

English 4308: American literature : 1865 – the Present

Summer 12016

Dr. Sarah Roche

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Office Hours: I am available by phone or email most days this summer. The best way for us to visit is to make an appointment by calling my office or emailing me. I will be out of town June 1-3 and June 27-July 5.

Course Description

A critical study of American literature written from Reconstruction to the Present.

Course Text

The Norton Anthology of American Literature. Shorter Eighth Edition. Paperback. Volume 2. November 2012. ISBN: 978-0-393-91887-8

English Program Student Learning Objectives

1. Students will be able to construct essays that demonstrate clear topic/thesis, development, organization, and appropriate language.
2. Students will be able to select, evaluate, and synthesize primary and secondary sources and correctly document those sources.
3. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of a variety of literature, of elements of literature, and of literary genres necessary for success in teaching or in graduate school.

English 4308 Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will

- demonstrate knowledge of the American literature written between 1865 and the present;
- demonstrate an understanding of how authors use different elements of literature to convey ideas;
- demonstrate basic knowledge of the social, philosophical, historical, cultural, and political contexts of American literature;
- understand different theoretical approaches to literature;
- continue to demonstrate the writing and documentation skills taught in freshman, sophomore English courses including critical thinking, thesis development, organization of essays, appropriate use of sources and documentation of sources, and observing the conventions of standard English--grammar, usage, mechanics, and punctuation.

Assignments

Five Discussion Questions due Sundays by 11:59 p.m.	500
Four Tests (Tuesdays-see syllabus)	400
Literary Analysis due Friday, July 1 by 11:59 p.m.	100
Total	1000

Course Policies

Course assignments must be produced in Word documents whose file names end in .doc. If you have questions about Blackboard, contact Sandy Bogus at 432-837-8523 or sbogus@sulross.edu.

late papers will not be accepted, unless you notify me three days before the assignment deadline by a memo email explaining your situation and requesting an extension. The email memo must be professional, revised and edited.

Scholastic Honesty

All work submitted must be your own and must be written exclusively for this class; the use of sources must be appropriately, correctly, and consistently documented. Quotations, paraphrases, or summaries that are not documented and the use of papers written by others constitute plagiarism.

Three different acts are considered plagiarism:

- {1} failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas,
- {2} failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and
- {3} failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words.

A grade of "F" for the course is earned if the work exhibits any of these kinds of scholastic dishonesty.

ADA Statement

SRSU Rio Grande College is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Disability Services Coordinator assists students with disabilities in gaining opportunities for full participation in programs, services and activities. The Disability Services Coordinator is the Director of Student Services 830-758-5006 in Eagle Pass, Texas.

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

Note: If you have a different edition from the course textbook, you can see the Table of Contents in Blackboard under Syllabus.

Week 1 Wednesday, June 1 Rhythms in Poetry

Reading Question due Sunday, June 5 by 11:59

Test #1 available Tuesday, June 7 from 1:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.

Watch the video *Rhythms in Poetry* in Blackboard under Resources, Videos or at

<https://www.learner.org/series/amerpass/unit10/usingvideo.html>

Read the following poetry:

T.S. Eliot (819-822 and "The Waste Land" 825-840)

Ezra Pound (786-793)

Robert Frost {727 through 742}

William Carlos Williams (777-786)

Langston Hughes (1037-1044)

H. D. (808-812)

Week 2 June 8 Realism and Naturalism

Reading Question due Sunday, June 12 by 11:59

Test #2 available Tuesday, June 14 from 1:00 a.m.-11:59 p.m.

Watch two videos on Realism in Blackboard under Resources, Videos.

Read the following short fiction that to some degree exemplifies realism and naturalism:

Mark Twain, "The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County" (101-105)

William Dean Howells, "Editha" (307-317)

Henry James, "The Real Thing" (366-383)

Edith Wharton, "The Other Two" (499-512) and "Roman Fever" (512-521)

Stephen Crane, "The Open Boat" (584-600) and "The Blue Hotel" (600-619)

Jack London, "To Build a Fire" (627-639)

Week 3 June 15: Southern Renaissance, the South between 1920 and 1950

Reading Question due Sunday, June 19 by 11:59

Test #3 available Tuesday, June 21 from 1:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.

Watch the video Southern Renaissance in Blackboard under Resources, Videos.

Read the following examples of Southern Renaissance literature:

Katherine Anne Porter

Zora Neale Hurston

William Faulkner

Richard Wright

Eudora Welty

Flannery O'Connor

Week 4 June 22: Becoming Visible

No Reading Question

No Test; instead turn in Literary Analysis by Friday, July 1 midnight.

As you complete your paper,

Watch the video *Becoming Visible* at <https://www.learner.org/series/amerpass/unit14/usingvideo.html>

Read texts by

Ralph Ellison

Gwendolyn Brooks

James Baldwin

Philip Roth

N. Scott Momaday

Lucille Clifton (1927-1995)

Week 5 June 29: The Search for Identity

Reading Question due Sunday, July 3 by 11:59

Test #4 available Tuesday, July 5 from 1:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.

Watch *The Search for Identity* video at <https://www.learner.org/series/amerpass/unit16/usingvideo.html>

Read texts by Sandra

Cisneros Maxine Hong

Kingston Gloria

Anzaldua

Toni Morrison

Alice Walker