AMERICAN LITERATURE (ENGL 2326.9M2)

CREDIT
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION
Online

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:
A D or better in ENGL 1301 (Composition I).

COURSE DESCRIPTION
A survey of American literature from the period of exploration and settlement 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.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to
- 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.
- Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the development of characteristic forms or styles of expression during different historical periods in different regions.
- Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
- Write research-based critical papers about the assigned readings in clear and grammatically correct prose, using various critical approaches to literature.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor:	Ashley E. Thibodeaux, M.A.
Email:	aethibodeaux1@lit.edu
Office Phone:	(409) 245-8802
Office Location:	Virtual Office
Office Hours:	By virtual appointment only

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

The instructor will provide information for supplemental required reading resources via Blackboard.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Attendance is based on participation in this course. Every week I will review how often you are accessing Blackboard Learn to complete your readings and assignments. On the 12th class day, also known as Census Day, progress of attendance will be documented and submitted through Starfish. Census Day is the last day for students to drop classes and receive a refund. Please be sure you are regularly accessing and participating in this course.

DROP POLICY
If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an "F" in the course.

COURSE CALENDAR

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS
01/24/25 to 01/28/25	Welcome to American Literature	• Meet Ms. Thibodeaux • 2024-2025 Calendar • **SYLLABUS** • Student Services • Campus Resources • Plagiarism • MLA • Let's Get Ready!	• Assessment Form: Is Distance Learning Right for Me? Due 01/28/25 • Class Reading Contract Due 01/28/25 • Plagiarism Quiz Due 01/28/25 • Building Your MLA Format Due 01/28/25
01/29/25 to 02/07/25	Module 1: Colonialism and Early Nationalism	• Literary Criticism • Native American Voices and Early America • Colonialism and The Great Awakening	• Discussion: Myths and Culture Due 01/31/25 • Colonialism Discussion Due 02/04/25 • Response Paper 1 Topic Proposal Due 02/06/25 • End of Module 1 Quiz Due 02/07/25
02/10/25 to 02/28/25	Module 2: American Romanticism	• American Romanticism – Gothic Literature • Civil Outcry and Slave Narratives	• Discussion: Haunted Spaces Due 02/12/25 • Response Paper 1: Thesis and Quotes Due 02/14/25 • Discussion on Slave Narratives Due 02/19/25

		• The Transcendentalists	• Response Paper 1: Final Draft Due 02/21/25 • End of Module 2 Quiz Due 02/28/25
03/03/25 to 03/21/25	Module 3: Realism and Naturalism	• Gothic Realism • **SPRING BREAK March 10 – March 14** • Realism and Naturalism	• Discussion – Gothic Reality Due 03/05/25 • Response Paper 2 [Midterm]: Thesis and Quotes Due 03/07/25 • Discussion: Jack London-esque Writing Due 03/19/25 • Response Essay 2 [Midterm]: Outline Due 03/21/25
03/24/25 to 04/11/25	Module 4: Modernist	• The Modern Wasteland • Cosmic Horror • Robert Frost- Frosted Verses	• Discussion: Behold the Wasteland! Due 03/26/25 • Discussion: The Cult of Cthulhu Due 04/02/25 • Response Paper 2 [Midterm] Final Draft Due 04/04/25 • Read and Begin Response Paper 3 Rough Draft Due 04/09/25 • Research Paper Topic Proposal Due 04/11/25
04/14/25 to 05/02/25	Module 5: Contemporary	• Post War Outcry • The Black Arts Movement • The Immigrant Experience • MLA and Color Code Help Folder	• Thesis and Works Cited for Research Paper Due 04/16/25 • Response 3 Paper Final Draft Due 04/17/25 • Discussion: Post War Outcry Due 04/18/25 • Learn about Black Arts Movement Authors and Answer Questions Due 04/22/25 • Read Black Arts Movement Texts and

			Answer Questions Due 04/23/25
			• Research Paper Outline Due 04/24/25
			• Discussion: Black Arts Movement Due 04/25/25
			• Answer Questions about Immigrant Experience Readings Due 04/30/25
			• Research Paper Rough Draft Due 05/02/25
05/05/25 to 05/07/25 ****** 05/13/25	Conclusion of American Literature	• Self-Proofreading and Editing of Research Paper • Final Examination	• Research Paper Final Draft Due 05/07/25 • Final Exam Due 05/13/25

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Participation 10%
- Daily Work Assignments 20%
- Response Papers 20%
- Mid-Term 15%
- Research Paper--Common Assignment 20%
- Final Exam 15%

GRADE SCALE

- 90-100   A
- 80-89   B
- 70-79   C
- 60-69   D
- 0-59   F

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles' Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology (lit.edu).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT
It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT
Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses

STARFISH
LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION
You will need to prepare a considerable amount of time to devote to this course to be successful in the class. Due dates are non-negotiable. Each assignment via Blackboard Learn

includes an assigned date. All assignments completed via Blackboard Learn are due by 11:59 p.m. CST. I do not recommend that you wait until the last hour before the deadline to submit your assignments via Blackboard Learn. Correspondence via email or Blackboard will be given a response within a 24-hour period during the weekdays. Any emails or Blackboard messages sent to me after 5pm on Fridays will be reviewed the following Monday. I will inform the class of any circumstances that will prolong my response time.

LATE WORK
Late work is impermissible in this course. Documented excused absences and/or unavoidable circumstances that prevented you from completing the assignment will be arranged on a case-by-case basis. Unavoidable circumstances are defined as follows: 1) natural disasters: events like earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and wildfires, 2) health emergencies: sudden illnesses or accidents that require immediate medical attention, 3) legal obligations: being summoned for jury duty or other legal requirements, 4) family emergencies: situations like the sudden illness or death of a family member. Unavoidable circumstances do not include technical failures that can be resolved by LIT's IT helpdesk, taking planned or unplanned vacations/trips, forgetting assignment and assignment due date, waiting until the final hour to submit your assignment via Blackboard Learn, and other similar instances.

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS
LIT wishes to create a safe and understanding environment for students of all genders, ethnicities, religions, sexualities, and backgrounds. Literature in particular is a landscape full of authors with various personalities and cultures. I personally embrace diversity of thought and opinions. In class discussions, I want to be sure that everyone has the chance to voice their thoughts on a matter without unnecessary judgment. However, slurs or jokes pointed at minority groups are unacceptable, even if the student is a member of that group. I expect all students to treat each other and themselves with respect in my classroom. Students will read works that are challenging and controversial in this class. Please ensure classroom conversation remains civil.