



Semester and Year - Summer 2009
CRN (Course Reference Number), Course Prefix, Number and Title – CRN 40142, ENGL 2327—American Literature 1
Course Meeting Days, Times and Location (Campus, Building, and Room number) – 8 am – 9:55am M T W Th F WCJC/UH Sugar Land Complex 269
Instructor’ Name – D. Glen Smith
Instructor’s Telephone number(s) – NA Instructor’s email address – smithd@wcjc.edu Instructor’s webpage – http://www.davidglensmith.com/wcjc
Instructor’s Office Hours and Office Location – 7am – 8am M-F, adjunct office
Course Catalog Description – Focuses on American Literature from the pre-Colonial Period through the Romantic Period.
Instructor’s Grading System – 90-100: A 80-89: B 70-79: C 60-69: D 59 below: F
Instructor’s Attendance Policy – Attendance is mandatory. Excessive absences affect your course grade by loss of retention, plus loss of notes and handouts. Communication with instructor is paramount. Due to the nature of the course and the in-class exercises, missing 4 days, which is 20% of the class lectures, will result with the student failing the course. I understand family emergencies occasionally cause you to be absent. Send me a short email regarding absences and provide proper documentation. I do not take off points from your final grade, based on your absences. <u>However, I do take points off if you turn in an essay late. No material will be accepted by email.</u>
Last day to “Drop” course with grade of “W” – August 4, 2009

** Any student with a disability or other special circumstance requiring academic accommodations or other consideration in order to successfully complete the requirements of this course should identify himself or herself individually to the instructor to discuss the matter in a private and confidential manner.*

*** Misconduct for which discipline may be administered at WCJC includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the college (plagiarism and cheating refer to the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test, copying tests, assignments, reports, or term papers).*

(Syllabus subject to change with advance notice.)

TEXTBOOKS:

Hacker, Diana. The Bedford Handbook. 7th ed.

McMichael, George, et. al. Anthology of American Literature. 9th ed.

Recommended: college dictionary, planned access to a computer for essays.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADE PERCENTAGES:

In Class Exercises/HW/ <u>Participation</u>	10%
Midterm (Critical Analysis & Terms)	25%
1 critical analysis essay	15%
Final Research Paper	25%
Final Exam	25%

There will be in-class assignments and occasional homework. Completing these assignments earn you points. Since these are based on specific lectures, you must be present on the day the in-class assignment is given and collected. *No late work will be accepted for this category.*

LATE PAPER POLICY

Since the progress of this class depends on essays turned in on time, late essays will be penalized ten points for each course day that they are late. If you miss class when an essay is due, your grade will show accordingly. *After a week late papers will not be accepted.*

MISSED EXAMS POLICY

Depending on circumstances, missed examinations will be given within a week of scheduled test during a scheduled appointment at the testing center. Students are required to make appointments for missed tests at their convenience.

CELL PHONE / TEXT MESSENGER/ LAPTOP POLICY

Cell phones must be silent in class. If an important call arrives, take it into the hall quickly. Laptops are permitted of course, so long as they are used without distractions. On the other hand, *no text messengers in the classroom.*

GRADING STANDARDS:

Essays will be graded based on a variety of skills. First, content and organization are most important. All written work should show evidence of significant thought and contain logically presented ideas. Second, sentences, word use and tone, and punctuation and mechanics are important. You should pay close attention to eliminating major sentence errors, such as comma splices, fragments, and fused sentences. Points will be deducted for errors on your essays.

ESSAY FORMAT

Essays should be typed double-spaced and have a standard one-inch margin. Always use Times New Roman, 12 point size. For all essays, follow the template for MLA standards provided. *Staple your essay before coming to class.* When making corrections, be neat and use ink.

PLAGIARISM POLICY

If clear evidence of academic dishonesty is found for any assignment, a 0 (0 points) for the assignment will be recorded and the English Department Chair will be notified of the incident and the grade. If a second incident of academic dishonesty occurs, an F for the course grade will be recorded and the English Department Chair notified of the incident and the grade.

Tentative Instructional Outline

Instructor reserves the right to make changes with advanced notice.

Week 1 07-13

- Monday: Basic introduction
 General Essay Guidelines
 Guidelines for Reading
 Types of Conflict
- Tuesday: *Anthology of American Literature*: pp 1-2
 (stop at “Exploration and Colonization”)
 Classifications of Folk Tales and Myth
 Archetypes and Symbol
- Wednesday: Native American Folk Tales *supplemental*
 Alabama-Coushatta Tribe, Tlingit Tribe, Iroquois-Language Tribes
 Iroquois League, from “The Constitution of the Five Nations” p 37
- Thursday: Christopher Columbus pp 14 - 22
 Bartolome de las Casas: A Short Account... *supplemental*
 Anthology of American Literature: “Exploration and Colonization” p 2 - 9
- Friday: John Smith, “A Description of New England” p 40-42, 56-59, 60-61, 63
 William Bradford, p 64-67, 68, 69
 William Shakespeare, Sonnet #126 *supplemental*
 Thomas Taylor, Meditations from the Creatures

Week 2 07-20

- Monday: Jonathan Edwards, “Images or Shadows of Divine Things” p 293-298
 William Bradford, p. 74-75
 John Donne, “Elegy XIX: To His Mistress Going to Bed” *supplemental*
 John Winthrop, p 98 and A Model of Christian Charity p 109
- Tuesday: Library Orientation
- Wednesday: William Bradford, “from Chapter XXIV: Mr. Roger Williams” p 85
 Roger Williams, p 120-126
 John Cotton “God’s Promise to His Plantation” sermon
 “The Divine Right to Occupy the Land” sermon *supplemental*
 John Winthrop, Journals of John Winthrop p 119-120
- Thursday: Anne Bradstreet, p 134-135
 “Contemplations p137
- Friday: Anne Bradstreet
 “Prologue” p 136
 “The Author to Her Book” p 147
 “Upon the Burning of Our House” p 153

Week 3 07-27

- Monday: review
 Final Project outlined
- Tuesday: Midterm
- Wednesday: Phillis Wheatley p 526
- Thursday: Red Jacket, p 651
 Vine Delora Jr Custard Died for Your Sins *supplemental*
- Friday: Washington Irving p 713
 “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” p 730

Week 4 08-03

- Monday: Edgar Allan Poe, “Sonnet — Silence” p 899
 “The Fall of the House of Usher” p 918
- Tuesday: Nathaniel Hawthorne, “The Minister’s Black Veil” p 1112
 Declaration of Thesis due
 Last Day to Drop Class with a ‘W’
- Wednesday: Fanny Fern, “Hints to Young Wives” p 1962
 “Owls Kill Humming-Birds” p 1963
 “Fresh Fern Leaves: Leaves of Grass” p 1965
- Thursday: Walt Whitman, “The Sleepers” p 2219-2226
- Friday: Walt Whitman, “The Sleepers” p 2219-2226

Week 5 08-10

- Monday: Emily Dickinson, #365 (“Because I Could Not Stop for Death”) p 2265
 #241 (“I Like a Look of Agony”) p 2253
- Tuesday: Emily Dickinson, #216 (“Safe in Their Alabaster Chambers”) p 2252
 # 754 (“My Life Had Stood — A Loaded Gun”) p 2267
- Wednesday: Final Paper due
 Final exam

Statement on Academic Integrity:

Wharton County Junior College requires that students submit their own work, whether they are writing papers, taking exams, or making oral presentations. Plagiarism, taking someone else's words or ideas and representing them as your own, is expressly prohibited by college. Good academic work must be based on honesty. Submitting someone else's work as one's own is considered a serious offense by the college. Student academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to:

- copying the work of another during an examination or turning in a paper or an assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- copying from books, magazines, or other sources, including Internet or electronic databases like EBSCOhost and Elibrary, or paraphrasing ideas from such sources without acknowledging them;
- submitting an essay for one course to a second course without having sought prior permission from your instructor;
- giving a speech and using information from books, magazines, or other sources or paraphrasing ideas from such sources without acknowledging them;

NOTE on Team or Group Assignments: When you have an assignment that requires collaboration, it is expected that the work that results is credited to the team unless individual parts have been assigned. However, the academic integrity policy applies to the team as well as to its members. All outside sources must be credited at outlined above.

Instructors may require students to submit all written work on disks for submission to MyDropBox.com, which is a service that compares student papers with all Internet sources to verify that the student has properly credited all sources downloaded.

CONSEQUENCES for Academic Dishonesty:

Disciplinary action will be pursued in all instances in which it is determined that academic dishonesty has occurred. In the case of suspected wrongdoing, the faculty member may file charges with the Dean of Students, inform his or her department head, and follow the process specified by the college.

Disciplinary action may include but is not limited to the following:

- Assignment of a failing grade for a test, examination, or assignment;
- Assignment of a failing grade;
- Assignment of a student disciplinary sanction from the college;
- Suspension or expulsion from the college.

I acknowledge that I have read this Academic Integrity Policy and the consequences for violating it.

Print Name _____ *Date* _____

Signature _____ *Student ID Number* _____

*adapted from Robert Morris University's Academic Integrity Policy