

AML3041-0

American Authors Since 1875

Instructor: Adam R. McKee
Email: arm10c@my.fsu.edu
Classroom: BRY 303

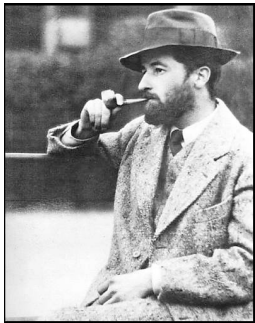
Office: 321 WMS
Office Hours: TR 1-3 pm
Meeting Time: TR 3:35-450



Description:

This course will familiarize students with American literature from 1875 to Present. As such, students will become familiar with the major literary movements of the time (including Realism, Naturalism, Modernism, and Postmodernism), the major historical moments of the time (including Reconstruction, Industrialization, World War I, World War II, and the Vietnam War), and the major currents of intellectual and artistic thought (including Imagism, Futurism, the Ashcan School, and Pragmatism).

Students should expect the course to be challenging and rewarding, and should expect to read a variety of genres. Throughout the semester students will become more acquainted with the literary history of the United States and will learn (or relearn) how to enter into the academic discourse surrounding the canon of American literature by reading appropriate scholarship and criticism.



Required Texts:

Norton Anthology of American Literature. Eight Edition.
Volumes C, D, and E.
The Sound and the Fury, by William Faulkner.
White Noise, by Don DeLillo.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is grounds for suspension from the university as well as for failure in this course. It will not be tolerated. Any instance of plagiarism must be reported to the Director of First-Year Writing and the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Plagiarism is a counterproductive, non-writing behavior that is unacceptable in a course intended to aid the growth of individual writers.

Plagiarism is included among the violations defined in the Academic Honor Code, section b), paragraph 2, as follows: "Regarding academic assignments, violations of the Academic Honor Code shall include representing another's work or any part thereof, be it published or unpublished, as one's own."

Civility: I will tolerate neither disruptive language nor disruptive behavior. Disruptive language includes, but is not limited to, violent and/or belligerent and/or insulting remarks, including

sexist, racist, homophobic or anti-ethnic slurs, bigotry, and disparaging commentary, either spoken or written (offensive slang is included in this category).

While I do not disagree that you each have a right to your own opinions, inflammatory language founded in ignorance or hate is unacceptable and will be dealt with immediately.



Disruptive behavior includes the use of cell phones or any other form of electronic communication during the class session (e-mail, web-browsing). Disruptive behavior also includes whispering or talking when another member of the class is speaking or engaged in relevant conversation (remember that I am a member of this class as well). This classroom functions on the premise of respect, and you will be asked to leave the classroom if you violate any part of this statement on civility.

ADA:

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should in the FIRST WEEK OF CLASS 1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) and 2) bring a letter to the instructor from SDRC indicating the need for academic accommodations. This and all other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

Gordon Rule / W courses and syllabus statement:

This is a "Gordon Rule" course (also known as a course with a "W" designation). Gordon Rule courses are designed to fulfill the statewide Gordon Rule requirement, which requires students to take and pass a course that is writing-intensive: officially, this means that students must write 3000 words during the semester.

In order to fulfill FSU's Gordon Rule "W" Designation (writing) credit, the student must earn a "C-" or better in the course, and in order to receive a "C-" or better in the course, the student must earn at least a "C-" on the required writing assignments for the course. If the student does not earn a "C-" or better on the required writing assignments for the course, the student will not earn an overall grade of "C-" or better in the course, no matter how well the student performs in the remaining portion of the course.

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory and accruing more than four absences is grounds for failure. Regardless of the reason for your absence, it is still an absence. Understandably, you may miss some classes due to illness or unforeseen circumstances. In order for me to allow an absence, I need to see some form of documentation.



Remember, part of your grade is based on class participation, and if you are

not here, you cannot participate! Furthermore, missed quizzes cannot be made up. Thus, all absences have the ability to negatively impact your grade.

If you miss a class meeting, it is your responsibility to obtain all information covered in that class. In other words, I will assume that you, a responsible, legal adult, have gotten the information about the class that you missed.

Students who arrive after attendance has been taken will be given a tardy. ***Three tardies will result in an absence.***

Students who come to class without the text or who have not done the reading may be counted absent if they cannot effectively participate in class.

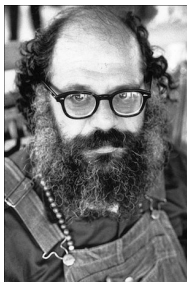


Participation:

Students are expected to come to class and participate regularly, having read each assignment entirely before arriving to class. Here are four ways to be a good participator: (1) ask questions and make comments that further the discussion in a meaningful manner, (2) actively take notes, (3) bring the required text to every class meeting, and (4) participate in all classroom activities/exercises. Consistently doing these things will demonstrate your engagement with the material and maximize your experience in the course.

Assignments:

There will be a few general rules to adhere to for all the assignments this semester. All of the papers submitted must be in proper MLA formatting (this includes proper margins, font, spacing, headings and page numbers). Additionally, these assignments must be turned in to me on the day that they are due AND turned in electronically via blackboard. If there are any questions regarding these issues, please ask me in advance of the due date to prevent from any unnecessary complications.



1) *Critical Article Explication (10%)*: For this assignment students will have to find and read one critical (and scholarly!) article from a search engine such as Academic Search Complete, JSTOR, or MLA Bibliography. Students will then be expected to summarize (and critique) the article in a two-page essay. Please submit the article to me when you submit the essay as I will need to examine the source myself.

2) *Paper Proposal (10%)*: Students will be expected to submit a paper proposal for the final essay during the 10th week of the semester. You will be asked to come up with a strong, defensible thesis and then write a 500 word paper proposal. I will respond to these proposals as if they are going to represent your final paper, but changes to the final essay will be perfectly acceptable (though I suggest you speak with me about your changes).



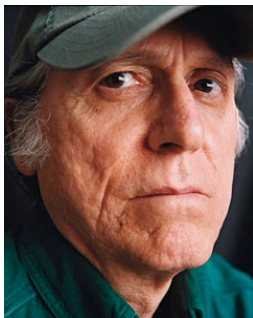
3) *Annotated Bibliography (10%)*: After submitting the paper proposal students should then have an idea of what research needs to be done for the final paper. For the annotated bibliography assignment students should find at least five reliable scholarly sources and then write a one paragraph (5-8 sentences) on each source. You should evaluate the source as to the quality of the argument and how you see the article fitting into your essay.

4) *Final Research Paper (25%)*: The penultimate assignment for the semester students will be required to write an eight to ten page scholarly assignment. Think of this paper as allowing you to enter into the scholarly dialogue we have spent all semester examining. This assignment will be due on the last day of classes before finals week and will represent the culmination of all of the work throughout the semester.

Final Point Total:

Final Exam	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Research Paper	25%
Critical Article Explication	10%
Paper Proposal	10%
Annotated Bibliography	10%
Quizzes	5%

Grading Scale:



A	92.5-100	A-	89.5-92.4	B+	86.5-89.4
B	82.5-86.4	B-	79.5-82.4	C+	76.5-79.4
C	72.5-76.4	C-	69.5-72.4	D+	66.5-69.4
D	59.5-66.4	F	Below 59.5		

Liberal Studies Descriptor:

The Liberal Studies Program at Florida State University has been designed to provide a perspective on the qualities, accomplishments, and aspirations of human beings, the past and present civilizations we have created, and the natural and technological world we inhabit. This course has been approved as meeting the requirements for Liberal Studies Area IV, Humanities and Fine Arts, and in combination with your other Liberal Studies courses, provides an important foundation for your lifelong quest for knowledge.

Tentative Schedule

Tuesday, August 28th	Syllabus Introduction Course Introduction
Thursday, August 30th	Introduction to American Literature Timeline to Book C Walt Whitman, "Song of Myself" (p. 24) Emily Dickinson, All Poems (p. 93)
Tuesday, September 4th	Mark Twain, "The Notorious Jumping Frog..." (p. 121) Edgar Allan Poe, "The Fall of the House of Usher" (pdf)
Thursday, September 6th	William Dean Howells, "Editha" (p. 376) Ambrose Bierce, "Occurrence at Owl Creek..." (p. 399)
Tuesday, September 11th	Kate Chopin, "The Story of the Hour" (p. 555), "The Storm" (p. 557) Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper" (p. 792), "Why I Wrote 'The Yellow Wallpaper'" (p. 804)
Thursday, September 13th	Booker T. Washington, "Up from Slavery" (p. 675) W.E.B. DuBois, "The Souls of Black Folk" (p. 885)
Tuesday, September 18th	Henry James, "The Art of Fiction" (p. 908) Theodore Dreiser, "True Art Speaks Plainly" (p. 916) from <i>Sister Carrie</i> (p. 929)
Thursday, September 20th	Stephen Crane, "The Open Boat" (p. 990) Jack London, "To Build a Fire" (p. 1047) Upton Sinclair, from <i>The Jungle</i> (p. 1110)
Tuesday, September 25th	Introduction to Modernism Timeline Modernist Manifestos, All (p. 335)

Thursday, September 27th	Gertrude Stein, from <i>The Making of Americans</i> (p. 200) from <i>Tender Buttons</i> (p. 203) Marianne Moore, “Poetry”, “To a Snail”, “The Paper Nautilus”, “The Jellyfish” (pdf), “An Octopus” (pdf)
Tuesday, October 2nd	Claude McCay, “The Harlem Dancer”, “The Lynching”, “If We Must Die”, “Tropics in New York” (pdf) Jean Toomer, “Georgia Dusk”, “Blood Burning Moon” Langston Hughes, “The Negro Speaks of Rivers”, “I, Too”, “The Weary Blues” Countee Cullen, “Yet Do I Marvel”
Thursday, October 4th	Robert Frost, “Mending Wall”, “After Apple-Picking”, “The Road Not Taken”, “Stopping by Woods...”, “Design” William Carlos Williams, “Spring and All”, “To Elsie”, “The Red Wheelbarrow”, “This Is Just to Say”, “The Dance”
Tuesday, October 9th	T.S. Eliot, <i>The Waste Land</i> (“The Burial of the Dead” to “The Fire Sermon”)
Thursday, October 11th	T.S. Eliot, <i>The Waste Land</i> (“Death by Water” to END) Hart Crane, from <i>The Bridge</i>
Tuesday, October 16th	MIDTERM EXAMINATION
Thursday, October 18th	Ernest Hemingway, “The Snows of Kilimanjaro” F. Scott Fitzgerald, “Babylon Revisited”
Tuesday, October 23rd	William Faulkner, <i>The Sound and the Fury</i> (Benjy)
Thursday, October 25th	William Faulkner, <i>The Sound and the Fury</i> (Quentin)
Tuesday, October 30th	William Faulkner, <i>The Sound and the Fury</i> (Jason)
Thursday, November 1st	William Faulkner, <i>The Sound and the Fury</i> (Dilsey)
Tuesday, November 6th	Introduction to Postmodernism Timeline Postmodern Manifestos (p. 400)
Thursday, November 8th	Flannery O’Connor, “Good Country People” (p. 445) John Cheever, “The Swimmer” (p. 157)
Tuesday, November 13th	Allen Ginsberg, “Howl” (p. 492) Frank O’Hara, All (p. 507)

Thursday, November 15th	Adrienne Rich, <i>All</i> (p. 568)
	Sylvia Plath, <i>All</i> (p. 625)
Tuesday, November 20th	Donald Barthelme, "The Balloon" (p. 604)
	Thomas Pynchon, "Entropy" (p. 725)
	Art Spiegelman, from <i>Maus</i> (p. 1058)
Thursday, November 22nd	THANKSGIVING BREAK
Tuesday, November 27th	Don Delillo, <i>White Noise</i>
Thursday, November 29th	Don Delillo, <i>White Noise</i>
Tuesday, December 4th	Don Delillo, <i>White Noise</i>
Thursday, December 6th	Don Delillo, <i>White Noise</i>