

**ENGL 2326**  
**American Literature**  
**Western Texas College**

**Basic Course Information**

- A. 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.
- B. Prerequisites: Students must successfully complete ENGL 1301 and 1302 before enrolling in ENGL 2326. The class is identified as reading and writing intensive.
- C. Online course content is administered through the college's learning management system (LMS), [Moodle](#), also called [eCampus](#). A link to [eCampus](#) can also be found on by going to the WTC home page ([www.wtc.edu](http://www.wtc.edu)) and clicking on the big M with a graduation cap found in the Quick Links section on the right side of the page.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

- A. 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.
- B. Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods.
- C. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of characteristic forms or styles of expression during different historical periods or in different regions.
- D. Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
- E. Write research-based critical papers about the assigned readings in clear and grammatically correct prose using various critical approaches to literature.

**Core Objectives/Program Outcomes**

- A. **Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** – creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- B. **Communication Skills (COM)** – effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- C. **Personal Responsibility (PR)** – ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision making
- D. **Social Responsibility (SR)** – intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities

**Information on Books and Other Course Materials**

- A. **Required Textbook:** Norton Anthology of American Literature: 9th Shorter Edition ISBN: 9780393264517.
- B. **Supplemental (at instructor discretion):** may include software for course, additional texts, access to a dictionary and/or thesaurus, MLA/APA style manual, flash drive, etc.

## Major Course Requirements

- A. Three essays, and the work that goes in to them (outlining, prewriting, rough drafts, peer edits, etc.), are required for successful completion of this course.
- B. The midterm should be completed near the midpoint of the course.
- C. The final exam will comprise a percentage of the final grade.
- D. All essays are to be submitted to Turnitin. Your instructor will set you up with this. Turnitin checks for plagiarism. Under WTC policy, plagiarism may result in the student being dropped from class. Students suspected of plagiarism will be consulted. Students found guilty of plagiarism will be dropped.

## Grading System

- A. Grade Scale:
  - A = 90-100
  - B = 80 -89
  - C = 70-79
  - D = 60-69
  - F = 59 of below
- B. Course breakdown:
  - a. General (homework, quizzes, participation/attendance, other assignments/activities, presentations, essay preparation, etc.) — 50%;
  - b. Essays (3) — 25%;
  - c. Exam(s) (midterm and/or final) — 25%

**NOTE:** Individual instructors may breakdown the general category as they deem necessary as long as breakdown categories do not exceed 50% of the course grade.

## Testing Requirements

- A. Online students: If exams are objective exams and not in essay format submitted to Turnitin, they are required to be proctored and taken at an approved testing organization. Ask your instructor for more details.
- B. Students are not allowed to use their books or notes of any kind while taking proctored exams.

**Additional Resources and Information: You may refer to the [WTC Course Catalog](#) and WTC website for the following:**

- A. [Campus Map](#) – Pg. 2
- B. [Campus Calendar](#) – Pg. 7
- C. Final Exam Schedule – Pg. 9
- D. Academic Integrity – Pg. 57
- E. [Campus Security](#) – Pg. 61
- F. Class Attendance – Pg. 61
- G. How to drop a class – Pg. 63
- H. [LRC / Library](#) – Pg. 68
- I. Student Conduct – Pg. 73
- J. [Students with Disabilities](#) – Pg. 75
- K. Withdrawal Information – Pg. 77

- L. [Counseling & Advising](#)
- M. [Mental Health Resources](#)
- N. [Campus Carry Laws & Policy](#)
- O. [Sexual Harassment Awareness & Prevention](#)

### Tentative Course Schedule

(subject to change at instructor discretion)

\*\*When the three essays are completed throughout the course is up to the instructor.\*\*

Unit	Content
Course Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course Introductions/Procedures</li> <li>• Turnitin Registration</li> <li>• MLA Format Review (SLO E)</li> <li>• Writing about Literature &amp; Critical Literary Theories/Perspectives - types of essays, structures, tone, thesis, etc. (SLO E)</li> <li>• Literary Research using proper resources &amp; databases (SLO E)</li> <li>• Literary Elements &amp; Genres – theme, irony, diction, etc. (SLO D)</li> </ul>
American Literature Beginnings to 1820	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical implications of literature from time frame – Identify how various authors use literary elements in various types of written genres during the time period to reflect the values, perspectives and attitudes of the time period. (SLO A)</li> <li>• Analyze how social, political, cultural, and religious aspects influenced various genres of writings during the time period and the impact these writings have on the arts and humanity in general. (SLO B, C, D)</li> <li>• Properly Quoting from various forms of Literature in MLA format (SLO E)</li> <li>• Essay** (MLA/APA) (SLO D &amp; E)</li> </ul>
American Literature 1820 - 1865	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical implications of literature from time frame – Identify how various authors use literary elements in various types of written genres during the time period to reflect the values, perspectives and attitudes of the time period. (SLO A)</li> <li>• Analyze how social, political, cultural, and religious aspects influenced various genres of writings during the time period and the impact these writings have on the arts and humanity in general. (SLO B, C, D)</li> <li>• Review APA Format (SLO E)</li> <li>• Essay** (MLA/APA) (SLO D &amp; E)</li> </ul>
American Literature 1865-1914	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical implications of literature from time frame – Identify how various authors use literary elements in various types of written genres during the time period to reflect the values, perspectives and attitudes of the time period. (SLO A)</li> <li>• Analyze how social, political, cultural, and religious aspects influenced various genres of writings during the time period and the impact these writings have on the arts and humanity in general. (SLO B, C, D)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay** (MLA/APA) (SLO D &amp; E)</li> </ul>
American Literature 1914-1945	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical implications of literature from time frame – Identify how various authors use literary elements in various types of written genres during the time period to reflect the values, perspectives and attitudes of the time period. (SLO A)</li> <li>• Analyze how social, political, cultural, and religious aspects influenced various genres of writings during the time period and the impact these writings have on the arts and humanity in general. (SLO B, C, D)</li> <li>• Essay** (MLA/APA) (SLO D &amp; E)</li> </ul>
American Literature since 1945	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical implications of literature from time frame – Identify how various authors use literary elements in various types of written genres during the time period to reflect the values, perspectives and attitudes of the time period. (SLO A)</li> <li>• Analyze how social, political, cultural, and religious aspects influenced various genres of writings during the time period and the impact these writings have on the arts and humanity in general. (SLO B, C, D)</li> <li>• Essay** (MLA/APA) (SLO D &amp; E)</li> </ul>

**Final Exam**