

American Literature (ENGL 2326)



Credit: 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture)

Prerequisite: 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:

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 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.

Core Objectives

- A. Critical Thinking: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
- B. Communication: To include the effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written and visual communication.
- C. Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
- D. Personal Responsibility: To include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Course Outline

- A. The Basics of Literature
 - 1. Critical Analysis
 - Purpose, Audience
 - 2. Critical Approaches
 - 3. Research Methods
- B. Beginnings to 1700
- C. American Literature 1700-1820
- D. American Literature 1820-1865
- E. American Literature 1865-1914
- F. American Literature 1914-1945
- G. American Literature Since 1945

This course will cover the above listed periods in American Literature, with attention to each period's relevance and impact on American societal and cultural issues, as well as specific authors making significant contributions to each.

Grade Scale

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

Course Requirements

- 1. Two 500-700-word response papers.
- 2. One 1,000-word (minimum) research project, including a proposal and an annotated bibliography.
- 3. One graded mid-term exam.
- 4. One graded final exam.

Course Evaluation

Response Paper 1	15%
Response Paper 2	15%
Proposal	10%

ENGL 2326
Course Syllabus

Mid-Term Exam	10%
Annotated Bibliography	10%
Final Exam	20%
<u>Final Project</u>	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

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 or obtained in print upon request at the Student Services Office. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

Disabilities Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the office located in the Cecil Beeson Building, room 116B.

The standard course syllabus may be found on Blackboard.

Course Schedule (varies by instructor)

Contact Information (varies by instructor)