

OXFORD COLLEGE OF EMORY UNIVERSITY

English 250 - American Literature: Beginnings to Modern

Dr. Lucas Carpenter

Spring 1993 Semester

I. Objectives of the Course

Through class participation, the close reading of assigned literary works, objective tests, two formal essays (3-5 typed pages), a mid-term examination, and a final examination, the student will be graded on his/her ability:

- A. To identify and examine the major themes and styles characteristic of the Colonial, Nineteenth Century, and Modern periods of American literature.
- B. To recognize and define the various literary-historical backgrounds against which American literature appears.
- C. To trace the development of a uniquely "American" literature.
- D. To establish and explore the "timeless" concerns of the literature to be read in the course and how those concerns speak directly to the contemporary reader.

II. Student Requirements for Completing the Course

- A. Brief quizzes which will precede the discussion of assigned literary works. There are no make-ups for missed quizzes.
- B. Several in-class writing assignments and presentations. There are no make-ups for these assignments.
- C. Two formal essays (3-5 typed pages) to be assigned later. One letter grade will be deducted for each day a paper is late.
- D. Midterm examination composed of factual and essay questions devoted to the literature covered in the first half of the course.
- E. A comprehensive final examination composed of factual and essay questions.
- F. Satisfactory participation in class discussion, which can only be accomplished if the attendance policy is rigorously observed.



III. Attendance Policy

- A. Although attendance is not mandatory, it is to the student's distinct benefit to be present in class, and the student will be held responsible for any assignments made when he/she is absent. After three (3) absences, one point will be deducted from the final grade for each additional absence.
- B. Students who are late must assume personal responsibility to see that the record is altered at the end of class. This record will not be changed at a later date.

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 -	5%
Quizzes and in-class writing -	15%
Two formal essays -	40%
Midterm exam -	15%
Final exam -	25%

V. Textbooks

The American Tradition in Literature, ed. George Perkins, Sculley Bradley, Richmond Croom Beatty, and E. Hudson Long.

VI. Weekly Outline of Topics to be Covered

January 11-15	Colonial Period
January 18-22	Colonial Period
January 25-29	Revolutionary and Early National
February 1-5	Revolutionary and Early National <u>1st Essay Due</u>
February 8-12	Romantic
February 15-19	Romantic
February 22-26	Romantic <u>Mid-term Examination</u>
March 1-5	Realism/Naturalism
March 8-12	Spring Break
March 15-19	Realism/Naturalism

March 22-26	Realism/Naturalism
March 29-April 2	Modern Period
April 5-9	Modern Period
April 12-16	Modern Period
April 19-23	Modern Period <u>2nd Essay Due</u>
April 26	Contemporary
April 29-May 5	Final Examination

VII. Office Hours

My office is located in Humanities Hall, Room 105, and my office hours are the following:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday: 1:00-2:00 PM
Tuesday and Thursday: 2:00-3:00 PM

If these hours are ever inconvenient, appointments can be arranged.
Please do not hesitate to see me about anything that is of concern to you.