



EAST TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY

ENG2331 Literature of Western World

American Literature and Our Contemporary World

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2025

TT 11:00-12:15

Sowers Education South (EDS) Room 134

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Hyo Kyung Woo, Assistant Professor

Office Location: David Talbot Hall 209

Office Hours: TT 9:30 -10:30 am, 3:30-5:00 pm (or by appointment)

University Email Address: hyokyung.woo@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: 24 hours during weekdays, 48 hours during weekends

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook(s)

Required

Mark Twain, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Penguin Classics, 2014. [ISBN: 0143107321]

Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic*, Mariner Books Classics, 2007. [ISBN: 0618871713]

Recommended

MLA Handbook, 9th edition, 2021. [ISBN: 1603293515], **available via Waters library database**

MLA Guide to Undergraduate Research in Literature, 2nd edition, 2023. [ISBN: 1603296298], **1st edition is available via Waters library database**

*Bring the book or assigned readings to every class. Students without their books may be marked absent.

*Other supplementary readings are available at D2L in PDF format.

*E-book or different editions are acceptable.

Technology Required: MyLeo Online Learning Management System (D2L)

Software Required: Microsoft Word, University Email, PowerPoint

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to provide undergraduate students with an opportunity to familiarize themselves with a critical understanding of literature from the past to the present. In this particular session, the emphasis is on understanding incredibly a wide range of literature that consist of the cultural, national, and transnational identity of “America.” Further, the course seeks to provide students with a particular set of skills that can be used to recognize, probe, critique, and respond to works of literature across different forms of media to recognize these inherent traits of humanity. The course will encourage students to become comfortable with intellectual interactions with any given work of literature. This course is an exploration of the expansive field of literature as it conveys American experiences. As we trace our way through the major literary modes such as fiction, poetry, drama, and graphic narrative, we will work to develop a literary research project—a specific procedure or rules of engagement that will allow for a deeper understanding of a given work of literature. This journey will make students more cognizant of the structural, thematic, social, political, and interpretive features that undergird our contemporary world.

Course Objectives

1. Students will demonstrate their understanding of literary forms.
2. Students will hone their ability to write a critical essay.
3. Students will create an original project linking the course’s literature

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will identify a range of literary styles, themes, forms, and concerns in any given text.
- Students will communicate in a manner appropriate to the audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.
- Students will learn about how literature represents and engages in social conflicts.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using the learning management system, using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, using presentation and graphics programs, etc.

Instructional Methods

This course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes and objectives of this course and instructional units/modules. By the end of this course, the class will read and discuss literature as well as secondary materials in a manner befitting a specialist in the discipline of English. You are expected to do all readings for class by the date indicated on this syllabus (see "Course Outline/Calendar" below). The readings are the

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foundation of our class meetings; we cannot discuss and understand the ideas and theories unless you have completed the required readings. On occasion there will be videos for you to watch on YouTube. You must have internet access to view them.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

- 1) Attend every class meeting.
- 2) Read every assigned reading.
- 3) Complete every assignment/exam on time.
- 4) Communicate with your professor if you are in doubt.

STUDENT CONTACT STATEMENT

Announcements: General tool for course communication; I will post short messages or reminders related to due dates or changes in the assignments.

Email: Please only use the official ETAMU Leo Email to communicate with me and your classmates. I will send general emails with information related to the course, date changes, assignments modifications, etc. or with information that relates to our content. I will send individual emails as needed. I will respond to emails in 24 hs. during the work week and on the next business day on weekends and holidays.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale and total points:

- A = 90%-100% (900-1000 points)
- B = 80%-89% (800-899 points)
- C = 70%-79% (700-799 points)
- D = 60%-69% (600-699 points)
- F = 59% or Below (0-599 points)

ASSESSMENTS

Attendance & Participation	10%	(100 points)
Weekly Reading Response	10%	(100 points)
Weekly Quiz	10%	(100 points)
Class Reading Presentation	5%	(50 points)
Close-Reading Midterm Essay	20%	(200 points)
Final Project Research Proposal and Annotated Bibliography	10%	(100 points)
Final Project Conference Presentation	5%	(50 points)
Final Project Literary Analysis Essay (1500 words)	30%	(300 points)
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		100% (1000 points)

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Attendance and Participation 10% (100 points)

Everyone is in this class to learn and will therefore come to class fully prepared to discuss the material in a meaningful way. For that reason, everyone now has 100 points for attendance and participation. You can lose up to 4 points per class if you (a) don't show, (b) leave early without permission, (c) do not participate or complete in-class activities by deadline, or (d) treat a fellow class member or the instructor in an unprofessional and disrespectful manner. If you are late for class, you will lose 2 points more than 5 minute-grace period to 20 minutes, and 3 points after 20 minutes. (Also see ETAMUC Attendance policy below).

Weekly Reading Response 10% (100 points)

Students will write a 150–200-word weekly reading response about the assigned reading for each week. Students can choose to write about multiple authors or choose a specific text. The response should include at least one discussion question about the text(s). Due by Sunday midnight (Sunday leading into Monday). Points will be deducted if the post is too short or does not write about the assigned text. Complete/Incomplete assignment. No feedback will be given for this assignment unless necessary.

Weekly Quiz 10% (100 points)

Students will take a short quiz about the assigned readings each week. Quizzes cannot be made up unless students have a valid document for excused absences, and it is your responsibility to request a make-up quiz from an instructor.

Class Reading Presentation 5% (50 points)

Students will present one author and text they like to study further in solo or a group (2 people) for 7-10 minutes followed by a Q&A discussion. The presenter(s) will read the assigned text thoroughly and choose 2-3 important passages from the assigned primary text with one or two discussion questions after briefly explaining the social and cultural context as well as author's biography.

Close-Reading Midterm Essay (1000 words) 20% (200 points)

Students will write a close reading essay about one passage chosen among several passages the instructor provided. The essay should demonstrate the student's ability to critically analyze and interpret the literary piece in depth. Students must use MLA style. Feedback will be given to each student.

Final Project Research Proposal and Annotated Bibliography 10% (100 points)

Students will compile a research proposal and annotated bibliography, including two secondary sources, to prepare for the final critical analysis essay. Students must use MLA style. Feedback will be given to each student.

Final Project Conference Presentation 5% (50 points)

Students will present their final project in class for 5 minutes followed by a Q&A session. Students are required to ask at least two questions to their peer presentations per session. Students who do not present should ask at least one question to their peer presentations.

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Final Project Literary Analysis Essay (1500 words) 30% (300 points)

After mini-conference presentation, students will compose an analytical literary essay on one of the primary texts we read in class and use one secondary source in your annotated bibliography. Students must use MLA style. Feedback will given only upon request.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**Course Specific Procedures/Policies****Academic Honesty Policy**

East Texas A&M University and the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another person and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments (using AI), collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension and expulsion (East Texas A&M University Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1, 2, 3]). Cheating, including plagiarizing papers in whole or part, will result in a grade of zero (0) on the assignment for the first offense and may result in failure of the course for any subsequent offenses.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is important for your success in this class. Excused absences, such as those for documented illness, family tragedy, religious observance, or travel for inter-collegiate athletics, will not alter your grade with a proper verification document. Also, use of a cell phone during class without permission will result in an unexcused absence. Six unexcused absences will automatically result in failure of the course.

Assignment Policy

Student work must be completed and submitted when it is due. Students who know in advance they will miss class when an assignment is due must contact the instructor as soon as possible in advance of class to arrange for submission of the assignment. Deadline extensions and other allowances can often be provided before they are required.

Administrative Withdrawal

I reserve the right to drop a student from the course administratively for excessive absences or violations of student conduct codes.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an

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environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and East Texas A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafteyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Students Sources

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

East Texas A&M University

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here: <https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce

Halladay Building, Room 203

Phone (903) 886-5145.

www.tamuc.edu/counsel

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COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR

*Black: Reading and Class Activity

*Blue: Student Work

*Red: School Schedule

Week 1: Introduction			
	Tuesday (1/14)	Thursday (1/16)	Sunday (1/19)
In Class	Intro to the Course Welcome Survey In-Class Activity: How to Email a Professor (Please bring your laptop.)	In-Class Writing (300 words)	
Readings & Assignments	Upload your profile pictures to D2L, so I can remember you! Start to read <i>Huckleberry Finn</i> this week.	<u>(1/16) Last Day to Drop and Add</u>	Reading Response 1: Zitkala-Ša, from <i>American Indian Stories</i> (1920)

Week 2: Remembering the Silenced			
	Tuesday (1/21)	Thursday (1/23)	Sunday (1/26)
In Class	Intro to the Course Presentation Sign-up Lecture	Writing Workshop: MLA Style Guide	
Readings & Assignments	Zitkala-Ša, "Impressions of an Indian Childhood" and "The School Days of an Indian Girl," "An Indian Teacher among Indians" from <i>American Indian Stories</i> (1920). pdf to D2L Continue to read <i>Huckleberry Finn</i> this week.	Zitkala-Ša (cont.)	Reading Response 2: Emily Dickinson poems <u>(1/29) Spring Consensus Day and Last Day to Drop</u>

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Week 3: Emily Dickinson			
	Tuesday (1/28)	Thursday (1/30)	Sunday (2/2)
In Class	Quiz 1: Emily Dickinson Lecture	Writing Workshop: Close-Reading Exercise	
Readings & Assignments	Emily Dickinson, poems 112, 320, 340, 409, 479, 591, 764 Continue to read <i>Huckleberry Finn</i> this week.	Emily Dickinson (cont.)	Reading Response 3: <i>Huck Finn</i>, Ch. 1-20
Week 4: The Gilded Age and Mark Twain (1)			
	Tuesday (2/4)	Thursday (2/6)	Sunday (2/9)
In Class	Quiz 2: <i>Huck Finn</i> Ch. 1-20 Midterm Close Essay Prompt will be shared. Lecture	Presentation: <i>Huck Finn</i> Ch. 11-20	
Readings & Assignments	Mark Twain, <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> (1884), Ch. 1-10	<i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> Ch. 11-20	Reading Response 4: <i>Huck Finn</i>, Ch. 21-43
Week 5: The Gilded Age and Mark Twain (2)			
	Tuesday (2/11)	Thursday (2/13)	Sunday (2/16)
In Class	Quiz 3: <i>Huck Finn</i> Ch. 21-43 Lecture	Presentation: <i>Huck Finn</i> Ch. 31-43 Writing Workshop: Mastering MLA	
Readings & Assignments	<i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> (cont.) Ch. 21-30	<i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> Ch. 31-43	Reading Response 5: <i>Fun Home</i>, Ch. 1-4

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Week 6: Graphic Novel (1)			
	Tuesday (2/18)	Thursday (2/20)	Sunday (2/23)
In Class	Quiz 4: <i>Fun Home</i> (1) Lecture	Presentation	
Readings & Assignments	Alison Bechdel, <i>Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic</i> (2006), Ch. 1-4	<i>Fun Home</i> 1 (cont.)	Reading Response 6: <i>Fun Home</i>, Ch. 5-7
Week 7: Graphic Novel (2)			
	Tuesday (2/25)	Thursday (2/27)	Sunday (3/2)
In Class	Quiz 5: <i>Fun Home</i> (2) Lecture		
Readings & Assignments	<i>Fun Home</i> , Ch. 5-7	<i>Fun Home</i> 2 (cont.)	Midterm Close-Reading Essay Due
Week 8: Student Progress Meeting			
	Tuesday (3/4)	Thursday (3/6)	Sunday (3/9)
In Class	Student Meeting: Discussing your progress	Student Meeting: Discussing your progress	
Readings & Assignments			

Week 9: Spring Break			
	Tuesday (3/11)	Thursday (3/13)	Sunday (3/16)
In Class	No Class	No Class	
Readings & Assignments			Reading Response 7: Langston Hughes essay and poem

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Week 10: Black Literature			
	Tuesday (3/18)	Thursday (3/20)	Sunday (3/23)
In Class	Quiz 6: Langston Hughes Final Project Abstract and Annotated Bibliography Prompt will be released. Mini-Conference and Final Essay Prompts will be released. Lecture	Presentation	<u>3/23 Midterm Grade Due</u>
Readings & Assignments	Langston Hughes, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers"	Langston Hughes, "I, Too," "The Weary Blues," "Silhouette," "Theme for English B," "Harlem"	Reading Response 8: Flannery O'Connor

Week 11 Southern Gothic			
	Tuesday (4/1)	Thursday (4/3)	Sunday (4/6)
In Class	Quiz 7: Flannery O'Connor Lecture	Presentation In-Class Film: <i>Get Out</i>	
Readings & Assignments	Flannery O'Connor, "A Good Man Is Hard to Find"		Reading Response 9: Li-Young Lee

Week 12: Immigration and Language			
	Tuesday (4/1)	Thursday (4/3)	Sunday (4/6)
In Class	Quiz 8: Li-Young Lee Lecture	Presentation	

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Readings & Assignments	Li-Young Lee, "The Gift," "Persimmons," "Eating Alone,"	"Eating Together," "This Room and Everything in It"	Reading Response 10: K-pop Music Video
Week 13: Global Culture and Local Reception: Kpop			
	Tuesday (4/8)	Thursday (4/10)	Sunday (4/13)
In Class	Lecture	Writing Workshop: Writing an Abstract and Creating an Annotated Bibliography	
Readings & Assignments	Rose and Mars, "APT" New Jeans, TBA BTS, TBA		Final Project Abstract and Annotated Bibliography Due
Week 14: Writing Workshop			
	Tuesday (4/15)	Thursday (4/17)	Sunday (11/29)
In Class	Peer Review: Abstract and Annotated Bibliography	Mini-Conference Preparation	
Readings & Assignments			
Week 15: Mini-Conference			
	Tuesday (4/22)	Thursday (4/24)	Sunday (4/27)
In Class	Course Feedback Mini-Conference (1)	Mini-Conference (2)	
Readings & Assignments			Final Essay Due
Week 16 Wrap-up: Conclusion			
	Tuesday (4/29)	Thursday (5/1)	Sunday (5/4)
In Class	Wrap-Up: Conclusion	No Class	Final Grade will be posted at D2L. Students will have

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			24 hours to submit any inquiries or complaints before the official final grade is due. <u>(5/12) Final Grade Due</u>
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