MASTER SYLLABUS
ENGL 340—AMERICAN WOMEN WRITERS
CIP Code: 230101

Prepared By: Emily Hamilton-Honey, PhD
September 2016
Updated July 2019
A. **TITLE:** American Women Writers

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** ENGL 340

C. **CREDIT HOURS:**
   3 Credit Hours
   3 Lecture Hours: 3 per week
   Course Length: 15 Weeks

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No

E. **GER CATEGORY:** None

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

G. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** In this course students will become acquainted with significant American women writers, such as Wheatley, Bradstreet, Harper, Dickinson, Alcott, Gilman, Stowe, Yezierska, Wharton, Stein, Moore, Sexton, Plath, Cisneros, Morrison, Erdrich, and others. The historical, social, and political backgrounds for each author and their works are also examined, with an introduction to basic concepts of cultural criticism and gender studies. Works are selected to highlight the diversity of American women, including, but not limited to, race/ethnicity, gender, social class, sexual orientation, nationality/immigration status, religion, and family structure. Focus can be multi-genre or on one specific genre, at the discretion of the instructor.

H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**
   a. Pre-requisite(s): ENGL 101 or ENGL 102 and completion of at least 45 credit hours.
   b. Co-requisite(s): none

I. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]</th>
<th>PSLO</th>
<th>GER</th>
<th>ISLO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. <strong>Explain</strong> orally or in writing the literary, historical, and cultural contexts that inspire American women writers.</td>
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<td>1. Communication (O or W)</td>
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<td>b. <strong>Analyze</strong> literature using appropriate literary terminology and approaches.</td>
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<td>2. Critical Thinking (CA)</td>
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c. Identify basic concepts in cultural criticism and analyze how they contribute to the understanding of American women’s writing.

2. Critical Thinking (CA)

d. Analyze their own cultural perspectives as they compare and contrast with those of the writers.

4. Social Responsibility (IK)

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

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


### REFERENCES:

(Representative references)


M. **EQUIPMENT:** technology enhanced classroom

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F

O. **SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS**
   - Exams
   - Quizzes
   - Papers
   - Participation

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

I. **Introduction**
   A. Reading American Women’s Writing
   B. Elements of American Women’s Writing
   C. Gender Studies and Criticism
   D. Cultural Criticism and Literature
   E. Writing About Literature

II. **American Women Poets**
   A. Defining Cultural, Historical, and Literary Background
   B. Poets, e.g.
      1. Anne Bradstreet
      2. Phyllis Wheatley
      3. Emily Dickinson
      4. Frances E. W. Harper
      5. Julia Ward Howe
      6. H. D.
      7. Marianne Moore
      8. Elizabeth Bishop
      9. Edna St. Vincent Millay
     10. Alice Dunbar-Nelson
11. Angelina Weld Grimke
12. Amy Lowell
13. Gwendolyn Brooks
14. Anne Sexton
15. Sylvia Plath
16. Adrienne Rich
17. Maxine Kumin
18. Rita Dove
19. Maya Angelou

III. American Women Short Story Writers
A. Defining Cultural, Historical, and Literary Background
B. Short Story Writers, e.g.
   1. Kate Chopin
   2. Charlotte Perkins Gilman
   3. Sarah Orne Jewett
   4. Marjory Stoneman Douglas
   5. Zona Gale
   6. Mary E. Wilkins Freeman
   7. Mary Tappan Wright
   8. Edith Maude Eaton (Sui Sin Far)
   9. Clare Winger Harris
  10. Katherine Anne Porter
  11. Eudora Welty
  12. Flannery O’Connor
  13. Dorothy Parker
  14. Joyce Carol Oates
  15. Alice Adams
  16. Ann Beattie
  17. Lorrie Moore
  18. Connie Willis
  19. Patricia Highsmith

IV. American Women Novelists
A. Defining Cultural, Historical, and Literary Background
B. American Women Novelists, e.g.
   1. Louis May Alcott
   2. Lillie Devereaux Blake
   3. Frances E. W. Harper
   4. Harriet Beecher Stowe
   5. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps Ward
   6. Susan Warner
   7. Edith Wharton
   8. Willa Cather
   9. Jessie Fauset
  10. Josephine Herbst
  11. Zora Neale Hurston
  12. Nella Larsen
13. Tillie Olsen
14. Meridel LeSeur
15. Gertrude Stein
16. Anzia Yezierska
18. Julia Alvarez
19. Toni Cade Bambara
20. Sandra Cisneros
21. Louise Erdrich
22. Toni Morrison
23. Gloria Naylor
24. Cynthia Ozick
25. Ayn Rand

V. Conclusion

Q. **LABORATORY OUTLINE:** None