EN 221-02: American Literature Through Whitman

Syllabus and Course Description for Spring 2013
MWF 9:00-9:50
BG307

Mrs. Latasha Howell

Office Hours: MWF: 10:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:00-1:00 p.m.
TR: 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Office Phone: (256) 765-5062
Office: Willingham Hall (Basement 003)
Email: lhowell@una.edu

Course Description:
English 221 is designed to introduce the student to significant writers in American literature prior to the Civil War. The emphasis is on the primary materials, and we will examine as much of the literature from different time periods as possible.

Grading scale: A (100-90), B (89-80), C (79-70), D (69-60), and F (59 and below).
Semester credit hours: 3.


Course Objectives:
Objectives: Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to
1. recognize major writers of the period and representative works;
2. be able to identify traits associated with the different literary movements;
3. be aware of the philosophies and cultural influences on the literature;
4. be able to critically analyze representative works;
5. be able to locate, read, evaluate, and adapt literary criticisms;
6. be able to write effectively on topics relating to the subject matter;
7. develop a critical vocabulary
8. develop an appreciation of the value of reading for broadening perspectives;
9. improve command of the English language through vocabulary building, including both connotation and denotation.

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<th>Standard</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
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<td>290-3-3-10(2)(a)(i)(I) Knowledge of works representing a broad historical and contemporary spectrum of United</td>
<td>Short answer tests; essay tests; class discussion; summaries/annotations over</td>
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Course Requirements:

**75% Exams:** There will be three exams covering the three major time periods the course covers.

**25% Quizzes, participation and critical paper:** Class participation grades will be based upon frequent unannounced quizzes and attendance. *There are no make-up daily quizzes. Attendance will be very important as well as daily participation. Also, one critical paper will be required this semester. The paper assignment will be posted later on Angel. Any paper turned in late will be penalized 10 points for each day late.*

Withdrawal Policy: The following statement is from *The UNA Catalog* published by the University:

A student may withdraw from a course with a grade of W up to and including the Friday that falls one week after the designated midterm date by bringing a completed withdrawal slip (signed by the instructor) to the Registrar’s office. After that deadline and up to the Wednesday that falls two weeks prior to the last day of class, a student may withdraw from a course with a grade of WP (withdraw passing) or WF (withdraw failing) assigned by the instructor. During the final two weeks of class, withdrawal is not permitted except in extraordinary circumstances. Permission of both the instructor and department chair is required, and the grade of WP or WF will be assigned by the instructor.

Attendance Policy: Students should attend every class and be on time. Please be aware that excessive absences will have a negative impact on your grade. Tardiness can be very distracting and may cause you to miss important information *(three (3) tardies will count as one absence)*; therefore, try to be on time for all class meetings. You will be allowed 4 absences without penalty; if you exceed
your limit, your final average will be lowered four (4) points for each absence. Six absences will be grounds for failure of the course.

Make-up Policy: When possible, students should let me know if they will be missing a class assignment so that arrangements can be made to make up that work. Excused absences include illness, death in the family, or another emergency. I may require verification of the emergency before the student will be allowed to make up the assignment. Assignments will be made up outside of class at a prearranged time. In-class assignments like group work and quizzes cannot be made up. Exams, however, can (with an excused absence). A test (with an excused absence only) must be made up within a week of the original test date.

Rules for the classroom:
Students should refrain from using cell phones, MP3 players, iPods, and other electronic devices in class. Please make sure that your cell phones are turned off or on silent. These devices distract not only the students who use them, but other students and the instructor as well. Students should not work on assignments for other classes during this class. The instructor will assume that the student is not paying attention to the material being covered and will count the student as absent.

ACADEMIC HONESTY and PLAGIARISM:
Academic honesty is discussed in the 2007-2008 Catalog (43). [http://www2.una.edu/library/plagiarismstudentguide.htm](http://www2.una.edu/library/plagiarismstudentguide.htm). Additional information and links to more sites on plagiarism are included on the English Department’s web page, [http://www2.una.edu/english/penalties_for_plagiarism_at_una.htm](http://www2.una.edu/english/penalties_for_plagiarism_at_una.htm). Penalties for plagiarism at UNA may range from a failing grade for a specific assignment to a failing grade in the course to suspension from the University (in repeat cases).

Accommodation Statement
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University offers reasonable accommodations to students with eligible documented learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities as compared to an average person in the population. It is the responsibility of the student to contact Developmental Services prior to the beginning of the semester to initiate the accommodation process and to notify instructors within the first three class meetings to develop an accommodation plan. Appropriate, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow each student to meet course requirements, but no fundamental or substantial alteration
of academic standards will be made. Students needing assistance should contact Developmental Services.

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<tr>
<th>EN 221-02 Calendar of Assignments</th>
<th>Mrs. Howell</th>
<th>Spring 2013</th>
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<td><em>Please note: For each date, the assignment listed should be read prior to class.</em></td>
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**Week 1**

1/9 Introduction to the course / syllabus
1/11 Introduction to Puritanism / William Bradford pp. 72-73

**Week 2**

1/14 William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation* pp. 74-90
1/16 John Wintrop, *A Model of Christian Charity* pp. 90-102
1/18 Anne Bradstreet p. 110 and “Before the Birth of One of Her Children” p. 120

**Week 3**

1/21 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (no class)
1/23 Bradstreet cont., “To My Dear and Loving Husband” p. 120
    “A Letter to Her Husband, Absent upon Public Employment” p. 121
    “In Memory of My Dear Grandchild Elizabeth Bradstreet . . .” p. 121
Week 4
1/28  Cotton Mather cont.
1/30  Jonathan Edwards pp. 177-189

Week 5
2/ 4  Test Review
2/ 6  Test One—Puritanism
2/ 8  Essay Question Portion of Test One

Week 6
2/11  Introduction to the Enlightenment Period pp. 157-169
2/15  WINTER BREAK

Week 7
2/18  Thomas Paine, From Common Sense pp. 324-331
2/20  “The Crisis, No.1” pp. 331-336
2/22  Thomas Jefferson pp. 337-344

Week 8
2/25  Thomas Jefferson cont.
2/27  Phillis Wheatley pp. 401-402
   “On Being Brought from Africa to America” p. 403
3/ 1  Phillis Wheatley, “To the University of Cambridge, in New England” p. 404
   “To His Excellency General Washington” p. 410

Week 9
3/ 4  Discussion of Critical Paper—Due March 22, 2013
3/ 6  Review for Enlightenment Period Test
3/ 8  No Class—Instructor Conference

Week 10
3/11  Test Two—Enlightenment Period
3/13  Essay Question Portion of Test Two

Week 11
3/18  Angelina E. Grimke, From Appeal to the Christian Women p. 771
   Sojourner Truth, “Speech to the Women’s Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio, 1851” p. 775
3/20  Frederick Douglass, “What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?” pp. 1002-1005
3/22  Critical Paper Due
## Week 12
**SPRING BREAK---March 25-March 29**

## Week 13
4/1  Introduction to Romanticism  
4/5  Irving cont.

## Week 14
4/8  Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Nature* pp. 508-536  
4/12 Nathaniel Hawthorne, “Young Goodman Brown” p. 619

## Week 15
4/15  Hawthorne cont.  
4/17  Edgar Allan Poe, “The Raven” p. 688  
4/19  Edgar Allan Poe, “Annabel Lee” p. 691  
          “The Tell-Tale Heart” p.714

## Week 16
4/22  Walt Whitman, “Song of Myself” (1, 2, 3) pp. 1024-1026  
4/24  Walt Whitman, “Song of Myself” (4, 5, 6) pp. 1027-1028  
4/26  Emily Dickinson, poems: 260, 340, 355

## Week 17
4/29  Emily Dickinson, poems: 448, 479, 591  
5/1  Final Exam Review

### MAY 2, 2013—STUDY DAY

### FINAL EXAM—Friday, May 3, 2013—8:00-9:45