English 2293  American Literature II
University of Texas San Antonio 1604
Spring 2012  9:30 – 10:45 a.m.  TR  MH 3.04.26

Karen Dodwell, Ph.D.  Office: MB 2.476
Office #: 210 458 5364  Office hrs: 8:15 – 9:15 a.m TR
Please use Mail in Blackboard for this course.
karen.dodwell@utsa.edu is permanent UTSA address

Course Description in UTSA Catalogue
3 0  3 hours credit.  Prerequisite: Completion of Core Curriculum requirement in literature.  Study of representative works in American literature from 1865 to the present.  Required of students majoring in English.

Course Objectives
◆ Develop an informed and flexible outlook by reading a sampling of poetry, prose, and drama in American Literature after 1865
◆ Understand the perspectives and accomplishments of the past by viewing American literature as part of a continuum of literary development
◆ Become intellectually adaptable by exploring the intersections of gender, ethnicity, race, religion, and politics in American literature
◆ Learn to read literary texts closely, analyze them, and synthesize ideas about them
◆ Develop a scholarly vocabulary and voice for classroom discussions and formal papers
◆ Skillfully write scholarly arguments about literary texts
◆ Learn to use MLA style in formatting papers and documenting information from secondary sources
◆ Find critical texts in the library and in databases
◆ Develop the ability to read critical texts and integrate critical debate into one’s own scholarly writing

Texts and other materials


Scantron forms for quizzes – 882E (will need 6)

Bluebook for midterm exam

Also see Blackboard for study guides and paper writing guidelines.  Notice Guidelines for Writing an Argument about a Literary Text

Course Policies
◆ Attendance is important. Roll will be taken in every class.  Missing a class (for any reason) results in a 5-point deduction from class participation points (See “Class attendance” below for ways to make up points lost.)
◆ Dropping the course by the specified UTSA deadline is the responsibility of the student.  Students who do not drop before published drop dates will receive a grade in the course, even if they have quit attending.  Students should check for drop dates at myutsa/ASAP/Class Schedules/Academic Calendar for the semester.
◆ Support services, including registration assistance and equipment, are available to students with documented disabilities through the Office of Disabled Student Services (DSS), MS 2.03.18.  Students are encouraged to contact that office at 458-4157 early in the semester.  Also see http://www.utsa.edu/disability/students.htm
◆ Plagiarism will not be tolerated and may result in an F for the course.  Plagiarism consists of cheating on an exam, copying another student’s work, copying a paper off the internet; not documenting the ideas and opinions of other writers—even when not quoting them directly.  To access the UTSA scholastic dishonesty policy, go to the following site and scroll down to Section 203: http://www.utsa.edu/info guide/appendices/b.html
◆ You may use a laptop, but please sit on the back row or the sides of the classroom.  If you do not use a laptop and do not want the distraction of laptop screens, sit in the front or middle of the classroom.
◆ All students are expected to take the final exam on the scheduled date.

The University of Texas at San Antonio Academic Honor Code
A.  Preamble - The University of Texas at San Antonio community of past, present and future students, faculty, staff, and administrators share a commitment to integrity and the ethical pursuit of knowledge.  We honor the traditions of our university by conducting ourselves with a steadfast duty to honor, courage, and virtue in all matters both public and private.  By choosing integrity and responsibility, we promote personal growth, success, and lifelong learning for the advancement of ourselves, our university, and our community.
B.  Honor Pledge - In support of the ideals of integrity, the students of the University of Texas at San Antonio pledge: “As a UTSA Roadrunner I live with honor and integrity.”
C.  Shared responsibility - The University of Texas at San Antonio community shares the responsibility and commitment to integrity and the ethical pursuit of knowledge and adheres to the UTSA Honor Code.

Roadrunner Creed
The University of Texas at San Antonio is a community of scholars, where integrity, excellence, inclusiveness, respect, collaboration, and innovation are fostered.  As a Roadrunner, I will:
◆ Uphold the highest standards of academic and personal integrity by practicing and expecting fair and ethical conduct;
◆ Respect and accept individual differences, recognizing the inherent dignity of each person;
◆ Contribute to campus life and the larger community through my active engagement; and
◆ Support the fearless exploration of dreams and ideas in the advancement of ingenuity, creativity, and discovery.

Guided by these principles now and forever, I am a Roadrunner!

Grades
Letter grades will be assigned as follows:
A+ = 98-100   A = 92 – 97   A- = 88 - 91
B+ = 86 - 87   B = 82 - 85   B- = 78 - 81
C+ = 76 - 77   C = 72 - 75   C- = 68 - 71
D+ = 66 - 67   D = 62 - 65   D- = 60 – 61   F < 60
Course Requirements
Class attendance 10%
4 quizzes averaged (best 4 out of 5) 20%
Midterm Exam – in class essays 15%
Final Exam – multiple choice 15%
Paper #1 15%
Term Paper 25%

Class attendance is an important part of the learning process in the course. Class time is designed to help students become critical thinkers, active listeners and lively discussants.

Students begin the semester with 100 points for class participation and attendance. Each absence, regardless of reason, results in a loss of 5 points. Students can make up the lost points by doing the following:

- Participate in a panel discussion 5 pts
- Write a review of a literary event 5 pts

Students may participate in two panels and attend and review three literary events. Details are listed in Blackboard – Assignments. The maximum points averaged into the final grade for class attendance and participation is 100.

Quizzes will be given at the beginning, middle, or end of the class periods designated below on the Reading and Assignment Schedule. Five quizzes are scheduled, but the best 4 out of 5 quizzes will be averaged into the course grade. If a student misses a quiz and receives a zero for the quiz, that zero will be dropped.

The midterm exam will be taken in class and will contain short essays and long essays.

The final exam will be given during the time scheduled by UTSA. It will contain multiple choice questions and primarily will focus on course readings after the midterm.

Paper #1 and the term paper are formal argument papers that present a clear thesis and support. Relevant scholarly secondary sources are required, and information from sources must be documented using MLA style in-text citations and a works cited page. Paper 1 page length = 4 pages. Term paper page length = 7 - 8 pages. See Blackboard Assignments for more detail on the assignment, and see Guidelines for Writing an Argument about a Literary Text in Course Content.

Late papers are excused from point penalties if a student verifies in writing an incapacitating physical illness or death in the family. Students who will be absent for religious reasons or to conduct official University business should make arrangements with the instructor before the absence in order to avoid late point penalties.

Unexcused late work penalties
Less than 24 hours late = 5 point deduction
24 – 48 hrs late = 10 point deduction
over 48 hours late = 15 point deduction
See cut-off dates for assignments on Blackboard

Reading and Assignment Schedule

1865 – 1914

Jan 17 T – Introduction to the course and to Walt Whitman
Jan 19 Th – Walt Whitman, p. 17-21; Song of Myself: read sections 1-30; skim 31-42; read 43-52
Jan 24 T – Emily Dickinson, p. 77-81, all poems, pp. 81-93
Jan 26 Th – Quiz 1 – Bring Scantron
Henry James – Daisy Miller, pp 316-356
Jan 31 T – Edith Wharton – “Roman Fever,” pp 534-543; paper writing guidelines in class (will be on quiz 2)
Feb 7 T – Quiz 2 – Bring Scantron; On Realism and Naturalism, pp 569 – 585; Theodore Dreiser and from Sister Carrie, pp. 585-601

Literary events in San Antonio: Santos and Kingston
Feb 9 Th – Paper #1 due in Blackboard Assignments before class or printed out in class; no reading assignment. Introduction to John Phillip Santos and Maxine Hong Kingston—see the list of literary events. Kingston will appear at San Pedro Playhouse in free public reading on Feb 16 at 7 p.m. John Phillip Santos will read his work in BB 2.06.04 on February 17, 2012 at 7:30 as part of the Creative Writing Reading Series. Earn extra class attendance points by attending.

Feb 14 T – Places Left Unfinished at the Time of Creation – chapters 1 – 8
Feb 16 Th – Places Left Unfinished at the Time of Creation – chapters 9 - end

1914 – 1945
Feb 21 T – Quiz 3 – Bring Scantron; Introduction to period, pp. 705-718 Robert Frost, pp. 775 - 790
Feb 23 Th – pp 831 – 861; Poetry of William Carlos Williams, Ezra Pound, H.D. Doolittle, and Marianne Moore Panel opportunity
Mar 1 Th – Ernest Hemingway – “The Snows of Kilimanjaro,” pp 1065- 1083 Panel opportunity
Mar 6 T – Midterm Exam – Bring bluebook
Mar 8 Th – William Faulkner – “A Rose for Emily” and “Barn Burning”, pp. 1041 – 1060  Panel opportunity

Mar 13 and 15 – Spring Break!!

Mar 20 T – Zora Neale Hurston, pp. 981 – 993; Jean Toomer – pp. 1003 – 1008; Langston Hughes, pp. 1087-1095


Apr 3 T – Death of a Salesman, Act 1

Apr 5 Th – Death of a Salesman, Act 2


Apr 12 Th – Term paper due printed out in class. Do not submit term paper on Blackboard. No reading assignment; Beat generation covered in class.


Apr 19 Th – Quiz 5 – Bring Scantron  Sylvia Plath, pp 1475-1483; Anne Sexton, pp 1438-1443; Adrienne Rich, pp 1443-1445 and 1450-1456 “Diving into the Wreck” and “Transcendental Etude”


Apr 26 Th – Gloria Anzaldua – “How to Tame a Wild Tongue,” pp 1586-1595; Maxine Hong Kingston - “No Name Woman”, p. 1568 -1577  Panel opportunity


May 7 Monday – Final Exam 10:30 – 1:00 same classroom; bring a Scantron.

1945 to present

May 7 Monday – Review for final exam

How to make an “A” or “B” in the class:

- **Commit yourself to the class.** Get your money’s worth. Learn something, and raise your GPA.
- **Buy the books.** Although, some of the readings assigned are available online, you will struggle without the books.
- **Come to every class.** Do not lower your course grade with a low class attendance score. If you miss a class, then earn the lost points back by signing up for a panel discussion or attending an approved literary event.
- **Come to class on time.** Important information about tests, quizzes, and the paper often will be announced at the beginning of the class.
- **For each class session do three things:** 1) read and study the assigned texts, 2) listen, participate, and take notes in class, and 3) review your notes and the readings after the class.
- **Be present and part of the class.** Do not surf the web, play with your phone, or send text messages in class. Most often students who earn high grades are sitting in front, taking notes by hand, asking questions, and participating in discussions.
- **Ask questions in class when you do not understand a lecture, discussion or a writing assignment.**
- **Familiarize yourself with material available on Blackboard,** including study guides, writing assignments guidelines, and other material.
- **Study the requirements for the two papers,** which are a major part of your grade. Do not lose points because you do not meet the requirements for the assignments. See Blackboard Assignments for the paper details.
- **Study Guidelines for Writing an Argument about a Literary Text.** See Course Content in Blackboard. The Guidelines are a detailed outline of the skills you need for success on the two papers.
- **Take advantage of The Writing Center at UTSA.** Check out the web page and see what information and services might help you in your paper writing. http://utsa.edu/twc/index.html  Get tutoring if you have writing challenges.
- **Turn in the two papers on time.** Do not lose points because you submit the papers late. Do not miss the cut-off date if your paper is late.
- **Commit yourself to producing a writing sample.** This will mean your paper is excellent and earns a high grade.
- **Begin reading, studying, and working on the papers immediately.** Some students wait until mid-semester before they get serious. Others wait until the end of the course and beg for mercy (i.e., “I’ll do anything to make a good grade.”) All students take the same course. There are no extra assignments for pulling up low grades.
- **Develop a study strategy for preparing for the midterm and the final exam.** Do not wait until the night before and start cramming.
- **Do not miss the quizzes.** The lowest quiz score out of the 5 quizzes will be dropped. If you miss a quiz that is the quiz that is dropped.
- **Check your grades in Blackboard and make certain they are correct.** There could be a clerical error in entering your grades.
- **Visit the professor during office hours, make an appointment, or phone when you need extra help or have a crisis that makes you consider dropping the class. Get in touch when something happens in class that prevents you from doing your best in the course.**