



English 2328 - American Literature II

Course Syllabus: Spring 2017

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide responsible, exemplary learning opportunities.”

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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Since this is an online course, Office Hours do not apply, but I will check and answer your Blackboard email multiple times seven days a week. I will also set up a “Course Questions” Wiki. If you post to this Wiki, it is possible that I or other students will see your question and be able to help more quickly than waiting for an email response.

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

Catalog Course Description: 3 credit hours.

Lecture: Three hours of class each week. A survey of American literature from the Civil War to the present. Students will study works of prose, poetry, drama, and fiction in relation to their historical and cultural contexts. Texts will be selected from among a diverse group of authors for what they reflect and reveal about the evolving American experience and character.

Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 (Composition I)

Required Textbook: *Concise Anthology of American Literature*. Eds. George McMichael & James S. Leonard

Publisher: Pearson/Longman

ISBN Number: 978-0-205-76310-8

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Identify key ideas, representative authors and works, significant historical or cultural events, and characteristic perspectives or attitudes expressed in the literature of different periods or regions.
2. Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of characteristic forms or styles of expression during different historical periods or in different regions.
4. Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
5. Write research-based critical papers about the assigned readings in clear

and grammatically correct prose, using various critical approaches to literature.

Lectures & Discussions:

Short lectures combined with in-depth discussions normally drive this course. In the case of this online class, discussions are carried on each week through the class Wiki. Students are expected to complete reading assignments before responding, and actively participate in the discussion of those readings.

Wiki Posts

In order to facilitate active discussion, students are required to make at least three substantive posts each week – at least one initial post and two responses to the posts of other students – from information found within the reading assignment for that week. These Wiki posts are simply informal statements or questions that are used to generate discussion. These posts will be added together and will be part of the Discussion/Participation grade. (10weeks @20 pts. per week)

Reflection Papers

Following Wiki discussions you will be asked to write a short reflection paper of 200-300 words on one of the topics of interest to you that we have discussed that week. (10 weeks @ 20 pts. per week)

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Course grades will be based on a short research paper, a longer research paper, and class discussion/participation/talking points/reflection papers.

Research Paper I (5-7 pages)	300 pts.
Research Paper II (8-10 pages)	300 pts.
Wiki Discussions/Participation – 10@20 pts.	200 pts.
Reflection Papers – 10@20 pts.	200 pts.
Total Points Available	1000 pts.

Assignments: Research Papers

You will have two paper assignments of different lengths.

Paper I - (5-7 pages)

The first assignment provides an opportunity to explore the databases on our LRC (library) site, familiarizing yourself with the types of works they contain, the way they are organized, and the genres and topics at hand. Then choose an area of focus. What I'm looking for in Paper I is something of an overview or survey of what was published within a certain narrowly-defined area. You should think of this as something of a critical-bibliographic essay, rather than an in-depth analysis paper. For instance, say I decide I want to write my paper about texts written for children. On looking into the database, I see that 100 items are included, and I can't possibly read and write about them

all. On the other hand, I might decide to limit my focus to “Children’s Literature in the first quarter of the 20th century.” That would narrow things down to about seven texts, if one discards reprints, a manageable group to read and report on.

I will not grant extensions on papers unless merited by truly exceptional circumstances. Late work will only be accepted by prior arrangement between us and with documented proof of your inability to complete the assignment on time due to remarkable circumstances (dire illness, death in the family, etc.). The work may also be subject to a reduction in grade by 10 points per day late.

Paper II - (8-10) pages

Your second paper will be a slightly longer research paper on any American Literature topic of your choosing. You will need to develop a research question based on any aspect of any of the readings or on a combination of the readings, conduct appropriate research with secondary source materials, and compose an 8-10-page paper based on that research. If you are interested in extending the research you complete for your first paper, you may certainly do so, but this can also be a totally different topic. Extending a paper is not simply adding more pages to the first, but adding an additional 8-10 pages of new information that goes with the first to create a more comprehensive document of 12-15 pages. Again, I will not grant extensions on papers or discussion questions unless merited by truly exceptional circumstances.

Other Course Requirements:

Class participation is an important expectation of this course. Students are expected to actively participate in discussions that take place in class. Rubrics for *Essay Evaluation and the Research Essay* are located on the class **Blackboard Homepage**. A class **Wiki** is used to generate class discussions and help you add your opinions. Also included is a weekly reflective writing assignment due after class discussions.

ATTENDANCE/WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Students are expected to attend class regularly by signing on to the Blackboard Home Page regularly. Failure to sign on for more than one week during the semester will result in a grade of F. It is the responsibility of students who need to withdraw from the class because of failing grades to do so before the final withdrawal date posted by the college, or they will receive a grade of F.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:

"Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook."

Academic Ethics

The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to arrange an appointment with a College counselor to obtain a Request for Accommodations form. For more information, please refer to the NTCC Catalog or Student Handbook.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

English 2328 Spring Class Schedule 2017

Week 1: 1/17-21

Introduction to course and syllabus.

Week 2: 1/22-28

Assigned readings for the week:

1593 - Edward Arlington Robinson

1599 - Robert Frost

1611 - Carl Sandburg

1657 - Sherwood Anderson

1720 - Ezra Pound

1724 - T.S. Eliot

Weekly discussion – on Wiki -- of writers, their work, and/or films.

Weekly Response Paper due 1/27.

Week 3: 1/29-2/4

Assigned readings for the week:

1749 - e.e. cummings

1761 - Edgar Lee Masters

1767 - Wallace Stevens

1779 - William Carlos Williams

1789 - Marianne Moore

1794 - The New Negro

1802 - Countée Cullen

1824 - Thomas Wolfe

Weekly discussion – on Wiki -- of writers, their work, and/or films.

Weekly Response Paper due 2/3.

Week 4: 2/5-11

Assigned readings for the week:

1864 - Langston Hughes from text (and film biography) from YouTube link.

Copy this link and paste into your browser: <https://youtu.be/D10t7mvH4EQ>

Weekly discussion – on Wiki -- of writers, their work, and/or films.

Weekly Response Paper due 2/10.

Week 5: 2/12-18

Assigned readings for the week:

1846 - Earnest Hemmingway (*Hills Like White Elephants*) and film adaptation.

1850 - William Faulkner (*Barn Burning*) and film adaptation.

Weekly discussion – on Wiki -- of writers, their work, and/or films.

Weekly Response Paper due 2/17.

Week 6: 2/19-25

Assigned readings for the week:

1868 - John Steinbeck - *The Chrysanthemums* (and film bio.)

1891 - Introduction - Literature of the (*Late*) Twentieth Century (*1945 to Present*)

Weekly discussion – on Wiki -- of writers, their work, and/or films.

Weekly Response Paper due 2/24.

Week 7: 2/26-3/4 - First Essay Due 3/10

Assigned readings for the week:

1928 - Richard Wright (and film)

1937 - Elizabeth Bishop

1942 - Robert Lowell

1949 - Anne Sexton

1955 - Sylvia Plath

1961 - W.S. Merwin

Weekly discussion – on Wiki -- of writers, their work, and/or films.

Weekly Response Paper due 3/3.

Week 8: 3/5-11

Preparation for *First Essay Turn-in* – 3/10
No Wiki discussions or Response Papers due.

Spring Break - 3/13-18

Week 9: 3/19-25

Assigned readings for the week:

1970 - James Baldwin (*and film bio.*) Copy & paste links:

1992 - Flannery O'Connor (*and film bio.*)

Weekly discussion – on Wiki -- of writers, their work, and/or films.

Weekly Response Paper due 3/24.

Week 10: 3/26-4/1

Assigned readings for the week:

2019 - Sonia Sanchez

2027 - Maxine Hong Kingston

2081 - Joyce Carol Oates

1909 - James R. McDonough

2102 - Tim O'Brien

Weekly discussion – on Wiki -- of writers, their work, and/or films.

Weekly Response Paper due 3/31.

Week 11: 4/2-8

Assigned readings for the week:

2074 - N. Scott Momaday

2147 - Leslie Marmon Silko

2167 - Louise Erdrich

2295 - Sherman Alexie

Weekly discussion – on Wiki -- of writers, their work, and/or films.

Weekly Response Paper due 4/7.

Week 12: 4/9-15

Assigned readings for the week:

To be announced.

Weekly discussion – on Wiki -- of writers, their work, and/or films.

Last Weekly Response Paper due 4/14.

Week 13: 4/16-22

Assigned readings for the week:

To be announced.

Wiki discussions – only if you want to, or need to ask course questions – not graded.

Week 14: 4/23-29

Assigned readings for the week:
To be announced.

Wiki discussions – only if you want to, or need to ask course questions – not graded.

Week 15: 4/30-5/4 Final Essay Due 5/4

Wiki discussions – only if you want – not graded.

Week 16: 5/5-10

Final Exam Week

We do not have an exam – just your final paper.

Graduation 5/13 - 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.