

Dr. Julie Hall
English 3361.02: Survey of American Literature, 1865 to the Present
Spring 2018
MWF 10:00-10:50
EV 356

Hall contact info:
Office: Evans 115
Office phone: 294-1417; English office: 294-1403
eng_jeh@shsu.edu
Office hours: MW 2-3:30 and by appointment

Survey of American Literature, 1865 to the Present

Required Texts:

The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Ninth Edition, **Volumes C and D**. Ed. Nina Baym et. al. New York: W. W. Norton & Co.
Volume C (9th edition): 978-0393264487
Volume D (9th edition): 978-0393264494
Their Eyes Were Watching God, Zora Neale Hurston. New York: Harper Perennial Modern Classics. ISBN: 978-0-06-112006-0

Course Description:

This course is a study of literature produced in the U.S. from 1865 (the end of the U.S. Civil War) through the present. The course aims to give you a strong idea of movements, authors, and landmark texts in that period, providing a combination of in-depth study and broad overview. The course will strengthen your reading, analytic, and writing skills; prepare you professionally in the field of English; grow your knowledge of American literature; and broaden your understanding of cultural and creative activity in the U.S. in the last 160 years.

Specific Course Objectives:

Objectives of this course are thus:

- **To increase your knowledge of American literature.**
- **To develop specific skills needed by professionals in this field.**
- **To broaden your understanding of intellectual and cultural activity, in this case, literature.**
- **To strengthen your analytical, research, and writing skills.**

Course Policies and Requirements

1. Attendance. Your regular attendance is expected in class, and I will take roll each class day. **You are allowed 3 absences in this class. They may be excused (illness or emergency) or unexcused.** More than 3 absences will lead to deductions from your final average. **With 6 or more absences you may fail the class.** Please talk to me if you have extenuating circumstances during the semester, such as an extended illness or emergency in the family. **With 0 or only 1 absence, two points will be added to your final average.**

2. Technology. Class time is unplugged, unless specifically stated by me. No laptops, pads, cell phones, or text messagers. **This policy is non-negotiable; failure to abide by this policy may result in your ejection from class.**

APPRISE YOURSELF OF SHSU ACADEMIC POLICY STATEMENT 100728, which states that (2.0) **“failure to comply with the instructor’s policy [on text messagers] could result in expulsion from the classroom or with multiple offenses, failure of the course.”**

And: (3.0): “Any use of a telephone or text messenger or any device that performs these functions during a test period is prohibited. These devices should not be present during a test or should be stored securely in such a way they they cannot be seen or used. **Even the visible presence of such a device during the test period will result in a zero for that test. Use of these devices during a test is considered de facto evidence of cheating and could result in a charge of academic dishonesty.”**

Use or visible presence of a text messenger during exams in this class will result in a zero on the exam.

3. Exams. You will have **3** exams in this class. Exams will be a combination of objective, short answer or essay.

4. Missed exams and make-up exams. If you are absent on an exam day, you must present me with a signed excuse from a doctor, or other documentation of your excuse, in order to take the exam or the quiz without penalty. Please call or e-mail me as soon as you know that you will miss an exam. A standard deduction of 5 points will be taken on make-up exams unless documentation of the absence is provided.

Exams must be made up within one week of the date they are initially given, unless I have granted you specific permission. **After one week, I may decline** to allow you to make up the exam.

5. Papers. Papers for this class will be critical and analytical in nature. Any noting of sources must be done according to latest MLA guidelines. Late papers will be penalized one-half letter grade (5 points) for each day they are late. Extensions may be granted if warranted by circumstances; please talk to me as far in advance as possible, if you anticipate needing an extension. **Unless an extension has been granted, a paper will not be accepted over one week late.**

6. Quizzes. I will give short reading quizzes periodically during class. They may be announced or unannounced. The average, or total, of your quizzes will count as one major test grade in your final average.

7. Class demeanor and disruptive behavior. University policy allows me to remove any student from the class whose behavior is interfering with the orderly conduct of class and the learning experience of other students. **This includes talking while class is in session, texting,**

coming to class late, leaving early, leaving and coming back in, and any other behavior that might distract me or other students while I am teaching.

8. Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's words or ideas as your own. It can take many forms, such as turning in another person's work as your own, copying from someone else's test or paper, or lifting too exactly from sources when you are doing research. It is a particularly serious academic offense, because it amounts to **academic theft** and is, of course, dishonest. **Plagiarism will result in failure of the assignment (grade of zero) and may result in failure of the course.** In addition, The University and its representatives may initiate **disciplinary proceedings** against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Please **be particularly careful when using material from the internet.** If it is not documented and attributed properly, this, too, can constitute plagiarism.

9. Final grade. Your final grade will be composed of a straight average of major exams, paper grades, and your quiz average.

10. Student evaluations. Each student will be asked to evaluate the course at the end of the semester.

University policies

Classroom Rules of Conduct

Please observe University guidelines for conduct in classes; note especially university definitions of disturbances in class and disruption of the learning process.

Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days

Section 51.911b of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 86101 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. Students desiring to absent themselves from a scheduled class in order to observe a religious holy day shall present to each instructor a written statement concerning the religious holy day. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

"Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Americans with Disabilities Act.

It is the policy of SHSU that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students

with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, I encourage you to register with the “SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosure of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. **Please note:** No accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

Visitors in the classroom.

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor’s discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

Daily Assignments

Week 1: Jan. 17-19

W: U closure: winter weather

F: Introduction to the course
Poetry at mid-century

Week 2: Jan. 22-26

M Assignment on Whitman

W Introduction to Walt Whitman

F “Song of Myself,” Units 1-20

Week 3: Jan 29-Feb. 2

M Whitman, continued

W ***Another kind of revolutionary***
Emily Dickinson, Poems No. 39, 269, 320, 448, 479, 519, 1263

F Emily Dickinson, continued

Week 4: Feb. 5-9

M ***Fictional Innovations***
Samuel Clemens, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Chapters 1, 2, 4-7
Critics on *HF*, Toni Morrison

W ***Another kind of realism***
Henry James, “The Beast in the Jungle”

F James, continued
At the fin de siècle (the end of the century)
Emma Lazarus, “The New Colossus”

Week 5: Feb. 12-16

M Kate Chopin, “Desiree’s Baby”

W Charlotte Perkins Gilman, “The Yellow Wallpaper”

F **Review for Exam 1**

Week 6: Feb 19-23

M **Exam 1**

W Stephen Crane, "The Open Boat"

F *Autobiography*

Booker T. Washington, *Up From Slavery*, Chapters 1 and 2

W. E. B. DuBois, from *The Souls of Black Folk*, pp. 883-891

Week 7: Feb 26-Mar2

M Paul Laurence Dunbar

W *The Twentieth Century: Modernism*

Edith Wharton, "Roman Fever"

F **Volume D, Norton Anthology**

Robert Frost, "The Pasture," "Mending Wall," "Fire and Ice," "Nothing Gold Can Stay,"
"After Apple-Picking," "The Road Not Taken," "Desert Places," "The Oven
Bird"

Week 8: Mar 5-9

M Frost, continued

W T. S. Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"

F Amy Lowell, "The Captured Goddess," "Venus Transiens," "September, 1918"

Week 9: Mar 12-16

SPRING BREAK

Week 10: Mar 19-23

M *The Harlem Renaissance*

Hughes, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers," "I, Too," "Song for a Dark Girl," "Mulatto"
"Visitors to the Black Belt," "Freedom [1]"

W Hughes

F Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, video

Week 11: Mar 26-30

M *Their Eyes Were Watching God*

W Exam 2

F Good Friday: HOLIDAY

Week 12: Apr 2-6

M TEWWG

W TEWWG

F TEWWG

Week 13: Apr 9-13

M E. E. Cummings, "in Just-." "O sweet spontaneous," "Buffalo Bill's," "anyone lived in a pretty how town," "my father moved through dooms of love"

**W Countee Cullen
 Jean Toomer**

F William Faulkner, "A Rose for Emily"

Week 14: Apr 16-20

M Faulkner, "Barn Burning"

W Ernest Hemingway, "The Snows of Kilimanjaro"

F Hemingway, continued

Week 15: Apr 23-27

M Eudora Welty, "A Worn Path"

W Richard Wright, "The Man Who Was Almost a Man"

F Alice Walker, "Everyday Use"

Week 16: Apr 30-May 4

M Review for exam

W Exam 3.

F Catch up day

Week 17: Final Exams

May 14: Grades due

