in art works

Objective 4: Synthesizes interrelationships among arts, languages the humanities, and societies

Skill 1: Demonstrates knowledge of art forms in cultures

Skill 2: Evaluates the impact of art on individuals and society

Relationship to Campus Theme:

Students will read about and discuss human nature as it is revealed in works of United States authors.

Classroom Policies: Grading

1/3 daily quizzes, assignments and activities

1/3 two essays

1/3 midterm and final

Academic Integrity:

All assignments, tests and quizzes will meet the standards of accepted Academic Integrity.

Disabilities and Special Needs:

Students with disabilities or special needs must inform the instructor of those needs as soon as possible.

Tentative Course Outline:

American Literature I: 1500- 1865: Fall 2011

August 24

Introduce class: Lecture: Exploration and Colonial literature pp. 1-5

August 26

Native American tradition pp. 4-5

The Iroquois Creation Story pp. 17-21

PIMA Stories of the Beginning of the World pp. 21-31

Native American Trickster tales pp. 72-86; 91-97

August 29

Literature of Exploration pp. 5-9

Christopher Columbus pp. 31-35

Bartolome De Las Casas pp. 35-39

Alvar Nunez Cabeza De Vaca pp. 41-48

Thomas Harriot pp. 48-55

John Smith pp. 55-72

August 31

Pilgrim and Puritan pp. 9-16

William Bradford pp. 104-126

John Winthrop pp. 159-167

Mary Rowlandson pp. 235 "A narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs.

Mary Rowlandson" pp. 236-243 "The Twentieth Remove" pp. 258-265

"Hannah Dustan's Captivity and Revenge" pp. 343-346

September 2

Bay Psalm Book pp. 167-168

Cotton Mather pp. 307-313

Samuel Sewall pp. 288-289; *The diary* pp. 289-293;

Robert Calef pp. 334-342 (Salem Witch trial)

William Bradford "Mr. Morton of Merrymount" pp. 126-129

Morton pp. 138-146

Williams pp. 173- 174 Writings pp. 184-187

September 7

Edward Taylor "Upon Wedlock and Death of Children" pp. 283-284;

"Huswifery" pp. 285-286

Anne Bradstreet " To My Dear and Loving Husband" p. 206; "In Reference to Her Children, 23 June 1659" pp. 208-210; "Here Follow Some Verses upon the Burning of Our House July 10th, 1666" pp. 212-213

September 9

Test

September 12

Introduction: later Colonial and Revolutionary time pp. 357-367

September 14

Native American's Contact and Conflict

Pontiac pp. 438-443

Logan pp. 443-444

Red jacket pp. 445-447

Tecumseh pp. 447-449

Franklin: "Concerning the Savages of North American" pp. 468-472

Jefferson "Indians of North American" pp. 658-660

September 16

Sarah Kimble Knight pp. 368-378

William Byrd pp. 378-384

John Woolman pp. 588-595 (Early anti-slavery)

J. Hector St. John De Crevecoeur pp. 595-616

September 19

Benjamin Franklin pp. 449-450; The Way to Wealth pp. 451-457; Rules by Which a Great Empire may Be Reduced pp. 457-462; Information to Those Who Would Remove to America pp. 463-468; *The Autobiography*: Part One pp. 473-488

September 21

Jonathan Edwards pp. 384-386; "Personal Narrative" pp. 386-396; "Letter to Rev. Dr. Benjamin Colman" pp. 417-425; "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" pp. 425-438

September 23

John and Abigail Adams pp. 616-629

Thomas Paine pp. 629-630; *Common Sense* pp. 330-637; *The Crisis* pp. 637-643

Thomas Jefferson pp. 649-651; Autobiography of Thomas Jefferson pp. 651-657

Wheatley: "To His Excellency General Washington" pp. 761-762

Phillip Freneau pp. 742-743; "On the Emigration to the America and Peopling the Western Country" pp. 743-744

September 26

Olaudah Equiano pp. 674-675 *Narrative of the Life*: Chapters II, III pp. 677-689

Phillis Wheatley pp. 751-752 "On Being Brought from Africa to America" pp. 252-253;

Freneau: "To Sir Toby" pp. 746-748

"The Selling of Joseph" pp. 303-306

September 28

Woman's Poetry pp. 710-711; "Lines on Childbirth" pp. 712-713; "To my Burriassa" pp. 713-714; "Stanzas to a Husband Recently United" pp. 717-718; "A Thought of the Inestimable Blessing of Reason" pp 719-720; "To Miss M. V. W." pp. 722-723;

Judith Sargent Murray pp. 724-725 "On the Equality of the Sexes" pp. 726-733.

Tabitha Tenney pp. 905-927

September 30

Test

October 3

Introduction: Literature from 1820-1865: pp. 929-950

October 5

Assessment day

October 7

Washington Irving pp. 951-985

October 10

James Fenimore Cooper pp. 985-1009

October 12

Catherine Maria Sedwick pp. 1009-1028

First paper due

October 14

Edgar Allan Poe pp. 1528-1532; "To Helen" pp. 1532-1533; "The philosophy of Composition" pp. 1617-1625; "The Raven" pp. 1536-1539; "Annabel Lee" pp. 1542-1543; "The Fall of the House of Usher" pp. 1553-1565

October 17

"The Purloined Letter" pp. 1599-1611; "The Cask of Amontillado" pp. 1612-1616; "The Tell -Tale Heart" pp. 1589-1592; The Masque of the Red Death pp. 1585-1589; "The Black Cat" pp.1593-1599 .

October 19

Lydia Howard Huntley Sigourney pp. 10-28-1029; " The Sutte" pp. 1030-1031;"To the First Slave Ship" pp. 1031-1032; "Indian Names" pp. 1033-1035; The Coral Insect pp. 1035-1036; "Niagara" pp. 1038-1039; "The Two Draughts" pp. 1040-1041; :Two Old Women" pp. 1043-1044

October 21:

Research project

October 24

William Cullen Bryant pp. 1044-1051

October 26

Test

October 28

Ralph Waldo Emerson pp. 1106-1110; "Nature" pp. 1110-1138; "The American Scholar" pp. 1138-1151; "Self-Reliance" pp. 1163-1180

October 31

Henry David Thoreau pp. 1853-2060 *Walden*: "Chapter 2: Where I lived" pp. 1920-1924; "Chapter 12: Brute Neighbors" pp. 1991-1993; "Chapter 16: The Pond in the Winter" pp. 2018-2020; "Chapter 18: Conclusion" pp. 2038-2046

November 2

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow pp. 1495-1507

John Greenleaf Whittier pp. 1507-1508; "Snow-bound" pp. 1511-1528

November 4

Nathaniel Hawthorne pp. 1272-1275; "My Kinsman, Major Molineux" pp. 1276-1288; "Young Goodman Brown" pp. 1289-1298; "The Minister's Black Veil" pp. 1311-1320;

November 7

"The Birthmark" pp. 1320-1332; "Rappaccini's Daughter" pp. 1333-1353

November 9

Herman Melville pp. 2304-2308; *Moby Dick* Chapters 36 "The Quarter-Deck" pp. 2337-2342; 135 "The Chase the Third Day" pp. 2355-2362; "Bartleby, The Scrivener" pp. 2363-2389; "The Berg" pp. 2466-2467

November 14

Margaret Fuller pp. 1637-1640; *The Great Lawsuit* pp. 1640-1658

Elisabeth Drew Stoddard pp. 2524-2538

Lydia Maria Child pp. 1078-1080 "Women's Rights" pp. 1096-1100

Sojourner Truth pp. 1695-1686

November 16

Fanny Fern pp. 1792-1805

Rebecca Harding Davis pp. 2597-2625

November 18

William Apess pp. 1051-1058
Jan Johnston Schoolcraft pp. 1058-1068
Black Hawk pp. 1253-1259
Elias Boudinot pp. 1260-1261
The Cherokee Memorials pp. 1263-1268

November 21

Walt Whitman 2190-2195; Preface to Leaves of Grass pp. 2195-2209;
“Inscriptions” pp.2209-2210; “Song of My Self” 2210-2230 “Song of Myself”:52
p. 2254.

November 23

Emily Dickinson pp. 2554-2558
Poems pp.2558-2595 (Students pick poems)

November 28

Test

November 30

Fredrick Douglass pp. 2060-2172
Second paper due

December 2

Harriet Jacobs pp. 1808-1829
William Wells Brown 1829-1841

December 5

William Wells Brown: *Clotel; or the President's Daughter* pp. 1841-1853
Frances Ellen Watkins Harper pp. 2538-2539; “Eliza Harris” pp. 2539-2340; “The
Slave Mother” pp. 2541-2542; “The Fugitive’s Wife” p. 2543; “Bury Me in a
Free Land” pp. 2545-2546;”The Colored People in America” pp. 2546-2547
Harriet Beecher Stowe pp. 1698-1701; *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*: Chapter XXXIV pp.
1780-1787;Chapter XL pp. 1787-1792
John Greenleaf Whittier: “The hunters of Men” pp. 1509-1510; “Ichabod!” pp.
1510-1511

December 7

Jefferson “ Notes on the State of Virginia pp. 1684-1686; David Walker pp. 1684-
1690; Martin R. Delany pp.1696-1698; William Lloyd Garrison pp. 1690-1692;
Angeline Grimke pp. 1692-1695; Daniel Webster pp. 2172-2175; Abraham
Lincoln pp. 1627-1636; Mary Boykin Miller Chesnut pp. 2189-2190

December 9

Whitman: "Vigil Strange I Kept on the Field One Night" pp. 2276-2277; a March in the Ranks Hard-Prest, and the Road Unknown" pp. 2277-2278; "A Sight in Camp in the Daybreak Gray and Dawn" p. 2278; "The Wound Dresser" pp. 2279-2281; "Reconciliation" p.2281; "Spirit Whose Work is Done" pp. 2281-2282

December 12

"When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed" pp.2282- 2288

Review