

Sul Ross State University  
Course Number: English 4306  
Course Title: American Literature I

Fall 2024

Meeting Times: 6:00 – 8:45, Wednesday  
Professor: Dr. Ian Peddie (MAB 111)  
Open Door Times: By appt  
Email: [ian.peddie@sulross.edu](mailto:ian.peddie@sulross.edu)  
Phone: 432-837-8154

**Required Text:**

Levine et al. The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Vol A, B, (Tenth Edition) ISBN: 9780393696783 and 978393696790

**Course Description**

Survey of a variety of literary modes and genres from different cultures and time periods.  
**Student Learning Outcomes**

**ENGLISH (UNDERGRADUATE)**

Graduating students will demonstrate that they can

- Construct essays that demonstrate unity, organization, coherence, and development
- Analyze literary works by applying principles of literary criticism or theory
- Produce research papers that demonstrate the ability to locate a variety of acceptable sources, employ them effectively through quotations or paraphrases, integrate them smoothly into the writer's own prose, and document them correctly using MLA format
- Understand literary and cultural contexts associated with works, ideas, periods.
- Compare/contrast and analyze major works and periods within World, English, and American literature.
- Edit their writing to conform to the grammar, punctuation rules of standard written English

**ADA (Americans With Disabilities Act)**

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203. E-mail: [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu) . Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations should contact me as soon as possible so that we may make arrangements to ensure the most hospitable and enhancing (cyber) learning environment as possible.

**Expectations of Students**

Technology will be used to deliver content, provide resources, assess learning, and facilitate interaction both within this classroom and in the larger learning community. All students need to have access to a computer. If you do not have one, computer labs are available on campus. Students must access the course materials and grades via Blackboard and should therefore check Blackboard regularly (at least once per day) as course changes will always be announced and recorded on the course site. There will also be periodic small assignments announced only through Blackboard. Interacting with Blackboard is also part of your course participation.

### **Communication Policy**

I prefer that you contact me initially via email for most situations. In most circumstances, you can expect me to respond within a reasonable amount of time. Please make sure you mention the course name, course meeting time, and a brief explanation when you email me. Communications received after 5:00 p.m. will usually be returned the next day. On the weekend or when I'm away from campus (i.e. at a conference, etc.), my response will be irregular. When corresponding by email, I will communicate with you using ONLY your Sul Ross email account. You should check your email account every day. Email sent from other domains (yahoo.com, gmail.com, hotmail.com, etc.) will not receive a reply because of restrictions in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Any blank email with an attachment, regardless of origin, will be immediately deleted.

### **Attendance**

This is an interactive course and should you not attend regularly or on time then you will not fulfill class requirements. Your participation is essential in terms of reading, activities, lectures, and discussions. You are responsible for all material covered in class, whether you are present or not. Your responsibilities also extend to checking email and Blackboard on a daily basis. I will honor university approved absences. You must make up any missed work within five days. This is YOUR responsibility. I will allow two unexcused absences only.

### **Lateness**

All students are expected to arrive on time and to remain for the entire duration of the class. Arriving late is rude and disruptive and makes for unnecessary difficulties. Two occurrences of lateness will count as an absence. Any student arriving fifteen minutes late will be counted as absent (unexcused). Quizzes, responses, or other assignments are invariably given at the beginning of class. If you are late you will receive a score of "0" for such assignments. I will not administer any item again in order to accommodate your lateness. Missed assignments of this nature cannot be made up.

### **Email**

Be polite

- Include a salutation (Dear Dr. Peddie)
- Indicate your name, class, and section
- Indicate the reason for your missive. Use complete sentences and spellcheck
- Do not send me papers asking me to check them. Let us meet and go through the paper together.

- Do not assume that an email will mean that you will be excused.
- Do not send me blank emails with attachments as such items will be deleted without being read

### **Academic Honesty**

Sul Ross students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity and are expected to encourage others to do the same. Further, students are expected to take responsible action when there is reason to suspect dishonesty on the part of others. While it is not possible to list all acts of academic dishonesty, examples include knowingly performing, attempting to perform, or assisting another in performing any act of academic dishonesty; cheating; plagiarism; collusion; submitting previously submitted material; misrepresentation or falsification of material; misrepresentation of circumstances such as illness, conflicting responsibilities. Additional details on academic integrity are found in the college catalogue. Academic dishonesty carries severe penalties ranging from a grade of "0" on the affected assignment to dismissal from Sul Ross State University.

Sul Ross State University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is decent, honest, and sensible. For matters of academic honesty, we will adhere to the SRSU Student Handbook.

### **AI/Auto Generated Text**

Using Artificial Intelligence or any other such auto generated text tools is plagiarism. Use of any of these tools will result in immediate failure of the class.

### **Grading**

Quizzes/Responses 10%

Participation 15%

Retrospective 15%

Paper One 20%

Mid-term exam 20%

Final exam 20%

8/28 Course introduction; class policies; syllabus

9/4 "Introduction: Beginnings to 1700," (3-25); Colonialism: Lecture; First encounters: Cortes (78-83); Harriot (83-88); Juet (94-98); Film: Aguirre: The Wrath of God (Werner Herzog, 1972); (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIOCyVeRmjo&t=100s>)

9/11 Iroquois Creation (31-35); Navajo Creation (35-43); Cherokee War Song (51); Lenape War Song (52); John Smith: "General History of Virginia"; "What Happened till the First Supply"; "Smith's Farewell to Virginia"; "A Description of New England" (105-124).

9/18 Anne Bradstreet: all poems (211-238); Mary Rowlandson, captivity and restoration (262-290)

9/25 Thomas Paine: all selections (599-620); Jefferson: from The Declaration of Independence (622-629)

10/2 Phyllis Wheatley, all poems (713-724); 1820-1865 Slavery and Race: Jefferson, Notes on Virginia (737-740); William Lloyd Garrison, To the Public (748-750); Purvis (750-752); Delany, Political Destiny (757-760). Review

10/9 Mid-Term Exam

10/16 Frederick Douglass (1064-1146)

10/23 Workshop on paper

10/30 Harriet Jacobs (860-904)

11/6 Whitman, (all poems)

11/13 Whitman and Melville "Battle-Pieces" (1422-1425)

11/20 Emily Dickinson (Selection)

11/27 No Class, Thanksgiving.

12/4 Last Day of Class: Review