



Spring 2018

Meeting days: Mon., Wed., and Fri.	Instructor: Karl Martin, PhD
Meeting times: 8:30-9:25	Phone: 2275
Meeting location: Cabrillo 101	E-mail: karlmartin@pointloma.edu
Office location: BAC 113	Office hours: Mon. and Wed. 1:30-2:30; Tues., Thur., and Fri. 11:00-Noon
Final Exam: Wednesday, May 2nd, 7:30-10:00	

**PLNU Mission**

*To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send*

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Literature 257 is designed to provide students with an in-depth survey of American literature—represented by all its major genres—from the end of the Civil War until the present. Because the course provides a general survey, special attention will be given to the literature’s cultural context.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the Conclusion of the Course Students will be able to:

1. Closely read and critically analyze texts in their original languages and/or in translation.
2. Recall, identify, and use fundamental concepts of literary study to read and discuss texts
  - a. Standard literary terminology
  - b. Modes/genres of literature
  - c. Elements of literary genres
  - d. Literary periods (dates, writers, characteristics, and important developments)
  - e. Contemporary critical approaches
  - f. Extra-literary research
3. Analyze the social, cultural, ethnic, gendered, and/or historical contexts of the works and their authors, and connect the texts with their own lives.
4. Create detailed and informed textual analysis of literary works that examine several of the fundamental concepts of literary study.

**UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES**

See the course Canvas site for all pertinent university and departmental policy statements.

**TEXTS**

- The Norton Anthology of American Literature: Volume C: 1865-1914, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*
- The Norton Anthology of American Literature: Volume D: 1914-1945, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*
- The Norton Anthology of American Literature: Volume E: Literature Since 1945, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*

## **COURSE REQUIRMENTS**

*Reading:* Dates for the readings are clearly indicated on the schedule. Read daily if possible and complete all reading on time.

*Reading Responses:* Seven times during the semester—but never more than once a week—each student will bring to class or post to Canvas a response to the daily reading. Together, these seven responses will constitute 7% of the total grade. The specific form of the response will differ depending on whether students are responding to poetry or to prose. Details concerning the responses will be posted on Canvas. On the days you complete a response, you will be expected to participate in the discussion more fully than your fellow classmates.

*Reading Reflection:* Once during the semester, I would like you to revisit a text from earlier in the semester in light of something else you have read and reflect on how your later reading changed your reaction to the earlier work. Your response should be about two paragraphs in length. This response will constitute 1% of the total grade.

*Personal Response:* Some time during the semester, select two works that reveal an aspect of American culture you wish to either celebrate or lament. Write one celebratory response and one lament. Your responses should be about two paragraphs in length and will constitute 2% of the total grade.

*Discussion:* The success of the course will be directly related to the quality of daily discussions. Each of you must feel comfortable contributing to discussions. And each of you should bring any questions you have about the reading to our attention during the course of our discussions.

*Writing:* Each student will complete a mid-term exam, a final exam, and two 3-5 page essays written outside of class. Each of the exams will include a written portion. The final exam will contain comprehensive elements. Students cannot pass the course without completing all four of these major assignments. Late essays will receive a ten percent daily deduction and will not be accepted when the value would be zero.

*Oral Presentation:* Twice during the semester, students will give oral presentations. One of these presentations will be a report on a poem included in the anthology but not assigned as a part of the course readings, and one will be a group presentation about a prose work not assigned to the entire class.

*Attendance:* Because your participation is essential, your attendance is mandatory. More than four absences for any reason may result in your final grade being lowered. Students who miss more than nine class sessions will be de-enrolled.

## **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION**

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member has the option of filing a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice. If the date of de-enrollment is past the last date to withdraw from a class, the student will be assigned a grade of W or WF consistent with university policy in the grading section of the catalog. See Academic Policies in the undergraduate academic catalog.

## FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the Class Schedules site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

In the rare case that a student is scheduled for more than three final examinations on the same day, the student is authorized to contact each professor in order to work out an alternate time for one of those examinations. Department chairs/school deans and college deans need not be involved in the process of making this accommodation.

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Essay #1	15%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Essay #2	15%
Prose Presentations	4%
Poetry Presentation	1%
Final Exam	30%
Participation	5%
Reading Responses/Reflections	10%

Your work will not be graded on a curve. A traditional scale will be used. Those who earn more than 90% of the possible points earn an A, those who earn between 80-89% of the points earn a B, and so on.

A indicates exceptional work (roughly 20% of students normally achieve this level)

B indicates superior work (roughly 30% of students normally achieve this level)

C indicates average work

D indicates passing work

F indicates unsatisfactory work

READING SCHEDULE FOR LIT 257: AMERICAN WRITERS II

*Always read the editor's introduction.*

- Tues. 1/9 "American Literature 1865-1914," Vol. C, pp. 1-18.  
Wed. 1/10 Twain, Vol. C, pp. 115-19 and 340-42.  
Fri. 1/12 Howells, Vol. C, pp. 351-62.
- Mon. 1/15 **No Class Session in Honor of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**  
Wed. 1/17 James, Vol. C, pp. 406-49.  
Fri. 1/19 Jewett, Vol. C, pp. 515-23.
- Mon. 1/22 Freeman, Vol. C, pp. 639-59.  
Wed. 1/24 Chopin, Vol. C, pp. 548-80.  
Fri. 1/26 Chopin, Vol. C, pp. 580-614.
- Mon. 1/29 Chopin, Vol. C, pp. 614-39; **Essay #1 Assigned.**  
Wed. 1/31 Gilman, Vol. C, pp. 842-856; and Wharton, Vol. C, pp. 872-81.  
Fri. 2/2 Crane, Vol. C, pp. 1048-67; and London, Vol. C, pp. 1113-24.
- Mon. 2/5 "American Literature 1914-1945" **Vol. D**, pp. 3-23; Masters, Vol. D, pp. 24-27; and Robinson, Vol. D, pp. 27-31; **Essay #1 Due.**  
Wed. 2/7 Frost, Vol. D, pp. 218-40.  
Fri. 2/9 Glaspell, Vol. D, pp. 240-50 and Anderson, Vol. D, pp. 251-56.
- Mon. 2/12 O'Neill, Vol. D, pp. 387-467.  
Wed. 2/14 Modern Poetry Selections, Vol. D: Moore, "Poetry," p. 339; Williams, "The Red Wheelbarrow," p. 288; Pound, "A Pact" and "In a Station at the Metro" p. 297; Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" pp. 353-58.  
Fri. 2/16 Fitzgerald, Vol. D, pp. 646-60 and Dos Passos, Vol. D, pp. 661-65.
- Mon. 2/19 Hemingway, Vol. D, pp. 803-07 and Steinbeck, Vol. D, pp. 845-53.  
Wed. 2/21 Chesnutt, **Vol. C**, pp. 749-60; Johnson, pp. 1067-69; and Dunbar, pp. 1093-1101.  
Fri. 2/23 Washington, Vol. C, pp. 716-24, and DuBois, Vol. C, pp. 927-36.
- Mon. 2/26 Hughes, **Vol. D**, pp. 328-30 and 833-44; McKay, Vol. D, pp. 467-71; Brown, Vol. D, pp. 828-33; and Cullen, Vol. D, pp. 853-58.  
Wed. 2/28 Hurston, Vol. D, pp. 515-36.  
Fri. 3/2 **Mid-Term Exam**
- Mon. 3/5—Fri. 3/9 **Spring Break**
- Mon. 3/12 Faulkner, Vol. D, pp. 666-704,  
Wed. 3/14 Faulkner, Vol. D, pp. 704-35.  
Fri. 3/16 Faulkner, Vol. D, pp. 735-64; **Essay #2 Assigned.**
- Mon. 3/19 "American Literature since 1945," **Vol. E**, pp. 3-23 and Williams, Vol. E, pp. 73-138.  
Wed. 3/21 Miller, Vol. E, pp. 218-86.  
Fri. 3/23 Malamud, Vol. E, pp. 176-88.

Mon. 3/26 Baldwin, Vol. E, pp. 40-26; **Essay #2 Due.**  
Wed. 3/28 Ginsberg, Vol. E, pp. 485-96.  
Fri. 3/30 **No Class Session in Honor of Good Friday**

Mon. 4/2 **No Class Session in Honor of Easter**  
Wed. 4/4 O'Connor, Vol. E, pp. 426-49.  
Fri. 4/6 Pynchon, Vol. E, pp. 730-42 and Paley, Vol. E, pp. 355-61.

Mon. 4/9 Morrison, Vol. E, pp. 605-20.  
Wed. 4/11 Updike, Vol. E, pp. 632-42.  
Fri. 4/13 Roth, Vol. E, pp. 642-65.

Mon. 4/16 Mamet, Vol. E, pp. 999-1034.  
Wed. 4/18 Carver, Vol. E, pp. 742-53.  
Fri. 4/20 Beattie, Vol. E, pp. 986-99 and Silko, Vol. E, pp. 1041-48.

Mon. 4/23 Walker, Vol. E, pp. 912-19.  
Wed. 4/25 Wilson, Vol. E, pp. 919-67.  
Fri. 4/27 Cisneros, Vol. E, pp. 1100-08 and Lahiri, Vol. E, pp. 1190-1207.

**Wed. 5/2 Final Exam 7:30-10:00**