

Dr. Diane Dowdey
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ENG 360 SURVEY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE, BEGINNING TO 1865. A survey of themes, genres, and authors in American literary history from the period of exploration and settlement through the American Renaissance and the Civil War. Required of all English majors; also required of all English minors not seeking certification. Prerequisites: 9 hours of English. Credit 3.

American literature includes literature from the native tradition as well as literature from the European tradition. Although literature from many different languages have been written on the North American continent, most surveys of American literature concentrate on that originally written in English and this course will be no different. However the American tradition developed a new style and sensibility as it dealt with themes not addressed by Europeans. Americans also developed different genres and techniques within the literary tradition. The aim of this course is to familiarize you with many of the significant writers during this time, some of the ways that American writers created new techniques and genres, and to develop an understanding of uniquely American themes.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. You are expected to come to class having done the reading listed for the day and be prepared to discuss it, write about it, or take an objective quiz on it. All of the course readings are available on the Internet. We will be reading all of *The Scarlet Letter* and *Walden* so you may want to purchase a copy of those. I encourage you to print off a hard copy of each reading and bring it to class with you.
2. You will do some in-class assignments such as written responses to the readings or objective quizzes as well as in-class discussion.
3. You will do a group teaching project. A description of the project is available on Blackboard.
4. There will be a take-home mid-term exam. It will consist of essay questions. You will need to type it and either bring a hard copy to class or submit it to through Assignments on Blackboard by noon on the day it is due.
5. There will be a comprehensive final exam.

GRADES:

Grades are posted on Blackboard. You will need to check your grades to be sure that they accurately reflect the grade on your written work. Grades are given on a point system and the final course grade is based on a percentage of the total semester points.

In-class work: 150 points

Teaching project: 200 points

Mid-term exam: 200 points

Final exam: 250 points

COURSE POLICIES:

You are expected to attend class and be punctual. Some assignments will be done during class time, and if you miss class, you will not be able to complete them. Excessive absences will affect your final grade. If you have to leave class early, please let me know and sit near the door that day, so you won't disturb your classmates. I expect you to not disturb or distract your fellow students. The Code of Student Conduct and Discipline, Section 5 explains the university's expectations about student behavior. Members of this class are subject to this code.

Please turn your cell phones off or on vibrate during class time as ringing phones are distracting to your classmates and me.

Students are expected "to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experience both in and out of the class room. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subjected to disciplinary action." Code of Student Conduct and Discipline, Section 5.3, as printed in the student guidelines.

Students who are absent from class for observance of a religious holy day will be allowed to make up a test or other class assignment scheduled for that day within one week of returning to class. Students with disabilities that affect their academic performance are expected to arrange conference times with me so that appropriate strategies may be considered to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. Students with disabilities are responsible for contacting the Director of the Counseling Center as chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students to register their status. The phone number is 936-294-1720.

If over the course of the semester something happens which will require an extended absence, you should contact the Dean of Students' Office, who will contact your professors. The phone number is 936-294-1781.

Information on the course, including grades and assignments, are posted on Blackboard. I expect you to check Blackboard regularly for updates.