American Literature (ENGL 2326)

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Credit: 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture)

Prerequisite: 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.

Required Textbook and Materials

The Norton Anthology of American Literature (Shorter Seventh Edition) Editor Nina Baym, ISBN **978-0393930573 - PLEASE ORDER USED OFF OF AMAZON. $10 OR LESS.**

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. ***Successful students will take diligent notes during lecture, keep up with the readings, and discuss the critical approaches to all literature with their classmates in order to best understand the material.***

Grade Scale

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

60-69 D

0 – 59 F

Course Requirements

1. Quizzes
2. Discussion Boards
3. Short Writing Assignments
4. One graded midterm exam
5. Research Paper--Common Assignment
6. One graded final exam

Course Evaluation

● Participation	10%	
● Daily Work Assignments	40%	
● Midterm Exam	15%	
● Research Paper--Common Assignment	15%	
● Final Exam	20%	
● Total	100%	

Course Policies

1. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated.
2. Students are responsible for initiating and dropping a course. If students stop logging into the course and do not complete the course drop process, then they will receive an "F" grade for the course
3. Internet Usage – Students are expected to use proper net etiquette while participating in course emails, assignment submissions, and online discussions.
4. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor. See instructor's master syllabus addendum.

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. **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.