

# BUTTE COLLEGE

## COURSE OUTLINE

### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

#### **ENGL 16 - U.S. Literature II**

**3 Unit(s)**

**Prerequisite(s):** ENGL 118 or ENGL 119 or English Level IV

**Recommended Prep:** Reading Level IV

**Transfer Status:** CSU/UC

51 hours Lecture

This course is a study of influential works of U. S. Literature from the second half of the nineteenth century to present. It will include the influence of European and other traditions and cultural backgrounds, as well as various political, social, economic, ecological, and geographical influences and implications that have sustained, shaped, and inspired Americans. Materials will come from a variety of genres. (C-ID ENGL 135). Graded only.

### II. OBJECTIVES

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

- A. Analyze themes within course texts and compare them to the ways these themes are treated in other course texts.
- B. Synthesize analyses of specific details in particular works of literature in support of a clear, overall point or thesis.
- C. Identify, employ and evaluate different frameworks for analyzing and interpreting literature. These frameworks may include political, socioeconomic, geographical, ethnic, cultural, ecological, psychoanalytical, historical, gender, sexuality, and genre development.
- D. Demonstrate familiarity with important authors, works, genres, and themes of the period.
- E. Analyze and interpret themes found in the literature and intellectual movements of the period.
- F. Demonstrate understanding of appropriate academic discourse and the conventions of critical literary analysis
- G. Relate the literary works to their historical, philosophical, social, political, regional, and/or aesthetic contexts.

### III. COURSE CONTENT

#### **A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule**

Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Introduction to Course and Literary Study	3.00
Literary terms	
Themes and context	
Chronological and thematic development of literature	
2. Post Civil War expansion	10.00
Major literary themes:	
Age of Expansion	
Gilded Age	
Romanticism	
Regionalism	

3. Realism/Naturalism	10.00
Major literary themes: Man and Nature Industrial Revolution Spiritual Unrest Regionalism	
4. Modernism	10.00
Major literary themes: World War I and World War II Harlem Renaissance Literary Renaissance Imagism/Formal Experimentation	
5. Post-Modernism	10.00
Major literary themes: Multiculturalism in the mid- to late-20th Century Crisis of Beliefs Counterculture Existentialism	
6. Contemporary Literature	8.00
Major literary themes: Globalization Questioning the Canon Multiculturalism in the late-20th and 21st Century	
Total Hours	51.00

#### **IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

- A. Lecture
- B. Collaborative Group Work
- C. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- D. Discussion
- E. Multimedia Presentations
- F. Students are expected to write a minimum of 4000 words for this course.

#### **V. METHODS OF EVALUATION**

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Research Projects
- C. Oral Presentation
- D. Homework
- E. Journal
- F. Class participation
- G. Essays and research papers

#### **VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Reading Assignments

1. Read the selected title assigned by the instructor and be prepared to discuss in class the way masculine language is used to describe "radical" women of the nineteenth century.
2. Analyze the reading assigned by the instructor and look for a theme related to industrialization. Be prepared to discuss your findings in class.

**B. Writing Assignments**

1. Analyze the way children are portrayed in three of the literary works we've covered in class and write a four page informative essay of your analysis.
2. Create a conversation among yourself and two or three of the characters that most intrigue you from the literary works we have read. Write a scene that incorporates the conversation and other minor details from the narratives, but only use the details you deem necessary for the characters.

**C. Out-of-Class Assignments**

1. From the perspective of a particular literary character we have discussed in class, write a one page journal entry for each day in one week of the life of that character.
2. Attend a local literary public reading and write a two page critique of the event that focuses on a nineteenth century theme we have discussed in class.

**VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION**

**Textbooks:**

- A. Lauter, Paul (ed). The Heath Anthology of American Literature: Contemporary Period (1945 To The Present), Volume E. 6th Edition. Cengage, 2009.
- B. Lauter, Paul (ed). The Heath Anthology of American Literature: Late Nineteenth Century (1865-1910, Vol. C. 6th ed. Edition. Cengage, 2009.
- C. Lauter, Paul (ed). The Heath Anthology of American Literature: Modern Period (1910-1945), Vol. D. 6th ed. Edition. Cengage, 2009.
- D. Baym, Nina (ed). The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Package 2: Vols C, D, E. 7th ed Edition. Norton, 2007.

**Materials Other Than Textbooks:**

- A. Literary Works: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald The Woman Warrior, Maxine Hong Kingston Dispatches, Michael Herr. And/or other appropriate selections.
- B. Other selected titles or handouts by instructor.

**Created/Revised by:** Tracy Johnson

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