

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU

EN 314 (IS):  
BACKGROUNDS IN AMERICAN LITERATURE  
SPRING 2021

Course meetings: Online (asynchronous via Canvas)  
Instructor: Professor Justin Wyble  
Office hours: via Zoom (please email for an appointment)  
E-mail: justin.wyble@chaminade.edu

**DESCRIPTION**

Foundational study of representative American literature from the 17th century to the present.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

1. Norton Anthology of American Literature, 9<sup>th</sup> ed., Package 1: Beginnings to 1865 (Vols. A and B)
2. Norton Anthology of American Literature, 9<sup>th</sup> ed., Package 2: 1865 to the Present (C, D, and E)

\*I recommend purchasing the ebook editions of these two texts directly from the publisher:

<http://digital.wwnorton.com/americanlit9pre1865>

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students who complete this course will:

1. Improve critical reading and writing skills developed in the 200-level literature courses.
2. Learn the elements of fiction and the literary terms used to discuss them.
3. Read and analyze literary works using the elements of fiction.
4. Define various literary critical approaches and use them to analyze literary texts.
5. Situate literary texts within their socio-historical contexts.
6. Learn the multiple genres of literature.
7. Develop the skills necessary to participate in class discussions on literary texts.
8. Write unified, coherent, well-developed essays about literary works.
9. Conduct library research on literary texts and related secondary sources, culminating in the successful completion of a research-based literary essay.
10. Define, identify and articulate major movements/periods from significant authors and texts in American literature.

**PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students who complete this program will:

1. Identify, define and apply literary critical approaches to analyze texts.
2. Define, analyze and interpret texts and their cultural and historical contexts.
3. Read, research, and write as a dialogic process of inquiry that includes reflection, collaboration and engagement with others.
4. Formulate and construct interpretive and creative applications of texts in workshops, literary performances, and other collaborative events in local communities.
5. Explain and interpret how literature and writing are vehicles for service, justice and peace.

## REQUIREMENTS

Participation	20%
Reading Journal	20%
Essay 1	20%
Essay 2	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 English 499.

## MARIANIST CHARACTERISTICS

Chaminade is a Marianist Institution and uses the following characteristics as a guide:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith
2. Integral Quality Education
3. Educate in the Family Spirit
4. Service, Justice, and Peace and the Integrity of Creation
5. Adaptation and Change

## CLASS GUIDELINES

**Technology Tools:** Students are required to have access to a computer (desktop, laptop, or tablet) with an internet connection. We will be using CUH's learning management system (Canvas), as well as your choice of word processing software (e.g., Google Docs, Microsoft Word, etc.). For assistance with hardware or software questions, please contact the CUH helpdesk at [helpdesk@chaminade.edu](mailto:helpdesk@chaminade.edu) or (808) 735-4855.

**Expectations for Instructor Feedback:** I will respond to student emails within 24 hours. I will provide feedback on your written work (discussion posts, reading journal entries, essays, etc.) within one week of the assignment's due date.

**Expectations for Student Participation:** Students are expected to participate regularly and actively in our frequent discussions of assigned readings. Students are expected to interact with the instructor in a respectful and thoughtful manner at all times.

**Reading Journal:** Students are expected to keep a reading journal. You will write a journal entry for each week's reading assignment(s). Each journal entry should consist of your reading notes, as well as your response(s) to the assigned reading(s). You will submit your reading journal entries to Canvas each week (by Sunday midnight).

**Late Work Policy:** Students may receive partial credit for late work. Please email me if you need more time to complete an assignment.

## DISABILITY ACCESS

If you need individual accommodations to meet course outcomes because of a documented disability, please speak with me to discuss your needs as soon as possible so that we can ensure your full participation in class and fair assessment of your work. Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations from the Counseling Center by the end of week three of the class, in order for instructors to plan accordingly. If a student would like to determine if they meet the criteria for accommodations, they

should contact the Kokua Ike Coordinator at (808) 739-8305 for further information ([ada@chaminade.edu](mailto:ada@chaminade.edu)).

### **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.

### **STUDENT CONDUCT**

Any community must have a set of rules and standards of conduct by which it operates. At Chaminade, these standards are outlined so as to reflect both the Catholic, Marianist values of the institution and to honor and respect students as responsible adults. All alleged violations of the community standards are handled through an established student conduct process, outlined in the Student Handbook, and operated within the guidelines set to honor both students' rights and campus values.

Students should conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the ideals of the University. This includes knowing and respecting the intent of rules, regulations, and/or policies presented in the Student Handbook, and realizing that students are subject to the University's jurisdiction from the time of their admission until their enrollment has been formally terminated. Please refer to the Student Handbook for more details. A copy of the Student Handbook is available on the Chaminade website.

### **DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

Chaminade's Core belief statement states, "Students, both traditional and non-traditional, bring a variety of talents, traditions, cultures and abilities. This diversity brings a special opportunity to the Chaminade community, which can then nurture and guide each student to the fullest realization of potential." Consequently, this course encompasses readings that reflect and examine the diversity of our literary, cultural and environmental heritage. Additionally, the course puts special attention on the problems faced by authors seeking to write from unique personal or cultural perspectives to readers who may not share the same perspectives or cultural background.

### **PLAGIARISM GUIDELINES**

Plagiarism is presenting the work of another as your own. The guidelines for plagiarism are in the Academic Catalog. They include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Complete or partial copying directly from a published or unpublished source without proper acknowledgment to the author. Minor changes in wording or syntax are not sufficient to avoid charges of plagiarism. Proper acknowledgement (citation) of the source is always mandatory.
2. Paraphrasing the work of another without proper acknowledgement.
3. Submitting as one's own original work (however freely given or purchased) the original exam, research paper, manuscript, report, computer file, or other assignment that has been prepared by another individual.

### **CREDIT HOUR POLICY**

The unit of semester credit is defined as university-level credit that is awarded for the completion of coursework. One credit hour reflects the amount of work represented in the intended learning outcomes and

verified by evidence of student achievement for those learning outcomes. Each credit hour earned at Chaminade University should result in 45 hours of engagement. This equates to one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester, 10 week term, or equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time. Direct instructor engagement and out-of-class work result in total student engagement time of 45 hours for one credit.

The minimum 45 hours of engagement per credit hour can be satisfied in fully online, internship, or other specialized courses through several means, including (a) regular online instruction or interaction with the faculty member and fellow students and (b) academic engagement through extensive reading, research, online discussion, online quizzes or exams; instruction, collaborative group work, internships, laboratory work, practica, studio work, and preparation of papers, presentations, or other forms of assessment. This policy is in accordance with federal regulations and regional accrediting agencies.

### **OVERVIEW OF COURSE SCHEDULE**

\*Subject to change.

\*A detailed course schedule will be made available week-by-week on our Canvas site.

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 (Part 1)

Week 6: Late Nineteenth Century: 1865-1910 (Part 2)

Week 7: Modern Period: 1910-1945 (Part 1)

Week 8: Modern Period: 1910-1945 (Part 2)

Week 9: Modern Period: 1910-1945 (Part 3)

Week 10: Contemporary Period: 1945 to the Present (Part 1)

Week 11: Contemporary Period: 1945 to the Present (Part 2)

Week 12: Contemporary Period: 1945 to the Present (Part 3)

Week 13: Contemporary Period: 1945 to the Present (Part 4)

Final Exam Week