

COMPREHENSIVE COURSE GUIDE

COURSE DEPARTMENT AND NUMBER: ENGL 2131

TITLE: American Literature I

CREDIT HOURS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION: ENGL 2131 is a study of American literature from colonial days through the American Revolution and into the mid-nineteenth century. Authors from these periods include Anne Bradstreet, Phyllis Wheatley, Poe, Hawthorne, Melville, Emerson, Thoreau, and Frederick Douglas.

PREREQUISITE: ENGL 1102 with a grade of C or better

FREQUENCY OF OFFERING: On demand

REQUIRED TEXT: The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Package I, (Vol. A & B) 6th Edition, W. W. Norton & Company

SUPPLEMENTAL READING MATERIALS: As assigned by instructor and approved by the Chair of the Humanities/Learning Support Division. Dictionary recommended.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- I. To demonstrate knowledge of works, authors, and trends of major importance in American literature from its beginnings through the middle of the nineteenth century.
- II. To identify the characteristics of the different literary periods.
- III. To determine the similarities and differences between western culture and American culture through the middle of the nineteenth century.
- IV. To recognize the cultural significance of western literary heritage and the common concerns of humanity.

MINIMUM PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS:

- I. Readings from the first two and one-half centuries of American Literature selected from the textbook
- II. Discussions involving the entire class or separate discussions in small groups
- III. A minimum of two comprehensive tests that include major essay portions
- IV. Term paper
- V. Final examination that includes essay questions and that may or may not cover the entire course content

OTHER WORK THAT MAY BE REQUIRED:

- I. Parallel reading from the library or other sources
- II. Creative writing assignments, oral reports, and other projects relevant to course material
- III. Other assignments appropriate to the course

CRITERIA FOR GRADING WRITING

- A. Guidelines used on essay evaluations.

The <u>A</u> paper includes	The <u>B</u> paper includes	The <u>C</u> paper includes
Clear thesis	Clear thesis	Clear thesis
<i>Logical progression</i>	<i>Logical progression</i>	<i>Generally logical Progression</i>
Original, thought-provoking, well-developed discussion	Well-developed discussion	Adequately developed discussion

All essays should be proofread and edited for any major or minor errors. A failure to turn in a properly formatted and edited essay will have a consequent effect upon the grade the essay receives as determined by the instructor.

- B. Classification of Language errors

- 1. Major Errors:

- Verb problems- lack of subject-verb agreement, inappropriate shifts in tense and mood, improper past tense and participial forms
- Sentence problems- fragments, run-ons, and confusing sentences (Usually caused by modifier errors), mixed constructions, and faulty predication
- Punctuation problems- comma splices and confusing punctuation

- 2. Minor Errors: All other language errors.

- C. Revision procedures are between the individual and the professor. However, the policy of the English Department is that no multiple revision grades be given for any one paper and that revision activity must be done by the student. Thus, it is not the practice of the department to allow a student to rewrite under coached guidelines (be it from the Writing Center or repeated editing by the faculty member teaching the class) a paper in increments that allows the student to move, for example, from a D to a C, to a B and finally, to an A paper.

POLICIES:

- I. Attendance: Irregular attendance reduces students' opportunities for success in the course. Students who miss the equivalent of three 50-minute periods will receive notification advising them of their absences and warning them that they are jeopardizing their final grades.
- II. Late Work: Students whose absences cause them to miss a test or any other assignment will receive a grade of 0 until the work is made up. Both make-ups and other assignments turned in late must be arranged with and approved by the instructor. The responsibility of making arrangements for this work rests with the students--not with the instructor. Under certain circumstances the instructor may refuse to accept late work.

NOTE: Excessive absences are reported to the Admissions Office and to the various agencies administering financial aid. These absences can result in disruption or loss of financial support unless work is completed to the instructor's satisfaction. Under certain circumstances the instructor may refuse to accept make-up work.

- III. Humanities/Learning Support Plagiarism and Cheating Policy –
 - A. The receiving or giving of unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any assignment is prohibited.
 - B. The taking or attempt to take, stealing, or otherwise procuring in an authorized manner any material pertaining to the education process is prohibited.
 - C. The selling, giving, lending, or otherwise furnishing to any unauthorized persons the questions and /or answers to any examination known to be scheduled any subsequent date is prohibited.
 - D. The fabricating, forging, falsifying of lab, test, or research results or sources is prohibited.
 - E. Plagiarism is prohibited. Themes, essays, term papers, tests and other similar requirements must be the work of the student submitting them. When direct quotations are used, they must be indicated and when the ideas of another are incorporated into the paper or assignment they must be appropriately acknowledged, in the form of parenthetical citation and endnotes.
 - F. Turning in the same work for one class that you turned in to a previous instructor or for a course in which you are currently enrolled without the express permission from both instructors to do so.
 - G. Plagiarism for this class will be determined according to the guidelines set forth in the MLA handbook.

Failure to abide by the policies as stated above will result in a 0 (zero) on the assignment in question and may result in an "F" course grade.

- IV. Grading:
1. Tests
 2. Term paper
 3. Final exam that is worth no more than 20% of the final grade.
 4. Other (parallel reading, oral reports, etc.)
- V. Individual Conferences: Instructors carry many responsibilities that require them to be out of their offices, sometimes even during posted office hours. Students needing assistance or clarification regarding class work should make appointments for conferences with their instructors.
- VI. Disability: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Darton College will honor requests for reasonable accommodations made by individuals with disabilities. Students must self-disclose their disability to the Office of Disability Services before academic accommodations can be implemented.
- VII. Electronic Devices – It is the individual student's responsibility to silence the ringer of his or her cell phone, beeper, or any other device before entering a class (including guest lectures and performances/recitals). The production of any audible alert by these devices when a class is in session is considered disruptive classroom behavior. The instructor may take appropriate actions to curb such disruption in accordance with the College's Policies of Disruptive and Obstructive Behavior under Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook.

REGENTS' TEST REQUIREMENTS

- Effective Fall 2007, all DEGREE SEEKING** students are expected to attempt to satisfy the Regents' Test requirements during their first semester of enrollment.
- EXCEPTION: Students requiring Learning Support Reading and/or Learning Support English DO NOT TEST until clearing Learning Support requirements.
- Students may satisfy the requirements either by taking and passing the test OR by exempting the test using acceptable test scores (SAT, ACT, AP, IB). Contact Steve Preston (6983) with inquiries about exemptions.
- Effective Fall 2008: STUDENTS WHO DO NOT TEST DURING THE SEMESTER BUT ARE REQUIRED TO TEST shall be treated administratively as if they had taken and failed the test.
- STUDENTS WHO HAVE NOT SATISFIED the Regents' Test requirement for Reading by their THIRD semester may not enroll in any credit courses without concurrently enrolling in RGTR 0198 (Regents' Reading Skills).
- STUDENTS WHO HAVE NOT SATISFIED the Regents' Test requirement for Essay Writing by their THIRD semester may not enroll in any credit courses without concurrently enrolling in RGTE 0199 (Regents' Writing Skills).
- **Non-degree seeking students do not have to satisfy the requirements. HOWEVER, if they decide to return later and/or convert into a degree program, they MUST be placed into classes per the schedule above.