INSTRUCTOR: DR. RALPH MILLIS

OFFICE: MB 2.248M
OFFICE HOURS: TR 12:15-1:45, and by appointment
E-MAIL: Ralph.millis@utsa.edu
HOME TELEPHONE: 698-5113 (H), 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., M-F;
  use the answer machine.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: American Literature II is a survey of American fiction,
poetry and drama from the end of the Civil War to the present.

OBJECTIVES:
1. Identify the major themes in traditional/modern American literature.
2. Discover the congruence of American literature with American history/
   American social values.
3. Examine the opposing concepts/theories of American particularism and
   American universalism.
4. Analyze and appreciate American literary artists and place them in a personal
   aesthetic framework.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
  Two tests. 250 pts. each
  One final examination. 350 pts.
  Regular class attendance; on-going class participation and quizzes. 150 pts.
  Additional out-of-class readings on the Internet when assigned.

ATTENDANCE: If you have more than three unexcused absences, I will have the option
of lowering your final grade 5% for each, including the first three. I WILL TAKE
ATTENDANCE at each class. If you miss more than five (5) classes for ANY reason
you should consider withdrawing from the class. If you must miss class for school
activities such as athletics, band, etc., you must bring to me a list, signed by the
appropriate faculty or athletic department member, of the dates this absence(s) will occur.
Medical emergencies, validated by a doctor’s note are excusable. Regular scheduled
doctor or dentist appointments made in advance are not. You are responsible for getting
the notes from your colleagues for any class you miss. If you miss or are late to
(unexcused) any test or final examination you will be able to take a later
replacement essay test or examination ONLY at my discretion and at a time and
place of my choosing; at my option you can be penalized up to 10% of the total
possible points on the assignment. You can take a makeup test or final examination
in lieu of the one you missed due to an excused absence with no penalty—just be
aware a makeup tends to be more difficult than the one you missed. Quizzes missed for any reason cannot be made up. If you took a quiz or test but cannot find your grade for that exercise on Blackboard after I have announced that the grades have been posted, let me know immediately.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: If you miss class you obviously cannot contribute to class discussion, so this will be reflected in your grade. If you attend class regularly but never participate, you will receive a “C” for that section of your attendance/participation grade.

PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Don’t even THINK about committing this. You can receive an “F” for the course if you cheat on or plagiarize an assignment. In addition, other bad things can happen. There is NO excuse for submitting work that is not yours. Here is the UTSA Handbook of Operating Procedures definition of:

2.37 Scholastic Dishonesty
Part I, Chapter VI, section 3.22 of the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System provides the following: Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Please familiarize yourself with the materials on scholastic dishonesty in the UTSA Student Code of Conduct.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: The University provides support services, including registration assistance and equipment, to students with documented disabilities through the Office of Disabled Student Services (DSS), MS 2.03.18

SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION POLICY: It is the policy of this institution that there shall be no unlawful discrimination against any individual in employment or in its programs or activities at the University of Texas at San Antonio because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, disability or status as a veteran. The University prohibits sexual harassment of any form in all aspects of employment and in its programs and activities and prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual and racial or ethnic orientation in employment and admissions.

GENERAL RULES:
I. Teaching this class is my job, my profession. Your job is to be a student, a good one, so don’t disrespect yourself by failing to work hard. Here, then, is a partial recipe for failure:
   A. Don’t read the assignments, or don’t have them read by the assigned date. Don’t study for tests and the final.
   B. Flaunt an “I Don’t Give a Darn” attitude. Just sit there with a “Thousand Yard Stare” if I call upon you in class.
   C. Talk loudly or carry on peripheral discussions with your neighbor once class has begun.
   D. Class begins at precisely at the posted time. IF YOU ARRIVE AFTER CLASS HAS BEGUN, PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO
ENTER THE CLASSROOM. You are absent and will be counted, and
penalized, as such. Class periods are short and intensive,
and any interruptions rob me and your classmates of our time. Don’t even
consider entering the classroom and distracting us. Remember, attending
class is your job. What happens to you when you are late for your non-
university, “real world,” job? Does the boss give you a pass?

CONDUCT AND OTHER STUFF:

DO:
Keep up with the reading. Quizzes will be unannounced.
Contribute in class,
Interrupt me with questions, observations, etc. at any time.
Realize it is perfectly fine to disagree with me. In fact, I encourage thoughtful
disagreement
Let me know if you must leave a particular class early.
Come and see me during office hours. Most of the time I feel like the Maytag
Repairman

DON’T:
Be late and attempt to enter the classroom.
Leave and return to class intermittently.
Leave cell phones on.
Use laptops while class is in session.
Suddenly disappear without telling me, only to show up two or more weeks later.
Insult or put down your colleagues, including me.
Ask for special treatment not available to your colleagues.
Inform me that you will be ten minutes late for every class because the professor in
your class just before mine always runs over his/her allotted time.
Start stuffing your backpack ten minutes before class ends.

If we all cooperate and follow the rules, we can have an enjoyable, valuable experience in
immersing ourselves in American literature

THE UNIVERSITY CATALOG: All regulations regarding academic conduct,
responsibilities, and rights, as they appear in the current university catalogue, apply in
this course.

GRADING SCALE:

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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>970/1000 pts</td>
<td>4.00 GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>930/1000 pts</td>
<td>4.00 GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>900/1000 pts</td>
<td>3.67 GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>870/1000 pts</td>
<td>3.33 GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>830/1000 pts</td>
<td>3.00 GPA</td>
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Note that “C” means “Average” university work. It means you have performed acceptably; you have met the minimum standard. It does not mean you have failed or that you are a failure as a human being. I understand that many of you must maintain a certain minimum GPA to retain scholarships or other financial aid or to attain other academic goals. To achieve these you should plan on working hard, rather than trying to slow roll me into giving you a grade higher than the one you earned.


ASSIGNMENTS: Students should come to class having already read the assignment for that day. The instructor can add, delete, or otherwise change the assignments as necessary. You are also responsible for reading the author bio’s that precede the literary selections.

<p>| AUG 30 | Introduction to course |
| SEP 4 | <strong>VOLUME C:</strong> From <em>The Significance of the Frontier in American History</em>, 1133-37; <em>Huckleberry Finn</em>, 130-59 |
| 6 | <em>Huckleberry Finn</em>, 159-258 |
| 11 | <em>Huckleberry Finn</em>, 259-309 |
| 13 | “Song of Myself,” 24-67; Emily Dickinson poems #236, 269, 340, 372, 479, 591, 1096, 1773 |
| 18 | “Tennessee’s Partner, 367-73; “A White Heron, 526-33; “The Storm,” 557-61 |
| 25 | <em>Maggie: A Girl of the Streets</em>,” 946-89 |
| 27 | “ |
| OCT 2 | Test #1 |
| 4 | <strong>VOLUME D:</strong> Robinson’ poems, 41-44.; “Hands,” 265-68 |
| 9 | <em>My Antonia</em>, 47-181 |
| 11 | “ |</p>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td><em>As I Lay Dying</em>, 698-793</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>“The Lost Boy,” 844-63</td>
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<td>NO V 1</td>
<td><em>Long Day’s Journey into Night</em>, 402-80</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Test #2</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td><strong>VOLUME E:</strong> “Petrified Man,” 52-61; “The Life You Save May be Your Own,” 437-44</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td><em>A Streetcar Named Desire</em>, 93-155</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>DEC 4</td>
<td><em>Big Sur</em>, chs. 8-10, 353-58; “Howl,” 492-99</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Review and catch-up</td>
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I encourage you to utilize the academic support services available to you through the Tomás Rivera Center (TRC) to assist you with building study skills and tutoring in course content. These services are available at no additional cost to you. The TRC has several locations at the Main Campus and is also located at the Downtown Campus. For more information, visit the web site at [www.utsa.edu/trcss](http://www.utsa.edu/trcss) or call (210) 458-4694 on the Main Campus and (210) 458-2838 on the Downtown Campus.

**THE ROADRUNNER CREED:** [www.utsa.edu/about/creed](http://www.utsa.edu/about/creed)

**FINAL EXAMINATION:** FRIDAY 14 DEC 10:30-1:00

**THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO REVISION AT MY DISCRETION AND AS CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE**