

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK**



COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 208—AMERICAN LITERATURE COMES OF AGE: 1830--1920

Prepared By: Emily Hamilton-Honey, PhD

April 2015

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH/ HUMANITIES**

APRIL 2015

- A. **TITLE:** American Literature Comes Of Age: 1830-1920
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** ENGL 208
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** Determined by semester
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall or Spring or Both
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 lecture hours per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course is deigned to acquaint students with significant American authors from the pre-Civil War era and continues to 1920. Students study important American writers such as Whitman, Dickinson, Poe, Melville, Hawthorne, Twain, Jacobs, Freeman, Chopin, Cather, Fitzgerald, and others. The historical, social, and political background for each period and the cultural changes and developments of the eras are also examined. Three hours lecture per week.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**
 a. Pre-requisite(s): ENGL 101 or ENGL 102
 b. Co-requisite(s): none
- J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

| <i>Course Objective</i> | <i>Institutional SLO</i> |
|---|--|
| a. demonstrate understanding orally and in writing of the literary, historical, and cultural context of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century American writers. | 1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking |
| b. critically analyze and evaluate literature using appropriate literary terminology and approaches, and share the results of the analysis for evaluation and/or peer review. | 1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking |
| c. <i>analyze, compare, and contrast</i> the style and content of several authors on the same subject or in the same genre. | 2. Critical Thinking |
| d. demonstrate understanding through application of research skills and MLA documentation. | 2. Crit. Thinking 3. Prof. Competence |

- K. **TEXTS:**
 (Representative texts)

- Baym, Nina and Robert S. Levine, Eds. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature: 1820-1865*. Vol. B. New York: W. W. Norton, 2012. Print.
- Baym, Nina and Robert S. Levine, Eds. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature: 1865-1914*. Vol. C. New York: W. W. Norton, 2012. Print.
- Baym, Nina and Robert S. Levine, Eds. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature: 1914-1945*. Vol. D. New York: W. W. Norton, 2012. Print.
- Blake, Lillie Devereux. *Fettered for Life*. 1874. New York: Feminist Press, 1996. Print.
- Dreiser, Theodore. *Sister Carrie*. Mineola, New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 2004. Print.
- London, Jack. *The Call of the Wild and White Fang*. New York: Barnes & Noble Classics, 2003. Print.
- Ward, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. *Three Spiritualist Novels*. Urbana, IL: U of Illinois P, 2000. Print.
- . *The Silent Partner*. 1871. New York: Feminist Press, 1993. Print.

L. **REFERENCES:**

(Representative References)

- Adamson, Lynda G., ed. *Thematic Guide to the American Novel*. Westport: Greenwood Publishing Group, 2002. Print.
- Bloom, Harold, ed. *American Renaissance*. Philadelphia: Chelsea House Publishers, 2004. Print.
- Bradbury, Malcolm. *The Modern American Novel*. New York: Oxford UP, 1992. Print.
- Bradshaw, David, ed. *A Concise Companion to Modernism*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 2003. Print.
- Ceplair, Larry. *The Public Years of Sarah and Angelina Grimke*. New York: Columbia UP, 1989. Print.
- Cowart, David. *History and the Contemporary Novel*. Carbondale: Southern Illinois UP, 1989. Print.
- Davidson, Cathy N. *Revolution and the Word: The Rise of the Novel in America*. New York: Oxford UP, 1986. Print.
- Elliot, Emory, ed. *The Columbia History of the American Novel*. New York: Columbia UP, 1991. Print.
- Farrell, Grace. *Lillie Devereux Blake: Retracing a Life Erased*. Amherst, MA: U of Massachusetts P, 2002. Print.
- Fiedler, Leslie. "Come Back to the Raft Ag'in, Huck Honey!" *American Literature, American Culture*. Ed. Gordon Hutner. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1999. 312-16. Print.
- . *Love and Death in the American Novel*. New York: Anchor Books, 1992. Print.
- Frye, Northrup. *Anatomy of Criticism: Four Essays*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 2000. Print.

Graff, Gerald, and James Phelan, eds. *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn: A Case Study in Critical Controversy*. 2nd ed. Boston: St. Martin's, 2004. Print.

Hutner, Gordon. *American Literature, American Culture*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1999. Print.

Karcher, Carolyn L. *The First Woman in the Republic: A Cultural Biography of Lydia Maria Child*. Durham, NC: Duke UP, 1998. Print.

Lukacs, Georg. *The Theory of the Novel*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1971. Print.

Lumpkin, Katherine DuPre. *The Emancipation of Angelina Grimke*. Chapel Hill, NC: U of North Carolina P, 2011.

M. EQUIPMENT: technology enhanced classroom

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F or P/F

O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Papers
- Participation

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE: (must use the outline format listed below)

I. Introduction

- A. Reading Literature
- B. Elements of Literature
- C. Criticism of Literature
- D. Writing About Literature

II. American Literary Romanticism

- A. Defining the Period
- B. Romantic Poets, Essayists, and Speakers, e. g.
 - 1. Whitman
 - 2. Dickinson
 - 3. Longfellow
 - 4. Harper
 - 5. Emerson
 - 6. Thoreau
 - 7. Fuller
 - 8. Child
 - 9. Grimke
 - 10. Truth
- C. Romantic Fiction and Narrative Writers, e. g.
 - 1. Hawthorne
 - 2. Melville
 - 3. Poe
 - 4. Douglass
 - 5. Jacobs

6. Wells Brown
7. Wilson
8. Winnemucca

III. American Literary Realism and Naturalism

A. Defining the Period

B. Realist Poets and Essayists, e. g.

1. William Dean Howells
2. Paul Laurence Dunbar
3. Alice Dunbar-Nelson
4. Robert Frost

C. Realist Fiction and Narrative Writers, e. g.

1. Twain
2. Chopin
3. Freeman
4. Gilman
5. Jewett
6. Bierce
7. Chesnutt
8. Washington
9. DuBois
10. Zitkala-Sa
11. Weldon Johnson

IV. The Lost Generation

A. Defining the Period

B. Lost Generation Writers, e. g.

1. Stein
2. Hemingway
3. Fitzgerald
4. Faulkner
5. Dos Passos

VI. Conclusion

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: None