

OXFORD COLLEGE OF EMORY UNIVERSITY

IDS 107 – American Literature & Race
Professors Lucas Carpenter & William Cody
Spring Semester 2004

Course Outline

I. **Objectives of the Course**

- A. To examine and analyze how the issue of race manifests itself in key works of American literature
- B. To identify how this manifestation of race has evolved during the course of American history
- C. To recognize and define the cultural-historical backgrounds against which these works appear

II. **Student Requirements for Completing the Course**

- A. Brief quizzes or other assignments which will precede the discussion of the assigned literary works
- B. Satisfactory participation in class discussion
- C. Two short essays (@ 3 pages) on assigned topics
- D. A comprehensive take-home final examination

III. **Attendance Policy**

One unexcused absence from class is permissible. After one such absence, one point will be deducted from the final grade for each additional absence.

IV. **Grading Practices**

The grade will be determined by an evaluation of the entire semester's work, with special emphasis on fulfillment of course objectives. Grading will generally adhere to the following:

Class participation	15%
Quizzes/assignments	15%
Two essays	40%
Final exam (take-home)	30%

V. **Textbooks**

The Human Stain, by Philip Roth (Vintage)

The Chaneysville Incident, by David Bradley (Vintage)

The Souls of Black Folk, by W.E.B. DuBois (Dover)

Pudd'nhead Wilson, by Mark Twain (Bantam Classics)

Light in August, by William Faulkner (Vintage)

Passing, by Nella Larsen (Penguin)

Kingsblood Royal, by Sinclair Lewis (Modern Library)

Invisible Man, by Ralph Ellison (Vintage)

VI. **Course Calendar**

January 14	Introductory Session (4:45)
January 26	<i>The Human Stain</i> (1-201)
February 2	<i>The Human Stain</i> (202-end)
February 9	<i>The Chaneysville Incident</i> (first half)
February 16	<i>The Chaneysville Incident</i> (second half)
February 23	<i>The Souls of Black Folk</i>
March 1	<i>Pudd'nhead Wilson</i>
March 15	<i>Light in August</i> (first half)
March 22	<i>Light in August</i> (second half)
March 29	<i>Passing</i>
April 5	<i>Kingsblood Royal</i> (first half)
April 12	<i>Kingsblood Royal</i> (second half)
April 19	<i>Invisible Man</i> (first half)
April 26	<i>Invisible Man</i> (second half)

VII. **Office Hours**

Our office hours are as follows:

Dr. Carpenter (H105): M, W, F 1-2 pm

Dr. Cody (L202): M 11:00-12:00
 T, Th 10-11, 4-5
 W 10-11, 3:30-4:30
 And by appointment

VIII. **Honor Code**

We assume that you are familiar with the Honor Code and that you know what **plagiarism** is.