

PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MASTER SYLLABUS

**MODERN AMERICAN LITERATURE
ENGL 2120**

Class Hours: 3.0

Credit Hours: 3.0

Laboratory Hours: 0.0

Revised: Fall 2010

Catalog Course Description:

A study of American Literature from the War Between the States to the present.

Entry Level Standards:

Students must be able to plan and write analytical essays and research papers about literature; students must demonstrate proficiency in standard English grammar, spelling, and mechanics and in source documentation; in addition, students should be familiar with basic literary terminology and genres.

Prerequisite:

ENGL 1020

Textbook(s) and Other Reference Materials Basic to the Course:

Baym, Nina, ed. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. 7th ed. Vol. 2. NY: Norton, 2007. Print.

I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:

This is a suggested plan of assignments for the semester. Instructors should choose readings, prepare writing assignments, and provide their own schedule of assignments.

Week	Topic
1	Realism and Local Color, Clemens, Freeman, Jewett, Cable
2	Realism, Clemens, James, Wharton, Chopin, Howells
3	Naturalism, Crane, London, Bierce
4	Early African-American Literature, Washington, DuBois
5	Early 20th Century Poetry, Robinson, Lowell
6	Early 20th Century Poetry, Frost
7	Imagism, Symbolism, Pound, Eliot, Stevens
8	Early 20th Century Prose, Hemingway, Faulkner
9	Early 20th Century Prose, Cather, Glasgow, Fitzgerald

- 10 20th Century Drama, Williams, Glaspell
- 11 20th Century Drama, O'Neill
- 12 Harlem Renaissance, Hughes, Ellison, Hurston, Cullen
- 13 Later 20th Century Prose, Updike, Walker, O'Connor, Oates
- 14 Later 20th Century Poetry, Dickey, Rich, Brooks, Plath
- 15 Final Exam Period

II. Course Goals*:

The course will

- A. Guide students to an understanding of the distinctive interpretations of experience offered by American writers from American Realism to the present. II.1, II.2, II.3, II.4, II.5
- B. Develop students' understanding of American literature as a form of creative expression responding to both cultural and universal human concerns. II.1, II.2, II.3, II.4, II.5
- C. Expand students' knowledge of the techniques of imaginative literature and the critical approaches that clarify its nature and meaning. II.1, II.4, II.6
- D. Foster the ability to write effective and thoughtful responses to the literature, demonstrating understanding, critical analysis, and appreciation of the works studied. I.3, I.5, I.6, II.6

*Roman numerals after course objectives reference goals of the General Education program.

III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes*:

Student will be able to:

- 1. Define and analyze elements of realism in selected works of the period. A, B, C
- 2. Define and discuss characteristics of naturalism. A, B, C
- 3. Examine elements of local color in the works of selected authors. A, B, C
- 4. Analyze the development of African-American Literature from the Reconstruction to the Harlem Renaissance. A, B, C
- 5. Analyze and discuss the works of American poets from the early 20th century to the contemporary period. A, B, C
- 6. Identify and analyze the techniques of imagism and symbolism in the works of selected poets. A, B, C
- 7. Examine the development of 20th century American drama through study of works by major dramatists. A, B, C
- 8. Interpret 20th century prose through analysis of fiction by selected authors. A, B, C
- 9. Recognize the role of political events and institutions in the works studied. A, B

10. Evaluate religious and ideological factors pertaining to the works studied. A, B
11. Employ biographical information in the study of major American authors and the works studied. A, B
13. Demonstrate an understanding of the relations of the works to each other and to influencing factors by tracing American thought and concerns chronologically through this period. A, B, C
14. Evaluate the contributions of diverse cultural groups to American Literature. A, B
15. Write responses and analytical papers on appropriate topics related to the works studied. D
16. Write insightful, appropriately developed, mechanically correct answers to essay test questions concerning the works studied. D

*Expected Student Learning Outcomes are referenced to the course goals list above.

IV. Evaluation:

A. Testing Procedures:

60-80% of the final grade will be based on quizzes and examinations, which will primarily consist of essay response. Approximately 20-40% of the grade will be based on projects such as papers and journals.

B. Laboratory Expectations:

None

C. Field Work:

None

D. Other Evaluation Methods:

Students are expected to participate in class discussions of assigned readings.

E. Grading Scale:

V. Policies:

A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses (excluding distance learning courses) must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. Individual departments/programs/disciplines, with the approval of the vice president of the Learning Division, may have requirements that are more stringent. In very specific circumstances, an appeal of the policy may be addressed to the head of the department in which the course was taken. If further action is warranted, the appeal may be addressed to the vice president of the Learning Division.

B. Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:

- Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
- Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
- Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one's own work.
- Taking an exam for another student.
- Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other classroom assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.
- Any of the above occurring within the Web or distance learning environment.

C. Accommodations for Disabilities:

Students who need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students with Disabilities may be contacted by going to Goins 127, 132, 134, 135, 131 or by phone: 539-7153 or TTY 694-6429. More information is available at www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/.