



**Spring 2016**

<b>Meeting days:</b> Tuesday and Thursday	<b>Instructor title and name:</b> Karl Martin, PhD
<b>Meeting times:</b> 8:00-9:15	<b>Phone:</b> 2275
<b>Meeting location:</b> BAC 102	<b>E-mail:</b> karlmartin@pointloma.edu
<b>Office location:</b> BAC 113	<b>Office hours:</b> Monday-Friday 11:00-Noon
<b>Final Exam:</b> Thursday, May 5th 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**

An advanced study of selected authors and movements in American literature from its origins until 1900. The course will offer students the opportunity to study a limited number of texts in greater depth than is possible in a survey course. This semester we will examine books published between 1880 and 1900

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students who complete Lit 400 will

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 employing secondary sources and applying concepts of literary study and literary theory.

**COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION**

This class meets the Carnegie Unit minimum requirement of 750 minutes of instructional time + 1500 minutes of out-of-class work per 1 unit of credit. Specific details about how the class meets these requirements are included here in the course syllabus.

## **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Edward Bellamy, *Looking Backward*

Stephen Crane, *Short Stories*

Theodore Dreiser, *Sister Carrie*

Hamlin Garland, *Main-Travelled Roads*

William Dean Howells, *A Hazard of New Fortunes*

Helen Hunt Jackson, *Ramona*

Henry James, *Washington Square*

Sarah Orne Jewett, *The Country of the Pointed Firs*

Mark Twain, *A Connecticut Yankee at King Arthur's Court*

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

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

*Discussion:* The success of the course will be directly related to the quality of our 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 10-12 page essay concerning the critical reception of one of the works or some aspect of American life in the late nineteenth century. Students cannot pass the course without completing all three of these major assignments. Late work will receive a ten percent deduction daily and will not be accepted when the value would be zero or below.

*Seminar Presentations:* You will also be called upon to do an oral presentation on the research related to your research paper.

## **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 undergrad student 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 (3) 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

Sample assignment distribution by percentage:

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Mid-Term Exam	20%
Seminar Presentation	10%
Critical Paper	30%
Final Exam	30%
Participation	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

*Lit 400 Spring 2016*

Thur. 1/14	Introduction to the Course
Tues. 1/19	James, Chapters 1-20
Thur. 9/21	James, Chapters 21-35
Tues. 1/26	Jackson, Chapters I-X
Thur. 1/28	Jackson, Chapters XI-XV
Tues. 2/2	Jackson, Chapters XVI-XXIII
Thur. 2/4	Jackson, Chapters XXIV-XXVI
Tues. 2/9	Twain, Word of Explanation-Chapter 20
Thur. 2/11	Twain, Chapters 21-25
Tues. 2/16	Twain, Chapters 26-35
Thur. 2/18	Twain, Chapters 36-44
Tues. 2/23	Bellamy, Author's Preface-Chapter 12
Thur. 2/25	Bellamy, Chapters 13-24
Tues. 3/1	Bellamy, Chapters 25-Postscript
Thur. 3/3	<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>
<b>Spring Break</b>	
Tues. 3/15	Howells, Part First and Part Second
Thur. 3/17	Howells, Part Third
Tues. 3/22	Howells, Part Fourth
Thur. 3/24	<b>Easter Break</b>
Tues. 3/29	Howells, Part Fifth
Thur. 3/31	Crane, Maggie: A Girl of the Streets
Tues. 4/5	Garland and Jewett, Selected Stories
Thur. 4/7	Garland and Jewett, Selected Stories
Tues. 4/12	Garland and Jewett, Selected Stories
Thur. 4/14	Dreiser, Chapters I-XIV
Tues. 4/19	Dreiser, Chapters XV-XXIX
Thur. 4/21	Dreiser, Chapters XXX-XXXV. <b>Papers Due</b>
Tues. 4/26	Dreiser, Chapters XXXVI-XLIII
Thur. 4/28	Dreiser, Chapters XLIV-XLVII
Thur. 5/5	<b>Final Exam 7:30-10:00</b>