

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



MASTER SYLLABUS

ENGL 215 – MULTICULTURALISM IN AMERICAN LITERATURE

CIP Code: 230101

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**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND HUMANITIES
FEBRUARY 2020**

A. **TITLE:** Multiculturalism in American Literature

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** ENGL 215

C. **CREDIT HOURS:**

3 Credit Hours

3 Lecture Hours: 3 per week

Course Length: 15 weeks

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No

E. **GER CATEGORY:** GER 7 (Humanities)

F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring

G. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** In this course, students examine the multicultural nature of present-day U.S. society as reflected in fiction and nonfiction texts published in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Texts are selected with the aim of highlighting the diversity of American life and raising students' awareness of the existence of cultural traditions that exist alongside those of the dominant American "mainstream" or overculture. Topics include but are not limited to race/ethnicity, gender identity and expression, social class, sexuality, nationality/immigrant status, religion, and family structure.

H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**

a. Pre-requisite(s): None

c. Pre- or co-requisite(s): None

I. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

<u>Course Student Learning Outcome</u> <u>[SLO]</u>	<u>PSLO</u>	<u>GER</u>	<u>ISLO</u>
a. <i>Define</i> key terms of literary study		7	1 [W]
b. <i>Identify</i> literary elements within texts studied			1 [W]
c. <i>Describe</i> political, cultural, and social contexts from which specific pieces of twentieth and twenty-first century American multicultural literature have emerged			4 [IK]
d. <i>Analyze</i> selections of literature and/or art from various genres of fiction and nonfiction			2 [IA]
e. <i>Argue</i> for specific interpretations of course materials		7	2 [CA]
f. <i>Distinguish</i> and <i>explain</i> cultural perspectives and themes portrayed by authors of texts studied			4 [IK]

KEY	Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]
ISLO #	ISLO & Subsets
1	Communication Skills Oral [O], Written [W]
2	Critical Thinking <i>Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry & Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]</i>
3	Foundational Skills <i>Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]</i>
4	Social Responsibility <i>Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]</i>
5	Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

J. **APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT:** Yes x No
 ▪ Research

K. **TEXTS:**

Sample texts:

Feinberg, Leslie. *Stone Butch Blues*. Firebrand, 1993.

Gillan, Maria Mazziotti, and Jennifer Gillan, editors. *Unsettling American: An Anthology of Contemporary Multicultural Poetry*. Penguin, 1994.

Gilman, Charlotte Perkins. “The Yellow Wallpaper.” *The Yellow Wallpaper and Other Stories*, edited by Paul Negri, Dover Thrift Editions, 1997, pp. 1-16.

Hurston, Zora Neale. “Sweat.” *The Oxford Book of American Short Stories*, edited by Joyce Carol Oates, Oxford University Press, 1992, pp. 1019-1030.

Husseini, Khaled. *Sea Prayer*. Riverhead, 2018.

Hwang, Henry David. *M. Butterfly*. Dramatists Play Service, Inc., 1998.

Naylor, Gloria. *Linden Hills*. Penguin, 1986.

Okada, John. *No-No Boy*. University of Washington Press, 1978.

Tan, Shaun. *The Arrival*. Arthur A. Levine Books, 2007.

Thomas, Angie. *The Hate U Give*. Balzer + Bray, 2017.

Treuer, David. *The Hiawatha*. Picador, 2000.

L. REFERENCES:

Bullock, Richard, et al. *The Little Seagull Handbook*. Norton, 2016.

M. EQUIPMENT: Technology enhanced classroom

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

O. SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

- Regular homework assignments (reading and writing)
- Quizzes
- Participation
- Midterm
- Final
- Paper(s)

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

I. Theoretical Framework

- A. 20th and 21st century American literature overview
- B. “Canonical” and “non-canonical” as socially constructed categories
- C. The concept of multiculturalism in American literature
- D. Intersectionality

II. Diversity in 20th and 21st century American literature

- A. Identity categories
- B. Political, cultural, and social contexts
- C. Cultural perspectives and themes

III. Genres

- A. Short Story
- B. Poetry
- C. Novel
- D. Play
- E. Film
- F. Graphic Novel

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: None