



ENGL 262 – American Writers II

Course Information

Semester	: Summer 2020 (June 29 th , 2020 - July 31 st , 2020)
Credit	: 4
Teaching Hours	: 50 Hours
Time	: 2 hours/day, Mon-Fri
Professor Name	: Andrew Gaber
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Course Description

A survey of literature since the middle of the nineteenth century. The course reflects the diversity and range of American experience. Readings may include memoirs, criticism, poetry, fiction, or drama by authors such as Emily Dickinson, Mark Twain, Willa Cather, T.S. Eliot, William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, and James Baldwin. Note: ENGL 261 American Writers I is not a prerequisite for this course. Prerequisite: Completion of Common Core Writing Requirement (ENGL 110 Expository Writing) or permission of the instructor.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, the students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of diverse American writers and texts from the middle of the nineteenth century to the present day
2. Critically engage with texts and display analytical reading skills both in class discussions and written responses
3. Understand how cultural and historical contexts influence interpretations of both the studied texts and the American experience
4. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of literary and critical movements during the chosen time period (e.g., American realism, American romanticism, New Criticism, deconstruction, etc.)

Course Requirements

This course consists a range of activities including group learning, lectures, discussions, and video/audio presentations. Students will be evaluated by response papers, attendance, and participation in class, a final paper, and a final presentation.

Required Text

Levine, Robert S., et al., editors. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature. 9th edition*, Vol. Package 2: Volumes C, D, E. W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2017. ISBN-13: 978-0393264555.

Georges, Nicole J. *Calling Dr. Laura: A Graphic Memoir*. Mariner Books, 2013. ISBN-13: 978-0547615592.



Rankine, Claudia. *Citizen: An American Lyric*. Graywolf Press, 2014. ISBN-13: 978-1555976903

Solnit, Rebecca. *Men Explain Things to Me*. Haymarket Books, 2015. ISBN-13: 978-1608464661

Course Requirements, and Grading

A	100-94	B ⁺	89-87	C ⁺	79-77	D ⁺	69-67
A ⁻	93-90	B	86-83	C	76-73	D	66-63
		B ⁻	82-80	C ⁻	72-70	D ⁻	62-60

Assignments	Percent of Grade
Weekly Discussions/Short Assignments/Quizzes	50%
Presentation/Discussion Leader Assignment 1	15%
Presentation/Discussion Leader Assignment 2	15%
Final Paper	20%
Total	100%

Weekly Discussions/Short Assignments/Quizzes (60%) – We will have regular assignments that will tie with your readings and class content. 10% per week. Regular attendance is necessary to complete these assignments and receive credit.

Presentation/Discussion Leader Assignment 1&2 (15% each, 30% in total) - You will choose an author from the textbook that does not show up on the reading schedule and prepare a short presentation and discussion questions over a representative text. Further guidelines for these assignments will be given in class.

Final paper (20%) – For your final paper, you can pick one of the novels covered over the course of the semester. The paper should be 5-7 pages, 12 pt font, double spaced. It should be grounded in a central idea or argument about the novel. Further guidelines will be given in class.

Course Expectations

While there is no formal grade for attendance, regularly missing class will show a direct effect on your final grade, as you will be missing assignments and activities that have grades attached. My policy on late work is this: **NO LATE WORK!** If you anticipate missing an assignment or due date for a very good reason (such as illness), please be in communication with me. This will often require documentation to support a make-up opportunity.

Workload Expectations: For our accreditation, it is essential that all Framingham State University credit courses follow the Federal Definition of credit hour: for every one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction, a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work is required. Since the summer courses meet for two contact hours daily (10 contact hours of classroom time weekly), the expectation is that students spend 20 hours per week doing out-of-



class work. For the five week 4-credit hour course, this reflects 50 hours of classroom time and 100 hours of out-of-class time since the credit hour is defined as 50 minutes.

Academic Honesty Policies

Framingham State University’s policy regarding academic honesty:

“Integrity is essential to academic life. Consequently, students who enroll at Framingham State University agree to maintain high standards of academic honesty and scholarly practice. They shall be responsible for familiarizing themselves with the published policies and procedures regarding academic honesty. In addition to the required statement, faculty members shall, at their discretion, include in the course syllabus additional statements relating the definition of academic honesty to their courses. Infractions of the Policy on Academic Honesty include, but are not limited to:

1. Plagiarism: claiming as one’s own work the published or unpublished literal or paraphrased work of another. It should be recognized that plagiarism is not only academically dishonest but also illegal;
2. Cheating on exams, tests, quizzes, assignments, and papers, including the giving or acceptance of these materials and other sources of information without the permission of the instructor(s);
3. Unauthorized collaboration with other individuals in the preparation of course assignments;
4. Submitting without authorization the same assignment for credit in more than one course;
5. Use of dishonest procedures in computer, laboratory, studio, or field work;
6. Misuse of the University’s technical facilities (computer machinery, laboratories, media equipment, etc.), either maliciously or for personal gain; 7. Falsification of forms used to document the academic record and to conduct the academic business of the University.”

Course Outline

Week	Topic
Week One 06/29-07/03	1865 - 1914 Emily Dickinson Kate Chopin Mark Twain Frank Norris Francis Laflesche
Week Two 07/06-07/10	1865-1914 continued Emma Lazarus William Dean Howells Zitkala Sa James Weldon Johnson 1914-1945 Robert Frost



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Week Three 07/13-07/17	1914-1945 continued Jean Toomer Richard Wright William Faulkner Ernest Hemingway Norman Corwin 1945-Present Sandra Cisneros
Week Four 07/20-07/24	1945-Present continued August Wilson Randall Jarrell John Cheever William Stanley Merwin Bob Dylan
Week Five 07/27-07/31	Rankine - <i>Citizen: An American Lyric</i> Georges - <i>Calling Dr. Laura</i> Rebecca Solnit - <i>Men Explain Things to Me</i>