
AMERICAN LITERATURE: ENGLISH 2326

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Katherine Jackson

Office Location: LDC 2025

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Office Hours

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11:00 – 12:15 1:00 – 2:30	9:00 - 9:30	11:00 – 12:15 1:00 – 2:30	9:00 - 9:30	10:00 – 11:30

Course Description

This course is a study of selected significant works of American literature, and may include study of movements, schools, or periods.

Prerequisite: ENGL 1302

Course Purpose: English 2326 introduces students to some of the great works of American literature, from the Colonial Period through the present, which helped to shape modern literature, language, and culture. This course includes the general historical background, as well as the principles of literary criticism appropriate to the literature.

Core Objectives addressed:

- *Communications skills*—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- *Critical thinking skills*—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- *Social Responsibility*—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- *Personal Responsibility*—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course, students will:

1. Understand the distinguishing elements of non-fiction, fiction, poetry, and drama for the appropriate time period
2. Understand the major elements of literature that are highlighted by the instructor
3. Be able to discuss the distinguishing characteristics of American literary movements: Native Oral, Colonial, Revolutionary, Independence, Pre- and Post-Civil War, Late 19th, 20th Century Modern, and Post Modern literature and analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods.
4. Show an understanding and competent application of the elements of the writing process in all writing situations as developed in English 1301 and 1302

5. Show an understanding and refinement of the skills of expository and argumentative writing already developed in English 1301 and 1302
6. Apply critical thinking to the study of literature and to the writing of analytical essays
7. Use a library and relevant internet sources for research purposes
8. Research and write an accurately documented paper, using MLA style or other assigned documentation style
9. Participate in class discussions and group work over the literature in the course
10. Make constructive suggestions for others' work during peer critiques or presentations

Technology Requirements

1. **SPC username and password:** email helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu or call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600 for help with your username/password
2. **SPC student email access:**
 - **SPC Student Email Account:** If you haven't already, you must go ahead and activate your SPC student email account. Not only will you need access to your SPC email account to receive TURNITIN digital paper submission receipts for our class, but you must use it to communicate with me.
 - Your SPC Email address is: **yourSPCusername@southplainscollege.edu** (ex. jsmith1234@southplainscollege.edu).
 - Your student email password is the same as your Blackboard password. If you need help, call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600.
 - To access your SPC email account, log in to [MySPC here](#)
 - You can also set up access to your SPC email account through mobile phone mail apps, such as default smartphone Mail app or the Outlook app.
 - Check with the SPC Help Desk for assistance: 806-716-2600.
3. **Regular access to a computer and reliable internet service:**
 - Open computer labs are available free to students with an SPC I.D. on all SPC campuses (Levelland, Lubbock Downtown Center, Lubbock Career and Technical Center, Plainview).
 - Computer or internet connection problems may occur for you at some point this semester. **Understand that it is your responsibility to find alternate computers you may use to submit your work on time.** Find your alternate resources **now**; do not wait until you suddenly need them! Line up three friends TODAY who would be willing to loan you a laptop if yours suddenly crashes.
 - Free WiFi is available in all SPC campus buildings, some SPC parking lots, most coffee shops, etc.
4. **Blackboard:** grades, assignments, quizzes, videos, and many other resources for this class are accessed through the Blackboard learning management system. Use your SPC credentials to log in here: <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>
5. **Google Docs:** Google Docs is the required writing platform for the course to preserve an editing history and ensure the integrity of your work is protected. You can use your SPC information to set up a free Google account here: <https://docs.google.com/>
6. **Adobe Reader:** Available to download free from this website: <http://www.adobe.com/products/reader.html>

Computer Help

Need help with your computer, laptop, email address, or username and password?

- helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu
- 806-716-2600

Blackboard Help

1. **Get Help by Email:** blackboard@southplainscollege.edu
 - Be sure to include your full name, your instructor's name, the course and section you are enrolled in, and a detailed description of the problem.
 - The blackboard@southplainscollege.edu account is monitored from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., Monday – Sunday.
 - You can expect a response within 24 hours by email; however, the average response time is less than one hour.
2. **Get Help by Phone:** 806-716-2180 (available between 8 AM and 4 PM Monday through Friday, except on holidays)
3. **Get Help Online:** click on the Help link listed in the Blackboard course menu.

Writing and Grammar Help

Tutoring services are FREE to all SPC students!

Visit this link to view the drop-in tutoring schedule or make an appointment with a tutor in one of the Writing Centers on the Levelland, Downtown Lubbock, or Plainview campuses:

[Tutoring Information](#); [SPC Writing Center](#)

- Email: tutoring@southplainscollege.edu
- Email: writingcenter@southplainscollege.edu
- Phone: 806-716-2538

Brainfuse

You also have 180 FREE minutes of tutoring with Brainfuse each week, and your hours reset every Monday morning. Brainfuse can be accessed through Blackboard under the “Assist” and “Tools” tabs in Blackboard. Brainfuse tutors are available nights and weekends:

- Monday-Thursday 8:00 PM-8:00 AM
- Friday 6:00 PM-8:00 AM
- Saturday-Sunday 24/7

Course Organization

- The course is organized into sixteen weeks.
- Each week has its own folder on the **Course Content** page in our Blackboard course.
- Each course week runs from midnight on Monday to Sunday at 11:59 PM.

Communication

The best way to contact me is via email at kejackson@southplainscollege.edu. I will respond to emails as quickly as possible during regular business hours (M-F, 8-5). In the evenings and on the weekends, please allow up to 48 hours for a response. As I make every effort to be current and prompt with my email, I ask that you do the same. **You should check your official SPC**

email at least once per day. I will send all course communications and important messages through SPC email. To protect your privacy as a student, I ask that all emails originate from your official SPC email address. I cannot guarantee that emails from a third-party account (Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.) will be read or responded to.

Attendance

To be successful in this course, you must attend consistently and punctually and participate fully. For in-person courses, attendance counts as part of your course grade.

1. Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” (in-person class) or who have not logged into the Blackboard class (for a fully-online course) by the official census date will be administratively dropped by the Admissions Office.
2. Attendance is taken at the beginning of class each day. If you miss more than 15 minutes of class at any point during a class meeting, you are counted absent and receive 0 attendance points for that day. Be aware that you must be mentally present in class to be counted present for the day. Additionally, students who are unable to participate in discussion when called upon will receive 0 attendance points for that day.
3. Please present an official SPC notification in advance if you are going to miss class for a school-sponsored event. I will work with you to avoid missing any deadlines.
4. It’s your responsibility to drop the course if you stop attending.
5. I will accommodate extenuating circumstances at my discretion.

Grading Policy

Grades will be evaluated as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (59 and below). Final grades are calculated as follows:

Midterm Exam	10%
Final Exam	10%
Perusall Annotations	20%
Digital Footprint Project	10%
Movie Poster Project	10%
Podcast Project	10%
Video Project	10%
Media Connections Essay	20%

Extra credit opportunities may be announced throughout the semester at instructor's discretion. Any extra credit opportunities will add no more than three additional points to the overall course average for the semester.

General Guidelines for Major Projects

Written Assignments

Major papers should meet the guidelines of the assignment prompt and be properly formatted in MLA 9th edition. You are responsible for understanding and following MLA format and asking questions when needed. Here’s a quick overview: <https://www.scribbr.com/mla/formatting/>

All major written assignments must be written from start to finish in Google Docs to preserve a detailed draft and edit history. When submitting a writing assignment for the course, you should

download the completed assignment from Google Docs as a Microsoft Word file (.doc, .docx) or PDF (.pdf) for submission to Blackboard or Turnitin. Incorrect file types are considered late until the appropriate file is uploaded. It is your responsibility to make sure you receive submission confirmation and that your file is readable in the preview on Blackboard when turning in assignments. Any submission that is blank or corrupt is considered late until properly submitted.

Multimedia Projects

You will complete various multimedia projects over the semester including a Movie Poster, Infographic, Podcast, and Video. Some of these assignments may also have an accompanying written component. No special skills or equipment beyond a computer will be required to complete these projects, and you will be provided with all necessary tools and technology at no cost.

Late Assignment Policy for Major Projects:

All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m., with a grace period until 8 a.m. the following day before the late penalty goes into effect. Late projects receive a 10% deduction per day up to one week, and projects are not accepted more than a week after the deadline. **Note that this policy only applies to major projects. Late work is not accepted for any reason on quizzes, activities, exams, or discussions.**

You are responsible for reading and understanding all grading feedback. You are welcome to ask questions about your grading feedback; however, I ask that you wait at least 24 hours after an assignment has been returned to do so.

Perusall (Literature Annotations)

You will complete your reading of our most major texts in the course through the Literature Annotations assignments, which are completed in Perusall. Perusall is a social annotation platform where you will complete a multi-step assignment that may include videos, reading, and other media and provide annotations in small groups with your peers as part of our ongoing literary discussion. These graded assignments are scored on the quality of annotations and overall engagement, including some or all of the criteria below:

- Contributing thoughtful questions and comments to the class discussion, spread throughout the entire reading
- Starting the reading early
- Breaking the reading into chunks (instead of trying to do it all at once)
- Reading all the way to the end of the assigned reading
- Posing thoughtful questions and comments that elicit responses from classmates
- Answering questions from others
- Upvoting thoughtful questions and helpful answers

Reading and thinking critically about literature is the foundation of this course, and these assignments are the most important part of your coursework to start with each week. You are strongly encouraged to start these early and complete them over several days in order to be successful and get the best outcomes in your learning.

Blackboard

We will also use Blackboard in this course. You may access the Blackboard login page at southplainscollege.blackboard.com. Do not—under any circumstances—give your username and/or password to anyone else or allow anyone else to log in to your Blackboard account. Doing so will be viewed as academic dishonesty and will be treated as such.

If you need technical support for Blackboard, please contact the Instructional Technology Department at blackboard@southplainscollege.edu. Include your name, student ID, the name of the course you're taking, a description of the problem you are having.

Like all other areas of this course, there are no exceptions to the late work policy, for any reason, including technical difficulties.

Literature Disclaimer

This is a college-level literature course, and you should expect the themes in our course read to reflect this accordingly. Many of our stories contain adult situations, including (but not limited to) profanity, death, violence, sexuality, or drug use. You should be prepared to handle these things with maturity as a student enrolled in a college-level literature course. If you are sensitive to mentions of specific situations, such as suicide or sexual violence, you should reach out to me early in the semester to discuss specific readings and your options.

Student Code of Conduct

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct which disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Extra credit is available for students who carefully and thoroughly read the syllabus. In order to receive these extra points, email me a photo or link to a photo of your favorite animal and a fun fact about them. These points are for students who are still reading this document carefully at this point—do not disclose this opportunity to other students. They must find it on their own.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

It is the aim of the faculty at South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense. Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy may result in an F for the assignment and/or an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps to generate all or part of a paper or other assignment;
- Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another writer or from an online site;
- Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online

- sites without providing proper documentation;
- Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
- Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
- Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
- Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, texting, internet, Quizlet, etc.) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
- Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
- Taking an examination for another;
- Altering grade records;
- Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
- Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Do not attempt to submit an assignment for this course that you also submitted to another course without my express approval. Do not, under any circumstances, turn in another student's work as your own. Do not, under any circumstances, give your work to anyone else to turn in as their own. Each of these situations are representative of academic dishonesty and will be treated as such. There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this course. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind will automatically result in a 0 for the assignment and can, in many cases, result in getting dropped from the course with an F. Assignments that earn a zero for plagiarism cannot be made-up under any circumstances and will be reported to South Plains College.

Artificial Intelligence Statement & Procedure for Academic Integrity

I have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all students receive credit for only work that they have originally and ethically produced, and the learning outcomes of ENGL 2326 rely on your own original reading, writing, and thinking. It is simply not possible or ethical to rely on generative AI to accomplish these goals in our course. Accordingly, you're expected to refrain from all usage of generative AI in the production of your work unless explicit guidelines and accepted applications have been provided for an assignment. This includes (but is not limited to) using AI for any of the following:

- To generate words, phrases, or sentences use in an assignment
- To generate ideas, claims, or interpretations in substitute of original thinking
- To outline, organize, or otherwise direct the composition of your own work
- To spin, elevate, enhance, or rewrite your own originally produced work

As a student writer in the age of AI, it is your responsibility to protect the integrity of your work and ensure complete ownership of the ideas and language therein via Google Doc edit history, verbal review, and language analysis.

Students have the right to decline a verbal review or verification process. If a request for further verification is not answered within a week, it will be assumed that the student has chosen the

option to decline. In doing so, the assignment is considered a first violation of the integrity standards of the course and assigned appropriate penalties up to and including a zero.

Fabrication & Ethical Research Disclaimer

Regardless of how the draft was produced or what tools were used during the writing process, students are ultimately responsible for every word, quote, citation, paraphrase, and claim included in their submitted work. Fabrication and/or falsification of cited material in an assignment—regardless of whether it was caused by AI misuse or a student’s own negligence—constitutes a violation of the academic integrity policy. This can include, but is not limited to:

- Citing non-existent sources in a Works Cited or References list
- Misrepresenting or inventing information, words, or ideas and citing them from a text, source, or author
- Inventing quotes from a text, source, or author that are not actually present in the source
- Attributing an idea or quote to the incorrect text, source, author, or publication
- Providing inaccurate publication information, links, page numbers, or bibliographic details in a way that misrepresents the source
- Submitting citations to sources that the student cannot produce or access for verification purposes

Students are expected to maintain access to all cited material used in the production of their work and must be able to provide full-text copies, active links, PDFs, screenshots, database records, notes, annotations, or other reasonable forms of authentication upon request. Failure to authenticate cited material may result in penalties up to and including a zero for the assignment.

Disclaimer

Because we will use Blackboard to conduct a portion of this class, please note that the materials you may be accessing in chat rooms, bulletin boards, or unofficial web pages are not officially sponsored by South Plains College. The United States Constitution rights of free speech apply to all members of our community regardless of the medium used. We disclaim all liability for data, information or opinions expressed in these forums.

For information regarding Intellectual Exchange, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, use the following link: [Syllabus Statements \(southplainscollege.edu\)](https://southplainscollege.edu).
