

ENG442.001: Advanced Survey of American Literature II
TR 4:30 p.m.-5:45 p.m.
University Center TBA
Spring Semester (2011)
Texas A&M University-Texarkana
903-223-3022
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Dr. Brian C. Billings
University Center 222
1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. (M)
6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (M)
2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. (T)
6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. (T)
1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. (W)
6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (W)
2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. (R)
6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. (R)

Course Texts:

Baym, Nina, et al., eds. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. 7th ed. Vol. C. New York: Norton, 2007. Print.
(ISBN: 978-0393927412)

---. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. 7th ed. Vol. D. New York: Norton, 2007. Print.
(ISBN: 978-0393927429)

---. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. 7th ed. Vol. E. New York: Norton, 2007. Print.
(ISBN: 978-0393927436)

Description: This course examines representative works of American literature from the mid-nineteenth century to contemporary times using historical, philosophical, and structural filters to investigate universal social themes.

Objectives: 1) Examine the literary and cultural contexts of individual works.
2) Discuss the literary and social value of representative works.
3) Use scholarship to produce critical writing about literature.

Student-Learner Outcomes: 1) Develop awareness of the scope and variety of works present in the American literary canon by reading the assigned literary works and completing the course requirements of exams, exercises, and projects.

2) Understand works of American literature as expressions of individual and human values in historical and social contexts by evaluating the importance of literary contextual issues in exams and written reports.

3) Respond critically to works in the humanities by employing literary terminology and applying criticism to literature in analysis sessions and written reports.

- 4) Engage in the creative process and comprehend the intellectual demands required of writers by applying formalist and creative filters to assigned works.
- 5) Articulate informed personal reactions to works in the humanities in analysis sessions and written reports.
- 6) Build an appreciation for the aesthetic principles that guide or govern the humanities and arts by reading the assigned texts and completing analysis sessions and written reports.
- 7) Obtain and display knowledge of the influence of American literature upon intercultural experiences by reading literary works representative of various cultures within the United States and discussing issues relating to cultural exchange during exams and exercises.

Disclaimer: Several of the selected texts deal with unsettling and distasteful scenarios. These situations exist not for gratuitous purposes but rather to show the complexities and difficulties of life. *Classroom discussions will directly address these issues.*

Card Comments: All sessions will begin and conclude with card comments. Each student will write his or her name, the name of the instructor, the name of the course, and the title “Card Comments” on a card. An opening thought about class content will be written on the card during the first minute of class; a closing thought about class content will be written on the card during the last minute of class. The instructor will collect all cards when class concludes. Each completed card is worth *ten points*.

Projects:

- 1) Critical Essay: Write one critical essay examining a text discussed during class; this essay should range from ten pages to fifteen pages in length. Create a strong argument. Use textual evidence and content from at least five critical articles to inform the paper. Append an annotated bibliography to the essay. Follow MLA format. Papers will be read aloud during class.
- 2) Proposal: Submit to the instructor a topic proposal for a critical paper. This proposal should be two hundred and fifty words in length. Provide five detailed reasons for a topic’s selection. Follow MLA format.
- 5) Progress Reports: Submit to the instructor *three reports* examining the progress made toward completion of an approved critical paper. Each progress report should be two hundred and fifty words in length. Provide five detailed points of progress in each report.

Requirements: This course requires numerous readings, card comments, twelve writing-intensive quizzes, one paper proposal, three progress reports about the critical essay, three exams, and one

critical essay. Students should expect an intense class discussion during each class session. A work must be read by its assigned date on the syllabus.

Submissions: Assignments (excluding class-oriented exercises) must be typed and submitted to the instructor. All papers must be reviewed by tutors in Texas A&M University-Texarkana's ASK Center before they are submitted. Proof of consultation will be provided by the tutors. *The instructor will not grade papers which have not been reviewed.* Assignments must also be posted electronically to *Turnitin.com*. (The class identification number is 2348393, and the class password is *Americana*.) Each assignment must be submitted by the appropriate due date printed on the syllabus.

Conferences: Students should conference with the instructor for assistance with projects or clarification of class material. Conferences are available during the instructor's office hours or by special appointment. Please arrange a date and a time for a conference by sending a request to the instructor using e-mail.

Attendance: Class-oriented assignments and group work are essential for this course, so students should attend all class sessions. *Two absences* are allowed. According to the university's attendance policy, the instructor may drop from the course a student who misses more than two class sessions. The instructor may grant excused absences at his discretion.

Cellular Phones: All cellular phones must be set to vibrate during class sessions. Sending text messages is not allowed.

Conferences: Students should conference with the instructor for assignment clarification or immediate writing feedback. Conferences are available during the instructor's office hours or by special appointment. Please arrange a date and a time for a conference by sending a request to the instructor using e-mail.

Consultation Time: Each student must spend at least *three hours* of consultation time with tutors in Texas A&M University-Texarkana's ASK Center. Tutors will provide proof of each consultation session. Note that conferencing with the instructor counts as consultation time.

Academic Honesty: Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, and plagiarism (the copying or undocumented use of materials from any source) constitute academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a grade of *F* in this course and disciplinary action. Each student is responsible for reading and understanding the University Policy on Academic Integrity (UPAI).

ADA Statement: Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the Texas A&M University-Texarkana Disability Services Office (UC255A) by calling 903-223-3062.

E-Mail Statement: After applying to and being accepted into a program by Texas A&M University-Texarkana, an individual will receive an A&M-Texarkana e-mail account. Instructors and university officials will deliver official university correspondence to this account.

Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via his or her university e-mail account, and each individual must check his or her official A&M-Texarkana e-mail account completely and frequently. Faculty members and students must use their university e-mail accounts when communicating about coursework.

Grading: Each assignment corresponds to a given point value. Grades are computed by dividing a student's accumulated points by the number of points possible.

Points by Assignment

Card Comments (Per Session)	10
Critical Essay	700
Quiz	100
Progress Report	50
Proposal	100

Grade Computation (Example)

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Points Earned</u>	<u>Points Possible</u>
Card Comments (Fifteen)	150	150
Critical Paper	550	700
Quizzes (Five)	375	500
Progress Reports (Two)	100	100
Total:	1175	1450

$$\text{Grade} = 1175/1450 = 81.03\% \sim 81\% = \text{B}$$

Tentative Schedule

- 01/18/11: Course Introduction
- 01/20/11: “American Literature: 1865-1914” (Vol. C, 1-13)
“*El Corrido de Gregorio Cortez*” (Vol. C, 1133)
“Gregorio Cortez” (Vol. C, 1134-1137)
“Jacinto Treviño” (Vol. C, 1137-1139)
From *The Squatter and the Don* (Vol. C, 93-100)
“Tiempos Amargos” (Vol. C, 1139-1140)
First Quiz
- 01/25/11: from *Chippewa Music* (378-381)
from *Chippewa Music—II* (381-382)
from *Four Masterworks of American Indian Literature: Quetzalcoatl, The Ritual of Condolence, Cuceb, The Night Chant* (Vol. C, 372-377)
“[He has filled graves with our bones]” (Vol. C, 385-387)
“[I am alone]” (Vol. C, 383-384)
- 01/27/11: “Impressions of an Indian Childhood” (Vol. C, 1107-1113)
From *Life Among the Piutes* (Vol. C, 502-512)
“The Problem of Old Harjo” (Vol. C, 1046-1051)
“The School Days of an Indian Girl” (Vol. C, 1113-1121)
“Why I Am a Pagan” (Vol. C, 1130-1132)
Second Quiz
- 02/03/11: Instructor’s Absence
- 02/08/11: “In the Jewish Synagogue at Newport” (Vol. C, 518-519)
“In the Land of the Free” (Vol. C, 880-886)
“The Law of Life” (Vol. C, 1052-1057)
“The New Colossus” (Vol. C, 520)
“Roman Fever” (Vol. C, 843-852)
“The Storm” (Vol. C, 531-534)
“Turned” (Vol. C, 822-828)
- 02/10/11: “The Imported Bridegroom” (Vol. C, 764-806)
Maggie: A Girl of the Streets (Vol. C, 957-1000)
from *Sister Carrie* (Vol. C, 940-954)
Third Quiz
- 02/15/11: from *Autobiography of an Ex-Coloured Man* (Vol. C, 1021-1038)
from *Contending Forces: A Romance Illustrative of Negro Life North and South* (Vol. C, 725-752)
“The Goophered Grapevine” (Vol. C, 689-696)
“Lift Every Voice and Sing” (Vol. C, 1020-1021)

- 02/17/11: “How Mr. Rabbit Was Too Sharp for Mr. Fox” (Vol. C, 515-516)
 from *Lyrics of the Lowly Life* (Vol. C, 1039-1043)
 from *The Souls of Black Folk* (Vol. C, 894-910)
 from *Up from Slavery* (Vol. C, 665-687)
 “The Wonderful Tar-Baby Story” (Vol. C, 514-515)
 Fourth Quiz
- 02/22/11: from *Letters from the Earth* (Vol. C, 307-321)
 “The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County” (Vol. C, 104-108)
 from *Roughing It* (Vol. C, 303-307)
Mark Twain Tonight (Active Viewing)
 “The War Prayer” (Vol. C, 322-324)
 Performance Proposal or Paper Proposal Due
- 03/01/11: First Exam
- 03/03/11: “American Literature: 1914-1945” (Vol. D, 1177-1190)
 “Luke Havergal” (Vol. D, 1210-1211)
 from *The Making of Americans* (Vol. D, 1358-1370)
 “Miniver Cheevy” (Vol. D, 1211-1212)
 “Mr. Flood’s Party” (Vol. D, 1212-1214)
 “Richard Cory” (Vol. D, 1211)
- 03/08/11: “After Apple-Picking” (Vol. D, 1398)
 “Birches” (Vol. D, 1400-1402)
 “Fire and Ice” (Vol. D, 1403)
 “Mending Wall” (Vol. D, 1390)
 “Nothing Gold Can Stay” (Vol. D, 1403)
 “Out, Out—” (Vol. D, 1402)
 “The Oven Bird” (Vol. D, 1400)
 “The Pasture” (Vol. D, 1389)
 “The Road Not Taken” (Vol. D, 1399-1400)
 “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening” (Vol. D, 1403)
 “The Wood-Pile” (Vol. D, 1399)
 Fifth Quiz
- 03/10/11: from *Cane* (Vol. D, 1817-1822)
 from *Collected Poems* (Vol. D, 2027-2037)
 “The Eatonville Anthology” (Vol. D, 1701-1710)
 “The Gilded Six-Bits” (Vol. D, 1713-1721)
 “How It Feels to Be Colored Me” (Vol. D, 1710-1713)
 “The Man Who Was Almost a Man” (Vol. D, 2067-2075)
- 03/15/11: Holiday
 “Flowering Judas” (Vol. D, 1691-1700) (Holiday Reading)

- 03/17/11: Holiday
Quicksand (Vol. D, 1722-1803) (Holiday Reading)
- 03/22/11: *Trifles* (Vol. D, 1412-1421)
from *Winesburg, Ohio* (Vol. D, 1422-1436)
Sixth Quiz
First Progress Report Due
- 03/24/11: from *Complete Poems* (Vol. D, 1534-1539)
“Gerontion” (Vol. D, 1585-1586)
from *Selected Poems* (Vol. D, 1532-1534)
“Sweeney among the Nightingales” (Vol. D, 1580-1581)
The Waste Land (Vol. D, 1587-1599)
- 03/29/11: *Long Day’s Journey into Night* (Vol. D, 1610-1647) (Active Viewing)
Seventh Quiz
- 03/31/11: *Long Day’s Journey into Night* (Vol. D, 1647-1685) (Active Viewing)
- 04/05/11: “Barn Burning” (Vol. D, 1955-1967)
“The Leader of the People” (Vol. D, 2050-2060)
“The Snows of Kilimanjaro” (Vol. D, 1983-1999)
“Winter Dreams” (Vol. D, 1823-1839)
From *U.S.A.* (Vol. D, 1854-1857)
Eighth Quiz
- 04/07/11: Second Exam
- 04/12/11: “American Literature since 1945” (Vol. E, 2083-2092)
“Big Wind” (Vol. E, 2135-2136)
“Child on Top of a Greenhouse” (Vol. E, 2137-2138)
“Frau Bauman, Frau Schmidt, and Frau Schwartz” (Vol. E, 2137)
“Going to Meet the Man” (Vol. E, 2509-2520)
“The Lost Son” (Vol. E, 2139-2143)
“My Papa’s Waltz” (Vol. E, 2138)
Second Progress Report Due
- 04/14/11: “The Applicant” (Vol. E, 2709-2710)
“Blackberrying” (Vol. E, 2707)
“Daddy” (Vol. E, 2704-2706)
“The Day Lady Died” (Vol. E, 2594-2595)
“Lady Lazarus” (Vol. E, 2701-2703)
“To the Harbormaster” (Vol. E, 2591-2592)
“A True Account of Talking to the Sun at Fire Island” (Vol. E, 2595-2596)
“Why I Am Not a Painter” (Vol. E, 2592)
Ninth Quiz

- 04/19/11: *Dutchman* (Vol. E, 2745-2758)
 from *Invisible Man* (Vol. E, 2298-2314)
 from *The Last Days of Louisiana Red* (Vol. E, 2840-2843)
 “Neo-HooDoo Manifesto” (Vol. E, 2844-2848)
 “Recitatif” (Vol. E, 2685-2698)
- 04/21/11: “The Body as Braille” (Vol. E, 3190)
 “For Virginia Chavez” (Vol. E, 3187-3188)
 “Child on Top of a Greenhouse” (Vol. E, 2137-2138)
 “*Madre Sofia*” (Vol. E, 3148-3149)
 “Refugio’s Hair” (Vol. E, 3153)
 “Seniors” (Vol. E, 3152)
 “Taking Away the Name of a Nephew” (Vol. E, 3150-3151)
 “Visions of Mexico While at a Writing Symposium in Port Townsend,
 Washington” (Vol. E, 3188-3190)
 “Wet Camp” (Vol. E, 3149-3150)
 “Woman Hollering Creek” (Vol. E, 3164-3171)
 Tenth Quiz
- 04/26/11: from *The Adventures of Augie March* (Vol. E, 2317-2325)
 “After the Last Dynasty” (Vol. E, 2106)
 “Father and Son” (Vol. E, 2105)
 “Footnote to Howl” (Vol. E, 2583-2584)
 “Howl” (Vol. E, 2576-2583)
 from *Maus* (Vol. E, 3091-3107)
 “Quinnapoxet” (Vol. E, 2107)
 “The Wellfleet Whale” (Vol. E, 2108-2111)
 Third Progress Report Due
- 04/28/11: *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Vol. E, 2186-2248) (Active Viewing)
 Eleventh Quiz
- 05/03/11: “Beauty and Sadness” (Vol. E, 3193-3194)
 “Eating Alone” (Vol. E, 3201)
 “Eating Together” (Vol. E, 3201-3202)
 “The Gift” (Vol. E, 3198-3199)
 “Heaven” (Vol. E, 3196-3197)
 “Lost Sister” (Vol. E, 3194-3196)
 “Mnemonic” (Vol. E, 3202)
 “Persimmons” (Vol. E, 3199-3201)
 “This Room and Everything in It” (Vol. E, 3203-3204)
 from *Tripmaster Monkey* (Vol. E, 2874-2900)
 “The White Porch” (Vol. E, 3191-3193)
- 05/05/11: “Dear John Wayne” (Vol. E, 3173-3174)
 “Do Not Go Gentle” (Vol. E, 3245-3248)

“Grief” (Vol. E, 3175)

“I Was Sleeping Where the Black Oaks Move” (Vol. E, 3174-3175)

“Fleur” (Vol. E, 3175-3184)

“Lullaby” (Vol. E, 3083-3090)

from *The Way to Rainy Mountain* (Vol. E, 2766-2775)

Twelfth Quiz

05/10/11: Critical Essay Due
Third Exam