American Literature (二)
National Cheng Kung University, Spring 2012

Instructor: Dr. Su-lin Yu
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Office Location: 26520
Office Hours: Wed. 3:10-4:10 pm or by appointment

Course Goals and Objectives:
This course will examine the literary forms and cultural histories that give shape to American writing since 1865. The course will focus on diverse voices as well as major writers in each period. Beginning with realist writers, the course will explore the literature between wars, and modernist forms of fictional and poetic experimentation. It aims to familiarize students with major genres, texts, and issues in American literature and culture since 1865. The course will be conducted as a lecture and a discussion.

Required Text:
The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Volume C, D, E, 7th edition

Classroom Regulations:
1. Attendance: Attendance is taken at each class. You are allowed one absence without penalty. Save this day when you need it. Any absences beyond this absence must be documented with a signed note from a medical doctor or therapist. Any undocumented absence after the first absence will result in loss of attendance points and lower grades for class participation.
2. Lateness: If you come to class after the attendance has been taken, you will be counted late. Two “lateness” will equal one absence. If you arrive late, you should notify me at the end of class to make sure that you have been counted late and not absent for that day.
3. Collaborative Project: Early in the semester you will be assigned (or will choose) a peer group. Each group is required to construct a multimedia project that incorporates not only text and image, but also sound and moving image. You will use the literary text as a starting point for venturing out into broader cultural analysis. You are encouraged to select your own subjects according to the topics covered in class. You are also required to think ahead and draw up plans about what your projects might look like.
4. Reading quizzes: You should be prepared for a short reading quiz on the class days that readings are due. You should not miss class just because you have not read the essays. An absence is more costly than a zero on a reading quiz.
5. E-learning: Each student is required to participate on-line discussion at least once.
This will be counted as part of your class participation grade.
6. Plagiarism: Intentional plagiarism is a serious academic offense with potentially
great consequences. Your instructor is trained to spot plagiarism. Don’t take
chances. Do your own work.

Grading Formula:
Attendance, active participation 10
Collaborative Project 15
Reading quizzes 15
Midterm 30
Final exam 30
TOTAL 100%
A grade of “0” may be earned for plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty.

CLASS CALENDAR:

Democratization of American Literature in 1865-1914
1. Introduction to the course
2. Realism: Twain, James
3. Naturalism: Stephen Crane
4. Women’s voice: Kate Chopin
5. black’s voice: Chesnutt
6. immigrant’s voice: Sui Sin Far

American Literature between the Wars: 1914-1945
7. Modern Poetry: Frost, McKAY
8. Fiction: Faulkner, Fitzgerald
9. Drama: Glaspell
10. Midterm Exam

American Literature Since 1945
11. Harlem Renaissance: Hurston, Hughes
12. Drama: Miller
13. Film
14. Fiction: Toni Morrison (African American)
15. Fiction: Amy Tan (Chinese American)
16. Fiction: Leslie Marmon Silko (Native American)
17. Poetry: Brooks
18. Final Exam