

# ENGL 338

## American Literature After World War II

ColdWarMcCarthy  
ElvisMarilynJoe  
JFKMLKCIALBJLSD  
VietnamHulaHoop  
HippiesTheDoors  
StonewallHaight  
AshburyMuhammad  
AliMiracleonIce



*Allen Ginsberg*

DiscoWatergatePostmodernismJac  
ksonPollockApocalypseNowGrunge  
JohnHinckleyJonestownRoevWadeW  
oodstockCommodore64R2D2CNNTheS  
ilentSpringTheFeminineMystique  
soccermomSpaceInvadersDrJDrKis  
singerDrSpockSecondWoundedKnee  
RodneyKingRubiksCubeAIDSHipHop



*Don DeLillo*

**Instructor:** Paul Milton  
**Office:** CCS 336  
**Office Hours:** MW 9-10:45



*Sylvia Plath*



*Marilynne Robinson*

**Class Meetings:**  
MW 2-3:20 Art 208



*Norman Mailer*

Ihavecommittedadulteryinmyheart  
Iftheglovedoesnotfityoumustacqu  
itIamnotacrookIdidnothavesexwit  
hthatwomanMrGorbachevteardownth  
iswallseetheUSAinyourChevroletH  
oustonwehaveaproblemMakelovenot  
warletfreedomringmakehimanoffer  
hecantrefuseOnesmallstepforaman  
onegiantleapformankindamindisat  
erriblethingtowasteanewfrontier



*Toni Morrison*

Iamwomanhearmero  
artheanswerisblo  
wininthewindther  
evolutionwillnot  
betelevisedsobye  
byeMissAmericanP  
ieGirlsjustwanna  
havefunyougottaf  
ightforyourright  
ballofconfusion!

***I want to immerse myself in American magic and dread  
-- White Noise***

***The Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies acknowledges that the land on which we are situated is the unceded territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) People.***

### **Course Description**

This course considers some literary developments in the years following the second world war, an era of Cold War politics, social dissent, technological advancement and media saturation. We will look at examples of confessional poetry, postmodern fiction, new journalism and language poetry.

### **Required Texts**

Thomas Pynchon, *The Crying of Lot 49*  
 Norman Mailer, *The Armies of the Night*  
 Marilynne Robinson, *Housekeeping*  
 Don DeLillo, *White Noise*  
 Toni Morrison, *Jazz*  
 Selected poetry

### **Reading Schedule**

Week	Lecture	Date	Reading
1	1	W S 8	Introduction to the course
2	2	M S 13	Lowell, "Christmas in Black Rock," "Skunk Hour," "Memories of West Street and Lepke"
	3	W S 15	Plath, "Daddy," "The Colossus," "Blackberrying"
3	4	M S 20	Ginsberg, "Howl," 1 & 2
	5	W S 22	Ginsberg, "Howl," 3 & "Footnote to Howl"
4	6	M S 27	Towards a postmodern fiction
	7	W S 29	<i>The Crying of Lot 49</i> , Chs. 1 & 2
5	8	M O 4	<i>The Crying of Lot 49</i> , Chs. 3 & 4
	9	W O 6	<i>The Crying of Lot 49</i> , Chs. 5 & 6
6		M O 11	THANKSGIVING
	10	W O 13	<i>The Armies of the Night</i> : Book 1, Parts 1-3
7	11	M O 18	<i>The Armies of the Night</i> : Book 1, Part 4
	12	W O 20	<i>The Armies of the Night</i> : Book 2
8	13	M O 25	<i>Housekeeping</i> , Chs. 1-4
	14	W O 27	<i>Housekeeping</i> , Chs. 5-7
9	15	M N 1	<i>Housekeeping</i> , Chs. 8-11
	16	W N 3	Hejinian, <i>My Life</i>
<b>Nov. 8-12 -- MIDTERM BREAK</b>			
10	17	M N 15	<i>Jazz</i> , 3-87
	18	W N 17	<i>Jazz</i> , 89-163
11	19	M N 22	<i>Jazz</i> , 165-229
	20	W N 24	<i>White Noise</i> , "Waves and Radiation"
12	21	M N 29	<i>White Noise</i> , "The Toxic Airborne Event"
	22	W D 1	<i>White Noise</i> , "Dylarama"
13	23	M D 6	Conclusion

## **Assignments and Marking**

<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Value</b>
Sep 10	Short Response One	0%
Sep 24	Poetry responses	40%
Oct 8	Pynchon responses	
Oct 22	Mailer responses	
Nov 5	Robinson responses	
Nov 26	Morrison Responses	
Dec 3	DeLillo responses	
Nov 15	Essay Proposal and Bibliography	10%
Dec 10	Final Paper	40%
	Participation	10%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Short Response One** – an unmarked assignment in which I invite you to explain your interest in this course. Do you have a particular interest in American literature? Are you familiar with any of these writers? What are your interests in literary studies? What do you hope to accomplish in this course (beyond a good grade)? Take up to 1,000 words to introduce yourself to me as a student in this class.

**Other Short Responses** – although there are six assigned responses (750-1,000 words) you only need to complete four of them here. You may choose to write about anything related to the text in question, but if you don't have a strong idea of your own, I will provide a series of prompts for each response. You may be informal in this assignment, and you don't have to cite everything that you quote. If you do borrow ideas from other sources, do acknowledge them, but you don't have to provide full MLA documentation.

**Essay Proposal and Bibliography** – by mid-November, you need to produce a proposal for the term paper that you will produce at the end of term. Your proposal should be approximately 250 words long; in the proposal, identify the topic of your paper, indicate which text(s) you will examine and suggest what your approach will be. Along with the 250-word proposal, you need to append an annotated bibliography of five secondary sources.

**Essay** – at term's end, you need to submit a 2,500-3,000 word essay on a topic related to the term work. The essay should follow MLA style for format and documentation.

**Participation** – the easiest way to register your participation is through contributions to class discussion, but if you are uncomfortable in doing so, you may also participate by visiting me during office hours or sharing your thoughts with me over e-mail. The key thing is to show that you are thinking about the course material and have thoughts and questions. I do take attendance regularly, but I will not be penalizing non-attendance this year as the university encourages students to stay away from class when they are experiencing any symptoms of illness. Still I do expect you to be in class contributing to your classmates' learning.

### ***Classroom Rules and Etiquette***

Please wear your mask to class and during class. In accordance with the Provincial Health Officer's current orders, everyone in the classroom must wear a mask, covering both their nose and mouth. There is one exception. Instructors may remove their mask while lecturing, if they remain two metres away from the nearest students. This is in accordance with the most recent BC PHO Order on Face Coverings (Sept. 2, 2021), which allows an exemption from wearing a face covering "while delivering a presentation or lecture, if there is a distance of two metres separating the post-secondary staff person and students" (Section 8 (i) i). No one else is allowed to remove their mask regardless of distance. The same exemption also applies to students if they are delivering a presentation or lecture (Section 7 (k) i). This exemption is for the benefit of the class as a whole and the unimpeded delivery of content: the lecturer's voice will not be muffled or indistinct; the lecturer's facial expressions will not be hidden; the lecturer will be able to breathe freely without being short of breath. When lecturers are not lecturing, regardless of distance, they must have their mask on. To comply with the rules for masking, there will be no eating or drinking of hot drinks during class. Drinking through a straw is allowable so long as your mask remains in place.

At all times, let us treat each other with respect and consideration, aware of the stresses, strains, and sorrows that have come upon many of us. Who knows what unseen burdens your classmates may bear, what troubles they've seen? There is room in the class to disagree with each other but not to endanger each other. There is no room for willful disruptions to the classroom and no room for lack of compliance with the Provincial Health Officer's current orders.

### ***Final Examinations:***

The examination period for Term 1 of Winter 2021 is December 10 to December 22, inclusive. Except in the case of examination clashes and hardships (three or more formal examinations scheduled within a 27-hour period) or unforeseen events, students will be permitted to apply for out-of-time final examinations only if they are representing the University, the province, or the country in a competition or performance; serving in the Canadian military; observing a religious rite; working to support themselves or their family; or caring for a family member. Unforeseen events include (but may not be limited to) the following: ill health or other personal challenges that arise during a term and changes in the requirements of an ongoing job.

Further information on Academic Concession can be found under Policies and Regulation in the *Okanagan Academic Calendar*

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/index.cfm?tree=3,48,0,0>

### ***Aboriginal Programs and Services***

The primary goal of the Aboriginal Programs and Services is to provide culturally appropriate services and support to First Nation, Metis and Inuit students. Please contact us if you have any questions or inquiries. Web:

<http://students.ok.ubc.ca/aboriginal/welcome.html>

### ***International Programs and Services***

International Programs and Services (IPS) provides advising, transition services and programs for international students, and IPS works to foster an intercultural campus community where differences are embraced and respected and adapting is multidirectional. In response to COVID-19, International Program and Services have

put together a page with important resources and frequently asked questions regarding immigration and health insurance. Web:

<http://students.ok.ubc.ca/international/welcome.html>

### **Academic Integrity**

The academic enterprise is founded on honesty, civility, and integrity. As members of this enterprise, all students are expected to know, understand, and follow the codes of conduct regarding academic integrity. At the most basic level, this means submitting only original work done by you and acknowledging all sources of information or ideas and attributing them to others as required. This also means you should not cheat, copy, or mislead others about what is your work. Violations of academic integrity (i.e., misconduct) lead to the breakdown of the academic enterprise, and therefore serious consequences arise and harsh sanctions are imposed. For example, incidences of plagiarism or cheating may result in a mark of zero on the assignment or exam and more serious consequences may apply if the matter is referred to the President's Advisory Committee on Student Discipline. Careful records are kept in order to monitor and prevent recurrences.

A more detailed description of academic integrity, including the University's policies and procedures, may be found in the Academic Calendar at:

<http://okanagan.students.ubc.ca/calendar/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,0>.

And on the FCCS site here: <https://fccs.ok.ubc.ca/student-resources/academic-integrity/>

### **Student Learning Hub**

The Student Learning Hub (LIB 237) is your go-to resource for free math, science, writing, and language learning support. The Hub welcomes undergraduate students from all disciplines and year levels to access a range of supports that include **tutoring in math, sciences, languages, and writing, as well as help with study skills and learning strategies**. For more information, please visit the Hub's website (<https://students.ok.ubc.ca/student-learning-hub/>) or call 250-807-9185.

### **Academic Integrity Matters (AIM) Program**

AIM is a program that provides help with academic integrity (AI) issues for undergraduate and graduate students. Please contact the Student Learning Hub (<https://students.ok.ubc.ca/student-learning-hub/>) and ask specifically for an AIM appointment.

### **Library Information**

The **Library** is available for research support and can be accessed [here](#).

### **UBC Okanagan Disability Resource Centre**

The Disability Resource Centre ensures educational equity for students with disabilities and chronic medical conditions. If you require academic accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Centre located in the University Centre building (UNC 214).

General inquiries or students new to the DRC can reach us by emailing [drc.questions@ubc.ca](mailto:drc.questions@ubc.ca)

Web: <http://students.ok.ubc.ca/drc/welcome.html>

### **UBC Okanagan Equity and Inclusion Office**

Through leadership, vision, and collaborative action, the Equity & Inclusion Office (EIO) develops action strategies in support of efforts to embed equity and inclusion in the daily operations across the campus. The EIO provides education and training from cultivating respectful, inclusive spaces and communities to understanding unconscious/implicit bias and its operation within campus environments. UBC Policy 3 prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of BC's Human Rights Code. If you require assistance related to an issue of equity, educational programs, discrimination or harassment please contact the EIO (UNC 216).

Email: [equity.ubco@ubc.ca](mailto:equity.ubco@ubc.ca)

Web: [www.equity.ok.ubc.ca](http://www.equity.ok.ubc.ca)

### **Health & Wellness**

Health and Wellness offers a range of student health and wellness services, including a health clinic, counsellors, and health promotion programs. Students are encouraged to stay at home if they have a minor or communicable illness (such as flu-like symptoms) to prevent further spread of illness to other students, staff, or faculty. If students are too ill to attend class, the student should contact the instructor immediately and submit a "Self Declaration of Absence Due to Illness or Injury" form: [Student Declaration of Absence Due to Illness or Injury \(PDF\)](#)

Please note: Use of the self-declaration form during the final exam period is not accepted—students are advised to communicate directly with their instructor if they are sick and unable to write final examinations. This declaration is not an exemption from any exams, papers, or projects that were missed during the time of absence and does not modify any academic obligations.

If students would like to access a UBC physician, nurse or counsellor, please call our office at 250 807-9270 or visit our website: <https://students.ok.ubc.ca/health-wellness/>

The UBC Student Assistance Program (SAP) is a free, 24/7 wellness resource for students. Services include personal counselling, life coaching, group programs and more, based on your needs: <https://students.ok.ubc.ca/health-wellness/student-assistance-program/>

### **FCCS Communications Portal**

Consider signing up for our FCCS Communications portal for students in our undergraduate and graduate programs in Canvas.

This one-stop space will be used to keep students informed and up to date with important information related to your academic matters as well as updated on FCCS and campus events. Self enrol: <https://canvas.ubc.ca/enroll/3KBYFY>

### **SAFEWALK**

*Don't want to walk alone at night? Not too sure how to get somewhere on campus? Call Safewalk at **250.807.8076**. For more information, visit:*

**<http://security.ok.ubc.ca/welcome.html>**