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## American Literature II

Toni McMillen  
*Collin College*

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**COLLIN COLLEGE**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Fall 2018**

**Course Number:** ENGL 2328

**Course Title:** American Literature II

**Instructor's Information:** Toni L. McMillen

**Office Number:** C201A

**Office Hours:** MWF 10:00-11:00; T 11:30-12:30

**Phone Number:** 972.548.6513

**Email:** [tcmillen@collin.edu](mailto:tcmillen@collin.edu)

Do not hesitate to request a meeting.

**Department in Case of Emergencies:** Office of Academic Affairs, B217-Ph. 214.491.6270

**Class Information:** ENGL 2328

**Course Number:** BR1

**Meeting Times:** 7:55-9:10, TR

**Location:** Blue Ridge High School Dual Credit Classroom

**Course Title:** American Literature II

Although this is not an online course, students will need basic typing skills for essays and homework assignments. Students will need computer and Internet access.

**Course Description:** A survey of American literature from the Civil War to the present. Students will study works of prose, poetry, drama, and fiction in relation to their historical and cultural contexts. Texts will be selected from among a diverse group of authors for what they reflect and reveal about the evolving American experience and character.

**Course Credit Hours:** 3  
**Lecture Hours:** 3

**Prerequisite:** ENGL 1302 or ENGL 2311

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students who wish to withdraw with a “W” must do so by October 19. The student must complete the process. The instructor will not drop a student. The paperwork must be completed through the college registrar officially. Withdrawal from a class means that you remove yourself from the class after the census date. Withdrawn classes appear as a W on your official transcript but are not calculated in your grade point average.

**Course Requirements:** You will have extensive reading assignments throughout the semester. In addition, you may be taking reading quizzes or writing short reader-response papers and taking three major exams. The professor may include student group presentation projects both large and small as needed to enhance the course.

**Supplies:** Students will need the course required textbook, a two pocket folder, a way to save essays and journals (a jump drive or a google document account).

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- **State Mandated Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
  1. Identify key ideas, representative authors and works, significant historical or cultural events, and characteristic perspectives or attitudes expressed in the literature of different periods or regions.
  2. Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods. (Social Responsibility)
  3. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of characteristic forms or styles of expression during different historical periods or in different regions.
  4. Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
  5. Write research-based critical papers about the assigned readings in clear and grammatically correct prose, using various critical approaches to literature. (Critical Thinking and Communication Skills)
- **Additional Collin Outcome:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to do the following:
  1. Demonstrate personal responsibility through the ethical use of intellectual property. (Personal Responsibility)

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Evaluation methods can or may include student essay exams, portions of exams with typical exam style questions, personal presentations, response essays for reading assignments, discussion leader grades, participation activities, and quizzes. Grades may include a formal research essay and an annotated bibliography as a portion of that assignment.

- Exams (3) 20% Each (NO LATE EXAMS)
- Individual Research Essay and Presentation 20%

- Response Papers, Discussion Participation, Completion of Homework Packets, Author Introductions or Discussion Leader, and Quizzes---20% (Logs 10%; Homework 10%)

**Grade Scale:** A 90-100; B 80-89; C 70-79; D 60-69; F 59 and below

### **Participation:**

Participation is a required part in my course. You are expected to participate in both written and verbal methods. Keeping an open mind about course work and discussions is important to creating a successful learning environment.

### **Assignments:**

Reading assignments are due on the day they appear. Ex. Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> readings are due Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> and not on the next calendar date. They should be read ahead of time and may require note taking and explication ahead of time in preparation for class discussion. Workshop dates for projects are provided for your benefit. Failure to take advantage of any workshop days provided will be noted.

### **Late Work:**

**Late Research Projects** can receive up to a 20% grade reduction during the first three late days. After three days, the work will not be accepted. Students who are having issues may speak to the instructor to request an extension before the due date. Work not completed will merit a zero and will be recorded as such. **Homework:** Note activities, in-class activities, in-class explications are typically due on the day of the reading. The instructor may or may not take it up immediately. **Daily Class Work** (returned work, non graded notes, quizzes, and discussion notes) will be submitted before the exam for review by the instructor. **Journals** are due the next class date after they are assigned. **Exams** that are to be taken in class should not be missed. If a dual credit school sanctioned event is in conflict, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor before the exam date to make appropriate arrangements. Exams can be proctored at the Collin College testing center in the event of a conflict (ahead of time). Failure to take an exam on time will result in a zero for that exam.

**Attendance Policy:** In any college course, attendance is important. In a writing course or a literature course, it is vital. Excessive absences (more than 2) will hinder your progress and improvement or will increase your reading and workload to an insurmountable level. If you are absent for an approved school activity, please give the instructor a two-week notice and make plans to turn in any assignments early. Attend class. Participate.

If at any time during the semester you need to drop a course, you must complete the proper paperwork to receive a "W." Instructors cannot do this for you. You must go in person to the

Student Development Office at any Collin campus to complete the proper forms. If you are a dual credit student, you must still go through the complete process to drop the class.

**Bad Weather Policy (Emergency Campus Closing):** All students should sign up for Cougar Alerts on their cell phones or email accounts. You can ask for alerts to be delivered to multiple devices. This is the best and most reliable way to learn about bad weather closings or emergencies on campus. In addition, if bad weather at your residence is so severe that you believe coming to campus endangers you, please stay at home and contact me via email as soon as possible, even if the campus is open. If the instructor is unable to attend, she will post a message in mail. Check your email daily. Students sometimes live far away from CPC, and the weather at your home may be completely different from that in McKinney. BE SAFE AND SMART. If you are a high school student and your school cancels class due to bad weather, you are excused.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** Collin College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, CPC-D-118(I) or 972.548.6816 or V/TTD: 972.881.5950 in a timely manner to arrange for appropriate accommodations.

### **Collin College Academic Policies:**

#### **Scholastic Dishonesty**

From the Collin Student Handbook, Chapter 6: Student Code of Conduct Violations

Every member of the Collin College community is expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted for credit is expected to be the student's own work. Collin College may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student or prospective student accused of scholastic dishonesty. While specific examples are listed below, this is not an exhaustive list, and scholastic dishonesty may encompass other conduct, including any misconduct through electronic or computerized means. Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but is not limited to, one (1) or more of the following acts.

1. **Cheating** includes, but is not limited to, having access to unauthorized materials or electronic, digital media, telecommunication, and/or wearable devices (i.e., phones, smart watches, Fitbits, Bluetooth devices, tablets, etc.) during an examination; the giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination or to complete an assignment; using, buying, selling, soliciting, stealing, or otherwise obtaining course assignments and/or examination questions in advance; using someone else's work for an assignment as if it were one's own; submitting or resubmitting an assignment in whole or in part (i.e., recycling an assignment) for more than one (1) class or institution without permission from each of the professors; using annotated texts or teacher's editions; using information about exams posted on the Internet or in any electronic medium; leaving a test site without authority; failing to secure test materials;

removing tests or answer sheets from a test site; and any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course.

2. **Collusion** includes, but is not limited to, intentionally or unintentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty; failing to secure academic work; providing a paper or project to another student; providing an inappropriate level of assistance; unauthorized collaboration or communicating answers to a classmate about an examination or course assignment; and allowing a classmate to copy answers
3. **General Scholastic Dishonesty** includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts, or omissions related to applications for enrollment, credit or class work, research, or the award of a degree; and/or falsifying academic records or documents. Students are expected to record honestly and accurately the results of all their research. Falsification of research results shall include misrepresentations, distortions, or omissions in data or reports on research.
4. **Plagiarism** includes, but is not limited to, intentionally or unintentionally failing to quote and cite an author's words, information, and/or ideas in accordance with American Psychological Association (APA) Style, Modern Language Association (MLA) Style, The Chicago Manual of Style (Chicago Style), or another citation style approved by the professor.

**Course Calendar:** See below.

## American Literature II

### Course Calendar

Fall 2018

The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Shortened Eighth Edition, 2013

Notes and homework sheets will be assigned weekly and should be completed by the student on the day the reading is due.

#### Unit I

##### **Week 1: Aug. 28/30      Unit I**

Tuesday:      Introductions, Course Overview

Thursday:      Poetry Selections Gwendolyn Brooks, 2493 We Real Cool 2496; Elizabeth Bishop, The Fish 2289, Theodore Rothke, My Papa's Waltz, 2271; Create your own poem based on one of the sample patterns by the next class.

##### **Week 2:      Sept. 4/6**

Tuesday:      Groups Form; Discussion on Explicating Poetry and Annotating Literature; MLA Citation Resources; Response Journal Instructions; The Story of an Hour, Kate Chopin 1604; **Poetry Due**

Thursday:      William Carlos Williams, 1961, The Red Wheelbarrow, This Is Just to Say, To Elise, Landscape with the fall of Icarus

##### **Week 3: Sept. 11/13**

Tuesday:      **Writing about and Discussing Literature: A Review of How to Respond to Literature (In-Class Activity)**

Thursday:      Willa Cather, Neighbor Rosicky 1861

##### **Week 4: Sept. 18/20**

**Tuesday:**      Langston Hughes, 2221, The Negro Speaks of Rivers, The Weary Blues, Theme for English B

Thursday:      Langston Hughes, 1990, "From The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain" 1990;  
  
Journal Due: Examine how the poetry of Hughes impacted American history and movements. Trace ideas and use quotes from at least three of his poems.

**Week 5: Sept. 25/27 Exam Week**

Tuesday: Robert Frost, 1911, Mending Wall, Fire and Ice, Nothing Gold Can Stay, Stopping by a Woods on a Snowy Evening, The Road Not Taken; American Literature 1914-1945; **Exam Review**

Thursday: **Exam 1-Take Home (MUST BE TYPED)**

**Week 6: Oct. 2/4**

Tuesday: American Literature Since 1945, 2255; View Jackson Pollock Art Online; Overview 2270-2271

Thursday: Flannery O'Connor, Good Country People 2524

**Unit 2**

**Week 7: Oct. 9/11**

**Tuesday:** Alice Walker, Everyday Use 2714; **Research Proposal Due and Subject to Approval**

**Thursday:** Charlotte Perkins Gilman, The Yellow Wallpaper, 1168

**Journal DUE:** What qualities can be found in the stories written by female writers such as O'Connor, Walker, and Gilman? Some of these works may express cultural concerns while others explore the treatment of women. What world issues brought about these concerns, and how do the stories grapple with the themes they present?

**Week 8: Oct. 16/18**

Tuesday: **Exam 2 In-Class (HANDWRITTEN-MUST BE COMPLETED DURING CLASS)**

Thursday **Project Conferences; Research Planning:**

**Week 9: Oct. 23/25**

Tuesday: Research Essay/Project Update Due; Rough Draft in Progress; **Exam 2 Review**

Thursday: Research Day—Library and Online

**Week 10: Oct. 30/Nov. 1**

Tuesday: Movements in American Literature Overview



Thursday: Beat Poets: Carl Sandburg, 1947, Chicago, Fog, Grass; Wallace Stevens, 1950, The Snow Man  
1952, The Emperor of Ice-Cream 1953, Of Modern Poetry 1961 (add student selections)

**Week 11: Nov. 6/9**

Tuesday: Allen Ginsberg, 2538 Howl, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, The World is a Beautiful Place (online) ;  
  
Journal Assigned: Who are the most canonized beat poets? What qualities define their style of writing? What is distinct about their content in contrast with previous types of poetry?

Thursday: Sylvia Plath 2600, Daddy, Child, Morning Song

**Week 12: Nov. 13/15**

**Tuesday:** Billy Collins 2700, Forgetfulness, I Chop Some Parsley, The Night House; Art Blakey's Jazz—Three  
Blind Mice; (Find Lithany-online and explicate it)

Thursday: **Rough Draft Research Essay Due;** MLA Style Review and Workshop; Avoiding Plagiarism

**Week 13: Nov. 20/22**

Tuesday: Presentation Planning and Drafting

Thursday: Thanksgiving Holiday

**Week 14: Nov. 27/29**

Tuesday: **Essay Final Drafts Due—Bring printed copies and upload as requested; Presentations Begin (10  
Minutes Each)**

Thursday: Presentations Continue

**Week 15: Dec. 4/6**

Tuesday and Thursday: **Exam Review; Individual Conferences if needed**

**Week 16: Dec. 11/13 Final Exam TBA; Exam 3 (HANDWRITTEN IN CLASS)**