

English 3251: American Literature to 1865

Fall 2018

Instructor: Professor Swope
Office: Pedreira 6A
Office Hours: T, TH 11:30-12:30 or by appointment
Email: rswope@gmail.com

Required Texts:

Norton Anthology of American Literature. Package 1, Volumes A& B, 8th Edition. Ed. Nina Baym. (NOTE: you can also use the 7th or 9th edition but do NOT purchase the “shorter edition.”)

Objectives: English 3251 offers a survey of American literature from its beginnings up to 1865 through analysis of a variety of texts: essays, poems, fiction.

Attendance: You will be allowed 5 absences without repercussions. Each absence over the 5 costs you 1/3 of a letter grade. I do not differentiate between excused and unexcused absences, so use your 5 wisely. Keep in mind that you are still responsible for the work on days you miss.

Graded Work: Participation: Class time will be devoted to DISCUSSION, not just lecture, which means you must participate. Participation comprises 5% of your grade.

Quizzes: Frequently, I will quiz you on the material we are reading. I will ask 5 or so multiple choice or short answer questions, which should be relatively easy to answer if you have done the reading. The combined grade for the quizzes will count for 20% of your grade. If you know in advance that you will miss a day, let me know and if there is a quiz on that day, I will provide a make-up assignment. Be aware that to do well on the quizzes you **MUST READ**. The entire course is designed to introduce you to a variety of texts. If you do not read these texts, you will not gain much from the course, nor will your grade likely bring you much happiness.

Exams: There will be 3 exams (dates on schedule). Exams will consist of short answer and a choice of essay questions. Each will be worth 25% of your final grade. Quality exams will demonstrate critical thought, not just memorization.

Participation	5%
Quizzes	20%
Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Exam 3	25%

Schedule: (Subject to revision—pagination from Norton 8th edition)

T 8/21	Introduction to course
Th 8/23	Columbus 34-38, De Las Casas 38-43
T 8/28	No Class
Th 8/30	Winnebago Trickster Cycle 105-110, Smith 83-99

T 9/4	Bradford 122-156
Th 9/6	Morton 158-164, Winthrop 177-86
T 9/11	Rowlandson 257-288
Th 9/12	Mather 328-33, Franklin 480-526 (Part I)
T 9/18	Franklin (Part II) 526-42, Paine 641-52
Th 9/20	Crevecoeur 605-25
T 9/25	Exam 1
Th 9/27	Cooper 64-79 <i>Volume B</i>
T 10/2	Irving 29-62
Th 10/4	Poe 654-81
T 10/9	Poe 681-87, 701-13
Th 10/11	Hawthorne 386-96, 401-09
T 10/16	Hawthorne 396-401, 418-30
Th 10/18	Melville 1483-1508
T 10/23	Melville 1526-83
Th 10/25	Exam 2
T 10/30	Douglass 1174-1240 (first half)
Th 11/1	Douglass Continued
T 11/6	Jacobs 921-42
Th 11/8	Stowe 807-65
T 11/13	Stowe 865-905
Th 11/15	Whitman: "Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking" and "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed"
T 11/20	Whitman continued
Th 11/22	No Class: Thanksgiving Break
T 11/27	Dickinson 122, 202, 225, 236, 260, 269, 279, 340, 359, 372, 409, 448, 466, 479, 591, 598, 760, 857, 1096, 1263, 1489, 1577, 1773
Th 11/29	Dickinson continued
T 12/4	Review
Th 12/6	Exam 3