A survey of important works of American Literature. Required for English majors. Course equivalents ENGL 2131 and ENGL 2132.

Requisites
Prerequisites:
ENGL 1102 Minimum Grade: C or ENG 102 Minimum Grade: C or ENGL Placmnt Exam-Credit 1102 X

Corequisites:

Contact Information
Instructor: Melissa Dickson Jackson
Email: mjackson@westga.edu
Office: Newnan 225

Meeting Times
Lecture
Tuesday and Thursday
Tuesday, Thursday, 9:00 AM to 10:15 AM, Newnan Room 164

Materials
A Binder
A Composition Notebook

Outcomes
Students will learn to
- Use a selection of American literatures to identify and engage with social and cultural themes in literary texts, both verbally and in writing;
- Demonstrate reading and interpretation skills such as previewing, close reading, rhetorical analysis annotating, summarizing, journaling, and deep listening, via discussion and various modes of writing;
- Develop the ability to discuss the importance of literature to their lives, environments, and relationships to history, via discussion and various modes of writing.
- Practice active reading by formulating meaningful questions, interrogating their own affinities with and resistance to texts they
Evaluation

We will have weekly short writing assignments and quizzes as well as two major projects, including a final essay. Each student will prepare and present a lecture on an assigned topic. If we are able to organize it, we will also have an in-class debate.

Criteria

My goal is to encourage your growth as a writer and thinker. I believe that numeric grades are counterproductive to a compassionate and effective learning environment. You will receive feedback on your writing when it is appropriate and constructive. Your major essay grades will have three possible evaluation notes: "incomplete" for failure to submit or failure to meet minimum standards, "revise" (try again), and "pass."

I may add benchmark steps along the way that are indicated by graded responses in Course Den.

Other items will be graded with points that accumulate over the course of the semester.

I do not average grades. If you earn 2 points and then earn a 0, your point accumulation is still 2.

If you complete all tasks, submit all work by the due dates, and complete your revisions you can earn up to a 100 for the course.

Please read over the grading and evaluation carefully.

I look forward to working with you!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Essay</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>What is free will and how is it reflected in American Literature?</td>
<td>For the purposes of this paper, you may use any text with which you are familiar: <em>The Simpsons, Black Beauty, The Godfather, Marvel movies, comic books, or novels you have read previously.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Reading Notes, Class Notes, Independent Queries, Drafts, Drawings</td>
<td>70+ pages of notes: 20 points 60+ pages: 15 points 50+ pages: 10 points 30+ pages: 5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll Call Discussion Posts</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Weekly Roll Call Discussions based on Reading Assignments</td>
<td>You must complete 13 (80%) of the Roll Call Discussions to earn a C or higher. You must complete 15 of the 16 (95%) Roll Call discussions to earn an A. Roll Call discussions are due in the beginning of the week. Do not put them off until later.</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Class Presentation</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>You Will Present a Lecture on an Assigned Topic</td>
<td>Your class mates will evaluate your presentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid Term Writing Assignment or In-Class Interactive Project</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Movements and Ideas in American Literature or In-Class Debate</td>
<td>If circumstances permit, we will debate the relevance and merits of two classic American Novels and their authors. Zora Neale Hurston and John Steinbeck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Writing Assignment</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Reflection Essay</td>
<td>We will develop ideas for the final paper through our in-class or online discussions</td>
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Assignments

Please see above for a preview of major assignments

Schedule

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<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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| **Course Begins**  
Week 1  
Aug 13, 2020  
In Class and COURSE DEN | Syllabus and Course Review | Please review the syllabus and prepare any questions you have. I will open a discussion thread to respond publicly to your questions. I will also answer questions in class. Purchase a composition notebook to use as your writing journal. The journal should be used for all notes, free writing, drafts, and informal writing assignments. Please have this journal ready to use by August 17. You will have an assignment at the end of the course that requires you to use your notes and writings from your journal. Do not skip this step. It's critical to your success and I want you to succeed. |
| **Drop/Add Ends**  
Aug 18, 2020 |                                             |                                                                                                                                 |
| **Week 2**  
Aug 18 and 20  
Course Den / Room 164 | Intro / Pre-Colonial: Creation and Contrast | Native American Myths and Legends                                                                                                                                 |
| **Week 3**  
Aug 25 and 27  
Course Den / Room 164 | Puritan and Colonial America: Establishing an Ethos | Edwards, Franklin, Irving                                                                                                                                 |
| **Week 4**  
Sept 1 and 3  
Course Den / Room 164 | Civil War Era Writers - Transcendentalism | Assigned texts from Emerson and Thoreau                                                                                                                                 |
| **Week 5**  
Sept 8 and 10  
COURSE DEN | Dark Romantics | Hawthorne                                                                                                                                 |
| **Week 6**  
September 15 and 17  
Course Den / Room 164 | More Dark Romantics | Edgar Allan Poe                                                                                                                                 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Sept 22 and 24</td>
<td>Course Den / Room 164</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Darkest Romantic</td>
<td>Melville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Sept 29 and Oct 1</td>
<td>Course Den / Room 164</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Scribbling Mob</td>
<td>Chopin</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Gilman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day to Withdraw</td>
<td>Withdrawal Deadline</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw with a grade of W from Full Term (non-eCore) 16 week courses. Students who withdraw from a Full Term (non-eCore) class between August 19th and October 5th will receive a grade of W. Reminder there is no refund associated with withdrawing from a course.</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Oct 6 and 8</td>
<td>Course Den / Room 164</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Humor and Satire: Twain, Faulkner</td>
<td>Also: Review Movements, discuss debate</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>October 13 and 15</td>
<td>Course Den / Room 164</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Social Realism</td>
<td>Steinbeck and Hurston</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>October 20 and 22</td>
<td>Course Den / Room 164</td>
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<td>Debate Prep, Research, Debate</td>
<td>Debate or Midterm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>October 27 and 29</td>
<td>Course Den / Room 164</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alternate Realities</td>
<td>Shirley Jackson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P.K. Dick</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>November 3 and 5</td>
<td>Course Den / Room 164</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Faith and Crime</td>
<td>Flannery O'Connor</td>
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<td>Truman Capote, Michelle McNamara</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>November 10 and 12</td>
<td>Course Den / Room 164</td>
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<td></td>
<td>War and the World as it Isn't (also Time Travel)</td>
<td>Vonnegut</td>
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 Week 15  
November 17 and 19  
Course Den / Room 164  
Time Travel and Sci Fi  
Ursula K. LeGuin  
Octavia Butler

 Week 16  
November 24  
Course Den / Room 164  
End of the Road!  
Review and discuss final prompt

Course Policies and Resources

Please review the Course Policies to prepare yourself for our mini-semester together.

Help

If you need help developing ideas or understanding a project, please make an online appointment with me. Appointments are most helpful when you have your notes and free-writing with you to begin our discussion, so take an hour or more to do some brainstorming and free-writing before we meet. I use Google Hangouts out Collaborate Ultra for Online meetings. However, if there are connectivity problems, I will call you on the phone if you want me to.

On Grades

Grades are a result of your effort and academic performance. If you engage in the process and turn in the material on time, you will be successful. I do not round up final grades. An 89 is a B. A 79 is a C. Do not ask me to change your grade. Please know that I have designed the course so that all conscientious students can succeed. Process work and revisions are your friends! I promise.

Attendance

I will take attendance per UWG requirements.

I will also take attendance using the “Roll Call” Discussion Post. Complete the “Roll Call” discussion posts on Monday and check the task list to organize your time and submissions appropriately.

Roll Call discussions will be due at the beginning of each week in order to give your classmates time to respond. You must respond to 80% (13) to earn a C or higher in the course. You must respond to 95% (15) to earn an A in the course.

I will also take attendance in class to monitor and support contact tracing.

Do not attend class if you feel ill or have any reason to believe you have been exposed to Covid-19.

Make Up and Late Work

You may turn in a major essay submission up to one week late. However, I beg you to stay on task and submit material on time. After one week, I will deduct TWO POINTS per day late from the final grade. For example, if you submit everything else and pass all the essays, but your first essay was two weeks late, you cannot make better than an 86.

The final paper cannot be submitted late. There simply won't be time for me to grade it and complete the final grade calculations.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

The Department of English and Philosophy defines plagiarism as taking personal credit for the words and ideas of others as they
are presented in electronic, print, and verbal sources. The Department expects that students will accurately credit sources in all assignments. An equally dishonest practice is fabricating sources or facts; this is another form of misrepresenting the truth. In addition, working closely with someone else to the point at which his/her ideas significantly contribute to your paper also constitutes a form of plagiarism known as excessive collaboration.

Regardless of the extent of the plagiarism, students who plagiarize will be given a 0 on the assignment and an automatic F in the course, and may face possible expulsion (Note: This policy extends to cheating on all other assignments as well, including journal entries, quizzes, or other in-class work.). See below for University policies for handling Academic Dishonesty: The Faculty Handbook, sections 207 and 208.0401: http://www.westga.edu/~vpaa/handrev/ Student Uncatalogue: "Rights and Responsibilities"; Appendix J: http://www.westga.edu/handbook/ Plagiarism Defined: http://www.westga.edu/writing/index_153.php

Plagiarism Exemplified: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0BycRKttSSms-ZHA1OUJoVX.JiaUU

**Disruptive Behavior and Class Decorum**

Disruptive Behavior Policy (FYW policy): I expect students to be compassionate and thoughtful to one another in class and in their discussion posts. I encourage you to debate issues with respect and supporting evidence. Please disagree, but disagree thoughtfully.

Classroom Decorum: Respect, compassion and support for the class, the instructor, yourself, and your fellow students is critical. If I feel that a student is behaving in a way that creates conflict or stops our progress, I will ask them to take a break and return when they are ready.

Masks are required in all UWG public spaces including classrooms until further notice. Masks must be worn correctly. Students unwilling to abide by this requirement will be asked to leave class for the safety of themselves and others. Thank you for your cooperation!

**E-mail Correspondence**

Please limit your email correspondence to between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm weekdays.

I will always try to respond to you as quickly as possible. However, if you do not hear from me within 24 hours, please write to me again.

While I’m happy to help via email, please do not abuse this privilege (i.e. re-sending thesis statements multiple times with changes made according to my suggestions). Likewise, do not send emails asking questions that I have covered in our online documents and that you can find on your own (due dates, course policies, etc.).

*Note:* All student-professor email correspondence must take place via your myUWG account; likewise, if you need to reach me outside of class and/or office hours, email is the most efficient way to do so. Mjackson@westga.edu

**Institutional Policies**

**Academic Support**

Accessibility Services: Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact Accessibility Services (https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php).

Center for Academic Success: The Center for Academic Success (http://www.westga.edu/cas/) provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or cas@westga.edu.
University Writing Center: The University Writing Center (https://www.westga.edu/writing/) assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or writing@westga.edu.

Online Courses

UWG takes students’ privacy concerns seriously: technology-enhanced and partially and fully online courses use sites and entities beyond UWG and students have the right to know the privacy policies of these entities. For more information on privacy and accessibility for the most commonly used sites, as well as technology requirements visit the UWG Online (https://uwgonline.westga.edu/) site.

Students enrolled in online courses can find answers to many of their questions in the Online/Off-Campus Student Guide (http://uwgonline.westga.edu/online-student-guide.php).

If a student is experiencing distress and needs help, please see the resources available at the UWG Cares (http://www.westga.edu/UWGCares/) site. Online counseling (https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/index.php) is also available for online students.

Honor Code

At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.

The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG.

Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student’s account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the Student Handbook (https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpsa/handbook-code-of-conduct.php).

UWG Email Policy

University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student’s responsibility to check his or her email.

Credit Hour Policy

The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

HB 280 (Campus Carry)
Mental Health Support

If you or another student find that you are experiencing a mental health issue, free confidential services are available on campus in the Counseling Center. Students who have experienced sexual or domestic violence may receive confidential medical and advocacy services with the Patient Advocates in Health Services. To report a concern anonymously, please go to UWGcares.

ELL Resources

If you are a student having difficulty with English language skills, and / or U.S. culture is not your home culture, specialized resources are available to help you succeed. Please visit the E.L.L. resource page for more information.

COVID-19

Proctored Exams/Online Instruction: Students should be aware and plan ahead for the possibility of having to complete all courses and/or exams online or in a proctored environment. This means talking with your instructors about what minimum technical requirements (software and hardware) will be required should your class move online or a student's personal needs dictate. This also includes making plans for internet access at whatever location participation may occur.

Virtual or in-person proctored exams, if your instructor should require them, may result in an additional cost to the student. Please discuss these details with your instructor or see the information provided here.

Face Coverings: Effective July 15, 2020, University System of Georgia institutions, including the University of West Georgia, will require all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to wear an appropriate face covering while inside campus facilities/buildings where six feet social distancing may not always be possible. Face covering use will be in addition to and is not a substitute for social distancing.

Face coverings are not required in campus outdoor settings where social distancing requirements are met. Anyone not using a face covering when required will be asked to wear one or must leave the area.

Reasonable accommodations may be made for those who are unable to wear a face covering for documented health reasons.

Student FAQs: For more information about UWG COVID-19 guidance for students visit the Student FAQ webpage.

Additional Items

Texts

Texts will be provided via online links; however, I recommend that you find or purchase hard copies of Of Mice and Men and Their Eyes Were Watching God. This is not required to be successful in the class, but I believe it does improve the experience.