INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Laura Osborne  
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Office: Godbey Hall, Room 81

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Description: Examines American literary works from the mid-nineteenth Century to the present, emphasizing the ideas and characteristics of our national literature. Involves critical reading and writing. Prerequisite ENG 112 or divisional approval.

Credits: 3  
Submissions: 8  
Assessments: 4  
Online Activities: Required

COURSE MATERIALS


Media: Ariel CD (streamed into course) and Online McGraw Hill Learning Center website: www.mhhe.com/perkins (link is in course).

Note: NRCC assumes no liability for virus, loss of data, or damage to software or computer when a student downloads software for classes.

Additional resource materials for some NRCC classes can be found on the NRCC Web-based learning site at www.nr.edu/learninglinks.

The Student's Guide to Distance Education is available at http://www.nr.edu/de/pdf/stuguide.pdf.
I. COURSE INFORMATION

Prepared By: Laura Osborne

Approved By: Carol Hurst

A. INTRODUCTION

This is a Distance Education course designed specifically for those students whose learning styles are best served by providing instructional opportunities beyond the traditional classroom setting.

ENG 242 involves critical reading and writing. Students should be able to analyze and interpret representative works of American literature and be able to relate these to historical contexts and literary movements.

B. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon the successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Relate the basic themes in American literature from the mid-Nineteenth century to the present as a reflection of a national culture and national experience. Measured by essay and objective tests, and written assignments.

2. Relate the basic movements and periods in American literary history with specific emphasis on Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism, Modernism, American 20th Century voice, multiculturalism and globalization of American literature. Measured by essay and objective tests, and written assignments.

3. Analyze, interpret, and criticize the works of important American authors in written essays.

4. Evaluate biographies with principal works of major American authors. Measured by objective testing.

5. Develop and refine their own writing skills and style, with particular emphasis on analyzing literature and answering essay and discussion board questions.

6. Examine principal bibliographic and reference sources for the major authors and literary periods. Measured by objective tests and essay questions.

7. Distinguish the basic structure, sound devices, and symbolism of poetry. Measured by objective testing and analytical writing.
C. COURSE CONTENT

Realism and Naturalism
  Literary Realism in America
  Spiritual Unrest
  Naturalism

Literary Renaissance (20th Century)
  Twentieth-Century Renaissance
  American Poetic Voice
  Literature of Social and Cultural Change

The Second World War and Its Aftermath
  Postwar Drama, Poetry, Fiction
  Multiculturalism
  Postmodern Impulse

A Century Ends and a New Millennium Begins
  Drama, Poetry, Fiction
  Globalization of American Literature

D. GRADING/EVALUATION

1. The final grade for the course will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 essays</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 objective tests</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Group Assignments/analysis</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Grading Scale:

   |   |   |
   | A  | 91 - 100 |
   | B  | 81 – 90  |
   | C  | 71 – 80  |
   | D  | 61 – 70  |
   | F  | Below 61 |

3. Tests/Discussions/Essays:

Tests: Online tests are timed (60 minutes) and will include 20 objective multiple choice questions. Blackboard will give you a warning when you are reaching the 60-minute time limit. The instructor reserves the right to take points off or to not accept tests that go over the specified time limit. The objective tested material covers the readings, supplementary material (assigned media & online content), author biographies, and explanatory notes under “Course Documents” on Blackboard. Objective tests are scored automatically by Blackboard.

Essays: The essay assignment covers specific topics that require thought and synthesis of an author or authors and their work and themes from indicated time periods. Information will come from the readings and media for the course. Each essay requires a minimum of two
full pages and the use of four literary terms and/or concepts. The essays will be emailed as an attachment to the instructor on the due date specified. Always use information in the subject line indicating which class you are in (ENG 242 35 or 36) and what assignment you are sending (Essay #1). Please see the student section of Blackboard regarding file compatibility when you attach your essay. These will be graded approximately one week after their due date.

Discussions: Discussion Board posts are graded and recorded together at the end of the course. The topics will pertain to the unit we are studying, and will facilitate interaction regarding the learning activities between students. The questions posed will incorporate information from readings and media studied in the class. Discussion Board posts and subsequent responses should be at least one full paragraph each. They will be graded at the end of the semester based on how thoroughly the student participates on the Discussion Board.

Late tests and other assignments are not graded; no exceptions.

E. WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Student Initiated Withdrawal Policy

A student may drop or withdraw from a class without academic penalty during the first sixty percent (60%) of a session. For purposes of enrollment reporting, the following procedures apply:

a. If a student withdraws from a class prior to the termination of the add/drop period for the session, the student will be removed from the class roll and no grade will be awarded.

b. After the add/drop period, but prior to completion of sixty percent (60%) of a session, a student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a course will be assigned a grade of "W." A grade of "W" implies that the student was making satisfactory progress in the class at the time of withdrawal, that the withdrawal was officially made before the deadline published in the college calendar, or that the student was administratively transferred to a different program.

c. After that time, if a student withdraws from a class, a grade of "F" will be assigned. Exceptions to this policy may be made under documented mitigating circumstances if the student was passing the course at the last date of attendance.

A retroactive grade of “W” may be awarded only if the student would have been eligible under the previously stated policy to receive a “W” on the last date of class attendance. The last date of attendance for a distance education course will be the last date that work was submitted.

Late withdrawal appeals will be reviewed and a decision made by the Coordinator of Student Services.
Instructor Initiated Withdrawal

Students who have not posted ALL materials due by the last day to drop the class and receive a refund must be withdrawn by the instructor during the following week. No refund will be applicable.

The instructor will withdraw students who have not completed ALL assignments due on Blackboard by the last day to receive a “W”.

Students who do not turn in ALL assignments due will be withdrawn at ANY point in the semester. Failure to turn in assignments is considered non-attendance in the course.

No-Show Policy

A student must either attend face-to-face courses or demonstrate participation in distance learning courses by the last date to drop for a refund. A student who does not meet this deadline will be reported to the Admissions and Records Office and will be withdrawn as a no-show student. No refund will be applicable, and the student will not be allowed to attend/participate in the class or submit assignments. Failure to attend or participate in a course will adversely impact a student’s financial aid award.

F. CHEATING/PLAGIARISM POLICY

A grade of zero will be awarded to any writing assignments or tests that show cheating or plagiarism. To plagiarize is “To use and pass off as one’s own the ideas or writings of another.” (Definition adapted from the American Heritage Dictionary.) Remember that plagiarism includes lifting words or ideas from Internet sites, as well as copying from print sources.

G. DIVERSITY STATEMENT

The NRCC community values the pluralistic nature of our society. We recognize diversity including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, social class, age, gender, sexual orientation and physical or mental capability. We respect the variety of ideas, experiences and practices that such diversity entails. It is our commitment to ensure equal opportunity and to sustain a climate of civility for all who work or study at NRCC or who otherwise participate in the life of the college.

New River Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Dr. Mark C. Rowh, Vice President for Workforce Development and External Relations, 217 Edwards Hall, 540-674-3600, ext. 4241.

H. DISABILITY STATEMENT

If you are a student with a documented disability who will require accommodations in this course, please register with the Center for Disabilities Services located in the Counseling Center in Rooker Hall for assistance in developing a plan to address your academic needs.