



Spring 2018

Meeting days: Tuesday and Thursday	Instructor: Karl Martin, PhD
Meeting times: 8:00-9:15	Phone: 2275
Meeting location: BAC 103	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: Thursday, 5/3 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

Diverse Voices in American Literature is a course designed to allow students to listen to the voices of American writers representing groups who have often been oppressed or marginalized by the dominant culture in the United States. We listen to these voices with the hope that they can teach us more about both the promise of the American experience and the challenges we face in striving to be a nation that lives up to that promise for all of its citizens. Content will vary each time the course is taught. This semester we will read works from the era known as the Harlem Renaissance, a part of the larger New Negro Movement. The course fulfills a general education requirement and a requirement for Literature majors.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion 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.

TEXTS

Langston Hughes, *Selected Poems*
James Weldon Johnson, *God's Trombones*
Nella Larsen, *Passing*
Alain Locke, Editor, *The New Negro*
Wallace Thurman, *Infants of the Spring*

COURSE REQUIRMENTS

Reading: Dates for the readings are clearly indicated on the schedule. Read daily if possible and complete all reading prior to the class session when the text will be discussed. You will also keep a reading journal detailing your response to the readings. The journals will be collected four times during the semester.

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 a brief reflection essay written outside of class. Students cannot pass the course without completing all of these major assignments. Late essays will receive a ten percent daily deduction and will not be accepted when the value would be zero.

Creative or Scholarly Project: In groups no larger than five, students will complete a creative or scholarly project related to one of the course material and present their work in class. Class presentation will be between seven and ten minutes in length. A group grade will be given for the project. Each group will turn in a list of Works Consulted and student in the group will complete a one-page summary of the project and her or his role in its preparation.

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

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Reading Journal	100 Points
Mid-Term Exam	300 Points
Final Exam	300 Points
Reflection Essay	100 Points
Group Presentation	150 Points
Participation	50 Points

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

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.

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

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

READING SCHEDULE FOR LIT 352 Diverse Voices in American Literature

Thur. 1/11	Introduction to the Course
Tues. 1/16	Locke, "Introduction," "Forward," and "The New Negro"
Thur. 1/18	Locke, "Negro Art in America," "The Negro in American Literature," and "Negro Youth Speaks"
Tues. 1/23	Locke, Fiction (all selections)
Thur. 1/25	Locke, Poetry (all selections)
Tues. 1/30	Locke, The New Scene (all selections)
Thur. 2/1	Locke, Music (all selections)
Tues. 2/6	Hughes, pages 3-103
Thur. 2/8	Hughes, pages 107-174
Tues. 2/13	Hughes, pages 177-297
Thur. 2/15	Locke, The Negro Digs Up His Past (all selections)
Tues. 2/20	Larsen, Part One
Thur. 2/22	Larsen, Part Two
Tues. 2/27	Larsen, Part Three
Thur. 3/1	Mid-Term Exam
Tues. 3/6—Thur. 3/8	Spring Break
Tues. 3/13	Johnson, "Preface" through "Go Down Death—A Funeral Sermon"
Thur. 3/15	Johnson, "Noah Built the Ark" through "The Judgment Day"
Tues. 3/20	Thurman, Chapters I through VI
Thur. 3/22	Thurman, Chapters VII-XI
Tues. 3/27	Thurman, Chapters XII-XVII
Thur. 3/29	No Class Session in Honor of Easter
Tues. 4/3	Thurman, Chapters XVIII-XX
Thur. 4/5	Thurman, Chapters XXI-XXV
Tues. 4/10	Locke, Drama (all selections)
Thur. 4/12	Locke, The Negro and the American Tradition (all selections)
Tues. 4/17	Group Presentations
Thur. 4/19	Group Presentations
Tues. 4/23	Group Presentations
Thur. 4/25	Conclusion of the Course
Thur. 5/3	Final Exam 7:30-10:00