

Chaminade University of Honolulu
EN 314: Backgrounds in American Literature
Fall 2019
Syllabus

Instructor: Justin Wyble
E-mail: justin.wyble@chaminade.edu

Course Description

Foundational study of representative American literature from the 17th century to the present. Required for English majors.

Required Texts

You may purchase either the print or the ebook editions of the following texts:

- *Norton Anthology of American Literature*, 9th ed., Volumes A and B (ISBN: 978-0393264548)
- *Norton Anthology of American Literature*, 9th ed., Volumes C, D, and E (ISBN: 978-0393264555)

Learning Outcomes

- To improve critical reading and writing skills developed in the 200-level literature courses.
- To learn the elements of fiction and the literary terms used to discuss them.
- To read and analyze literary works using the elements of fiction.
- To define various literary critical approaches and use them to analyze literary texts. (PLO 1)
- To situate literary texts within their socio-historical contexts.
- To learn the multiple genres of literature.
- To develop the skills necessary to participate in class discussions on literary texts.
- To write unified, coherent, well-developed essays about literary works. (PLO 1)
- To conduct library research on literary texts and related secondary sources, culminating in the successful completion of a research-based literary essay. (PLO 1)
- To define, identify and articulate major movements/periods from significant authors and texts in American literature. (PLO 2)

Course Requirements

Required Assignments

Essay 1 (1500 words)	15%
Essay 2 (2000 words)	25%
Weekly Response Papers	20%
Weekly Discussion Forums	20%
Final Exam	20%
TOTAL	100%

*** English majors should save graded copies of their essays in all English classes, insofar as a subset of these essays will be required for the Senior Seminar portfolio in EN 499.**

Weekly Response Papers

Each student is required to write a weekly response paper based on the week's reading assignments. In these short, 500-word papers, you will be expected to share your initial impressions of and responses to our readings. This is the place to make connections to previous readings that we have studied and discussed, to raise questions concerning the form, content, and historical context of the readings, and to relate the readings to your own personal experience. You may also use your weekly response papers to experiment with creative responses to our readings. My hope is that these response papers will provide you with an informal writing space to try out ideas that you might decide to more fully develop in your formal essays.

Weekly Discussion Forums

Each student is required to participate in our weekly discussion forums. First, you will post a direct response to the topic/question of the week's discussion forum. Once you have posted your response, you are then required to respond to at least one of your classmates' posts.

Overview of Course Schedule

(subject to change)

Week 1: Colonial Period to 1700

Week 2: Eighteenth Century

Week 3: Early Nineteenth Century: 1800-1865 (Part 1)

Week 4: Early Nineteenth Century: 1800-1865 (Part 2)

Week 5: Late Nineteenth Century: 1865-1910

Week 6: Modern Period: 1910-1945 (Part 1)

Week 7: Modern Period: 1910-1945 (Part 2)

Week 8: Modern Period: 1910-1945 (Part 3)

Week 9: Contemporary Period: 1945 to the Present (Part 1)

Week 10: Contemporary Period: 1945 to the Present (Part 2)

Marianist Values:

This class represents one component of your education at Chaminade University of Honolulu. An education in the Marianist Tradition is marked by five principles and you should take every opportunity possible to reflect upon the role of these characteristics in your education and development:

1. Education for formation in faith
2. Provide an integral, quality education
3. Educate in family spirit
4. Educate for service, justice and peace
5. Educate for adaptation and change

ADA Policy:

Pursuant to federal and state laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as amended by the ADA

Amendments Act of 2008 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, all qualified students with disabilities are protected from discrimination on the basis of disability and are eligible for reasonable accommodations or modifications in the academic environment to enable them to equal access to academic programs, services, or activities. If a student would like to determine if they meet the criteria for accommodations, they should contact the Counseling Center by email: counselingcenter@chaminade.edu for further information.

Title IX Compliance:

Chaminade University of Honolulu recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources by visiting Campus Ministry, the Dean of Students Office, the Counseling Center, or the Office for Compliance and Personnel Services.