



ENGL 262 – American Writers II

Course Information

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| Semester | : Summer 2020 (July 6 2020 - August 7, 2020) |
| Credit | : 4 |
| Teaching Hours | : 50 Hours |
| Location | : Online |
| Professor Name | : Andrew Gaber |
| E-mail | : agaber@framingham.edu , ajg0007@gmail.com . |

Course Description

A survey of literature since the middle of the nineteenth century. The course reflects the diversity and range of American experience. Readings may include memoirs, criticism, poetry, fiction, or drama by authors such as Emily Dickinson, Mark Twain, Willa Cather, T.S. Eliot, William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, and James Baldwin. Note: ENGL 261 American Writers I is not a prerequisite for this course. Prerequisite: Completion of Common Core Writing Requirement (ENGL 110 Expository Writing) or permission of the instructor.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, the students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of diverse American writers and texts from the middle of the nineteenth century to the present day
2. Critically engage with texts and display analytical reading skills both in class discussions and written responses
3. Understand how cultural and historical contexts influence interpretations of both the studied texts and the American experience
4. Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of literary and critical movements during the chosen time period (e.g., American realism, American romanticism, New Criticism, deconstruction, etc.)

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING CRITERIA

Weekly discussions/short assignments/quizzes- 50%

We will have regular Blackboard assignments that will tie with your readings and class content. 10% per week. You can expect 2-3 short assignments per week. Each week of the course will have a separate Blackboard folder with assignments and supporting materials. The assignments will be due on the Sunday of each week.

Presentation/Discussion Leader assignment 1- 15%

Presentation/Discussion Leader assignment 2- 15%



You will choose an author from the textbook that does not show up on the reading schedule and prepare a short presentation and discussion questions over a representative text. Further guidelines for these assignments will be on Blackboard at the start of the course.

Final paper over one of the book-length works covered over the course of the semester- 20% This should be 5-7 pages, 12 pt font, double spaced. It should be grounded in a central idea or argument about the novel or book-length work. Further guidelines will be on Blackboard at the start of the course.

Required Text

Levine, Robert S., et al., editors. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature. 9th edition*, Vol. Package 2: Volumes C, D, E. W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2017. ISBN-13: 978-0393264555.

Georges, Nicole J. *Calling Dr. Laura: A Graphic Memoir*. Mariner Books, 2013. ISBN-13: 978-0547615592.

Rankine, Claudia. *Citizen: An American Lyric*. Graywolf Press, 2014. ISBN-13: 978-1555976903

Solnit, Rebecca. *Men Explain Things to Me*. Haymarket Books, 2015. ISBN-13: 978-1608464661

Course Requirements, and Grading

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|----|--------|
| A | 100-94 |
| A- | 93-90 |

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|----|-------|
| B+ | 89-87 |
| B | 86-83 |
| B- | 82-80 |

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| C+ | 79-77 |
| C | 76-73 |
| C- | 72-70 |

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|----|-------|
| D+ | 69-67 |
| D | 66-63 |
| D- | 62-60 |

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

This course is fully online and asynchronous. While we are not meeting at a particular time, it will be required that you are regularly engaged in course activities and assignments through Blackboard. My policy on late work is this: NO LATE WORK! If you anticipate missing an assignment or due date for a very good reason (such as illness), please be in communication with me. This will often require documentation to support a make-up opportunity.

Workload Expectations

For our accreditation, it is essential that all Framingham State University credit courses follow the Federal Definition of credit hour: for every one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction, a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work is required. Since the summer courses meet for two contact hours daily (10 contact hours of classroom time weekly), the expectation is that students spend 20 hours per week doing out-of-class work. For the five week



4-credit hour course, this reflects 50 hours of classroom time and 100 hours of out-of-class time since the credit hour is defined as 50 minutes.

Course Outline

Specific authors may be subject to change. A more detailed reading schedule with specific reading assignments will be posted to Blackboard.

| Week | Topic |
|------------|--|
| Week One | 1865 - 1914 Emily Dickinson Kate Chopin Mark Twain Frank Norris Francis Laflesche |
| Week Two | 1865-1914 continued Emma Lazarus William Dean Howells Zitkala Sa James Weldon Johnson 1914-1945 Robert Frost |
| Week Three | 1914-1945 continued Jean Toomer Richard Wright William Faulkner Ernest Hemingway Norman Corwin 1945-Present Sandra Cisneros |
| Week Four | 1945-Present continued August Wilson Randall Jarrell John Cheever William Stanley Merwin Bob Dylan |
| Week Five | Rankine - <i>Citizen: An American Lyric</i> Georges - <i>Calling Dr. Laura</i> Rebecca Solnit - <i>Men Explain Things to Me</i> |



Academic Honesty Policy

Framingham State University’s policy regarding academic honesty (taken from the [undergraduate catalog](#)):

“Integrity is essential to academic life. Consequently, students who enroll at Framingham State University agree to maintain high standards of academic honesty and scholarly practice. They shall be responsible for familiarizing themselves with the published policies and procedures regarding academic honesty. In addition to the required statement, faculty members shall, at their discretion, include in the course syllabus additional statements relating the definition of academic honesty to their courses. Infractions of the Policy on Academic Honesty include, but are not limited to: 1. Plagiarism: claiming as one’s own work the published or unpublished literal or paraphrased work of another. It should be recognized that plagiarism is not only academically dishonest but also illegal; 2. Cheating on exams, tests, quizzes, assignments, and papers, including the giving or acceptance of these materials and other sources of information without the permission of the instructor(s); 3. Unauthorized collaboration with other individuals in the preparation of course assignments; 4. Submitting without authorization the same assignment for credit in more than one course; 5. Use of dishonest procedures in computer, laboratory, studio, or field work; 6. Misuse of the University’s technical facilities (computer machinery, laboratories, media equipment, etc.), either maliciously or for personal gain; 7. Falsification of forms used to document the academic record and to conduct the academic business of the University.”

Accommodation Statement

“Framingham State University offers equal opportunities to all qualified students, including those with disabilities and impairments. The University is committed to making reasonable accommodations as are necessary to ensure that its programs and activities do not discriminate, or have the effect of discriminating, on the basis of disability. The [Disability/Access Services Office](#) serves students with learning and psychiatric disabilities as well as students with visual, mobility and hearing impairments. For further information about this, please contact Dr. LaDonna Bridges, Associate Dean of Academic Success and Dean of CASA (Center for Academic Success and Achievement) at 508-626-4906 or lbridges@framingham.edu.”