

1UE'01

ENG 432 Themes in American Literature:
1940 to the Present
Winter 2001 Pearl Harbor
Mondays 4:45 – 8:55 pm
C A Jardin, Instructor

COURSE SYLLABUS

January 8 - Monday - Introduction, Course requirements
Sample readings discussed

January 15 - Monday - Holiday – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
No Class Meeting

January 22 - Monday - Poetry Section

- Robert Penn Warren pp. 2422 – 2433
- Theodore Roethke pp. 2445 - 2459
- Randall Jarrell pp. 2501 - 2511
- Robert Lowell pp. 2523 – 2541
- Gwendolyn Brooks pp. 2541 – 2552
- Richard Wilbur pp. 2567 – 2576
- Denise Levertov pp. 2583 - 2594

Oral presentations

- January 29 - Monday -
- Allen Ginsberg pp. 2632 – 2646
 - James Wright pp. 2691 – 2696
 - Adrienne Rich pp. 2711 – 2731
 - Alberto Rios pp. 2822 - 2830
 - Lorna Dee Cervantes pp. 2830 – 2837
 - Cathy Song pp. 2837 – 2846
 - Amiri Baraka pp. 2139 – 2146

Oral presentations

February 5 - Monday - paper on Poetry section due

Drama Section

Amiri Baraka (Leroi Jones) The Dutchman pp. 2124 – 2139

David Mamet Glengarry Glenn Ross pp. 2313 – 2348
Review film

Oral presentations

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February 12 – Monday - **One** of the following plays will be studied:
If film is available, film will be reviewed

Arthur Miller Death of a Salesman pp. 1917- 1984

Arthur Miller The Crucible

Tennessee Williams A Streetcar Named Desire pp. 1794 – 1859

Edward Albee Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

Sam Shepard Buried Child

Oral Presentations

February 19 - Monday - Holiday – President's Day
No Class Meeting

February 26 – Monday - paper on **Drama** section due

Prose Section – Short Stories and Essays

Ralph Ellison from The Invisible Man “The Battle Royal” pp. 1891 – 1901

Flannery O'Connor “The Life You Save May Be Your Own” pp 2021 – 2034

Toni Morrison “Recitatif” pp. 2077 – 2092

Gerald Vizon “Almost Browne” pp. 2157 – 2163

Raymond Carver “Cathedral” pp. 2197 – 2209

Ishmael Reed “The Last Days of Louisiana Red” pp. 2208 – 2213

Louise Erdrich “Fleur” pp. 2384 – 2394

Kurt Vonnegut “Fates Worse Than Death” pp. 1990 – 1999

Oral Presentations

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March 5 - Monday - Prose Section – Novels

Discussion of first novel selection

Two of the following plays will be studied:
If film is available, film will be reviewed

Saul Bellow Humboldt's Gift

Truman Capote In Cold Blood

Arthur Clarke 2001

Jack Kerouac On the Road

Frank McCourt Angela's Ashes

Toni Morrison Beloved

John Steinbeck Travels with Charley

J. D. Salinger Catcher in the Rye

John Updike Rabbit Run

Thornton Wilder The Eighth Day

Oral Presentations

March 12 - Monday - Discussion of second novel selection

Oral Presentations

March 19 - Monday - Paper on Novels Section due

March 21 - Wednesday - Special Session
Last night of class
Final Grades Distributed

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COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course covers a survey of American Literature from 1945 to the present – with representative selections of American poets, short story writers, novelists, essayists, and dramatists.

The focus of the class will be on the discussion of selected reading assignments.

Each student will be required to write three research papers. Paper #1 will concentrate on the poetry section of this course. Paper #2 will focus on the drama section, and Paper #3 will cover the prose section. Each paper will be a minimum of five pages long (ten pages maximum) and will be documented in the MLA format.

Each student will also be required to present a five to seven minute oral presentation to the class, summarizing the content and insights of his/her paper

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Baym, Nina ed. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature* Volume 2 - 5th edition W.W. Norton & Company: New York. 1998

Two novels to be selected

Play for drama section if selection not in textbook

GRADING: from the Chaminade University Handbook

- A - Outstanding scholarship: an unusual degree of intellectual initiative
- B - Superior work done in a consistent and intelligent manner
- C - competent grasp of the subject matter
- D - inferior work of the lowest passing grade; bare minimum
- F - failure to grasp bare minimum of course material; failure to officially withdraw
- I - Incomplete: a portion of the course work not completed for a valid reason. A contract must be signed with the instructor setting requirements and deadline for submission of all required work
- W - Withdrawal: Official withdrawal from course
- C/NC- Credit/No Credit: general elective requirements may be taken on a pass/fail basis