

**English 2326: American Literature**  
**Policy Statement**  
**Levelland Campus**  
**Spring 2026**

**Instructor:** Kay McClellan

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**Office Hours:** MW 12:15-1:00; MW 2:15-2:30; TR 12:45-2:30; 3:45-4:00;  
Fri. 1:00-3:00; and by appointment

**Section 001:** 2:30-3:45 MW CM 105

**Please access the following link for SPC Policies on:**

Artificial Intelligence Statement

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team

Covid-19

Disabilities Statement

Intellectual Exchange

Non-Discrimination Statement

Title IX Pregnancy and Parenting Accommodations Statement

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

**Health Concerns/Sickness:**

\*Please practice good hygiene when you're in SPC buildings, particularly our classroom.

\*If you're running a fever or think you have the flu, Covid, or another virus, please do not attend class.

Please notify DeEtte Edens: **dedens@southplainscollege.edu** or **806-716-2376**

**Prerequisites:** ENGL 1302

**Credit: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0**

**Course Description:**

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

**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.

## **Textbooks and Other Materials:**

\*Hammett, *The Maltese Falcon*

**ISBN #978-0-679-72264-9**

\*Kay McClellan: *English 2326 Workbook*

\*a flashdrive

## **This course satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:**

the Language, Philosophy, and Culture Foundational Component Area

### **Core Objectives addressed:**

\***Communications skills**--having effective written, oral and visual communication

\***Critical thinking skills**--employing creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information

\***Social Responsibility**--having intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

\***Personal Responsibility**--connecting choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

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

1. Identify key ideas, representative authors and works, significant historical or cultural events, and characteristic perspectives or attitudes expressed in the literature of different periods or regions.
2. Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the historical, social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods, including a focus on the life and times of the authors.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of characteristic forms or styles of expression during different historical periods or in different regions.
4. Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
5. Apply critical thinking to the study of literature and to the writing of analytical essays.
6. Demonstrate competent application of the elements of the writing process, including expository, analytical, and argumentative writing, as developed in English 1301 and 1302.
7. Research and write accurately documented, critical papers over assigned readings in clear and grammatically correct prose.

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:** a pre- and post-test or writing assignment rubric may be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

## **Course Evaluation:**

Students' work will be evaluated by means of A, B, C, D, or F: Superior, Good, Average, Poor, or Unacceptable. Numerical grades are assigned for convenience in averaging grades only. All assignments must be completed and turned in on the date due before students are eligible to pass the class. Late work may be dropped one letter grade.

## **Extra Credit:**

There is Extra Credit on each Take Home Test, and students who participate in Costume Day will have their lowest 2 quizzes become 100s.

## Essay/Paper Assessment Guidelines:

\*The “A” essay should be correctly formatted in MLA style in Courier New #12 with only a few spelling, wrong word, and minor grammatical or punctuation errors. It should be on an appropriate topic and have a good title and transitions. The introduction should have a specific thesis as the first or last sentence. The conclusion should have a restated thesis as the first sentence, sum up, draw conclusions, and not contain new material (all relevant material should be presented in the body paragraphs). Each body paragraph should be well supported and have a topic sentence as its first sentence that specifically corresponds back to the thesis by using the appropriate supporting point from the thesis. There should be no major grammatical errors. The essay should be thoughtful, parallel, focused, and developed, with each paragraph having a minimum of three sentences.

\*The “B” essay contains all of the above with one or two types of major grammatical errors.

\*The “C” essay has a thesis, introduction, and conclusion, but lacks support and/or has three to four types of major grammatical errors.

\*The “D” essay contains one or more of the following: lacks a strong thesis, organization, or focus (paper doesn't follow thesis) or has formatting errors or multiple spelling and/or grammatical errors.

\*The “F” essay doesn't meet the minimum requirements. Some examples of “F” essays are those that 1) are written on an unapproved or inappropriate topic; 2) do not meet the minimum word count; 3) are not written in the correct format; 4) have fewer than four paragraphs; 5) are unreadable; or 6) are offensive or inflammatory (like saying those who don't agree with the writer are morons, etc.).

## Grading Policy:

25%--Unit Tests  
 25%--Daily Quizzes  
 25%--Assessment  
25%--Literary Paper  
 100%--Total

**Two Ways To Be Exempt From the Final:** 1. have 0 or absence; or 2. an A average.

## Literary Papers:

**No Literary Paper will be accepted from students who miss the Rough Draft Workshop days in class and do not write a significant portion of their Literary Paper in class.**

## Missed Quizzes:

\*Reading quizzes can't be made up;  
 \*Video quizzes can be made up if the student passes the quiz; passing a video quiz will give the student a quiz grade and make up for an absence.

**Missed Tests:** a missed test needs to be made up with a week of the student's return to class.

## Late Work:

\*No late work will be accepted after the last day of regular class.

\*Take-Home Tests will be accepted on the due date or the following class period without penalty; they won't be accepted after that.

\*The Literary Paper or its Revision will be accepted on the due date or the following class period without penalty; after that, the paper will be dropped a letter grade for each day (Mon.-Fri.) it's late; it won't be accepted after the last day of regular class.

\*Quizzes: missed reading quizzes can't be made up; missed video quizzes may be made up.

## **Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to

1. Be on time and regularly attend class.
2. Be responsible for having an appropriate attitude and using appropriate language in academic environments; not use condescending, inflammatory, threatening, or profane rhetoric, whether verbally or in written form, in academic environments.
3. Have respectful behavior toward instructor and classmates in order to contribute to the atmosphere necessary for learning.
4. Be responsible for courteous actions to others, especially by putting away cell phones and other distractions while in class.
5. Be responsible for writing down all grades and applying them to the grading scale used for the class, which is shown in the course's policy statement/syllabus.
6. Submit all assignments in accordance with due dates, formats, and requirements.
7. Avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism on all assignments, including improper collaboration.
8. Ask questions when something is unclear.

## **SPC Attendance Policy:** (4.3.5 Attendance)

\*Students are expected to attend all classes to be successful in a course.

\*When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. **Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first-class meeting.**

**\*Students who enroll in a course but have never attended by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and**

**Records.** It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate, and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

## **My Attendance Policy:**

For students to learn what they should in the class, they need to be present. Students who miss 30 minutes of the class period will be counted absent. **Students with more than 4 absences don't meet the minimum standards of the class and will lose a letter grade in the course for each absence over 4.** Students who are borderline (59, 69, 79, 89) at the end of the semester will be moved up a letter grade if they have 1 or 0 absences. **The final is optional for students with an A average or 1 or 0 absences.**

## **SPC Tutors and Writing Center:**

\*Tutoring is FREE for all currently enrolled students. Make an appointment or drop-in for help at any SPC location or online! The Writing Center": <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/writingcenter/> or or call (806) 716-2032.

## **Ethics: Plagiarism, AI, and Cheating:**

\*There is **zero tolerance** for academic dishonesty in this course. Don't use words you didn't write in an essay or assignment without proper documentation. If you're not sure about proper documentation, you must reach out via email or office hours to ensure academic integrity.

\*Plagiarism will automatically result in an F for the assignment and can result in getting dropped from the course with an F. In addition, an Academic Dishonesty Report will be filed with the Dean of Students.

\*In this class, all drafts of papers should be saved separately to the student's folder on the hard drive of the student's computer in CM 123, both to verify attendance and academic integrity.

\***During the semester, if there appears to be a major discrepancy between a student's in-class writing versus what's submitted for grades**, then, there may be a verbal review of the paper with the student; also, the student may be required to write an additional in-class essay. I'll take into account that it is an in-class paper, and regardless of the student's course average, if the student's writing doesn't substantially match what the student has been turning in throughout the course, then I reserve the right to assign a different final grade for the course, or the student may fail the course altogether because of not doing his/her own work.

## **SPC English Department Plagiarism and Cheating Policy**

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

- \***Using Artificial Intelligence** websites or apps to generate and/or revise all or part of a paper or other assignment; [be aware that *Grammarly's* editor and *Word's* editor (not the spell check) are ai].
- \*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;
- \*Submitting an assignment for this course that you also submitted to another course without my express approval;
- \*Missing in-text citations and/or missing works cited entries.

**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 Reviews so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- \*Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper

## **Student Code of Conduct Policy:**

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 that 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.**

### **Papers: \*In Class Writing:**

**\*No Literary Paper will be accepted from students who miss the Rough Draft Workshop days in class and do not write a significant portion of their Literary Paper in class.**

**\*Papers not abiding by current MLA formatting will not be accepted:**

**\*Font:** use Courier New #12

**\*Spacing:** double space throughout the paper (even in heading)

**\*Margins:** have a one inch margin all around the page

**\*Header:** the student's last name and page number should be in the top right corner of each page

**\*Heading** (on first page only): student's first and last name

Prof. McClellan

Engl 2326--section number

Due date of paper

## Class Rules

\***Violating a class rule can result in a student's being dropped from class with an F.**

\***Students will be dropped with an F if they:**

- \*Create a hostile working and learning environment; this could be by slamming books, muttering under their breath, yelling, being combative, or otherwise demonstrating abusive behavior.
- \*Use obscenity, crudeness, or rudeness when addressing me or their classmates.
- \*Take pictures of example papers, quiz answers, or test answers.
- \*Plagiarize, have someone else write the paper, or use artificial intelligence when writing papers.

\***Hoods, Earphones, and Earbuds may not be worn in class.**

\***Example Papers:**

- \*Anyone who leaves the classroom before all example papers are accounted for or who takes a picture of them will be given an **F in the course**.
- \*Anyone who leaves the classroom with an example paper will be given an **F in the course**.

\***Computer Etiquette:** \*Do not change ANY of the settings on the computers.

\***Classroom Etiquette:**

- \*You need to stay on task (no talking, texting, surfing the net, etc. while class is in session).
- \*You shouldn't make inappropriate remarks, use profanity, or be combative.
- \***You shouldn't make noise with electronic gadgets.** If you're in a true emergency situation, take your call/text in the hall, take care of your business, and don't disturb the class when you come back.
- \*You shouldn't be talking when I'm talking or when a classmate is asking a question.
- \*Drinks should have lids or caps.

\***Writing Perimeters:** Do not write on things that are:

- \*illegal
- \*X rated
- \*offensive (including using a condescending or inflammatory tone)
- \*concerning hate groups
- \*concerning blood and guts (including abortion, butchering an animal, trapping, taxidermy)

\***Note:** The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies as well as notify students of any changes at any point during the semester.

**Kay McClellan**  
**English 2326 Syllabus**  
**Spring 2026**

\*This is a tentative calendar; the instructor reserves the right to change assignments and due dates if necessary.

**Week 1:** Introduction to Course; Literary Terms and Genres;  
The American Dream; MLK; Romanticism/The Detective Story/Gothic/Transcendentalism

**Week 2:** The American Dream; Romanticism/The Detective Story/Gothic/Transcendentalism; Poe

**Week 3:** Poe; *Dark Shadows*

**Week 4:** *Dark Shadows*; Irving; Iroquois Legends

**Week 5:** **Test #1 due;**  
Realism/Naturalism/The New Poetry-Symbolism/Science Fiction; Cable; Chopin

**Week 6:** Chopin; **Test #2 due;** Hard-Boiled Detective; Hammett

**Week 7:** Hammett

**Week 8:** Hammett; Caspary

**Week 9:** Caspary; **Test #3 due**  
Modernism/Existentialism; Thurber

**Week 10:** Steele; Hemingway; Welty; The Literary Paper Assignment

**Week 11:** Rough Draft Days: for your Lit Paper to be accepted, you must attend the Rough Draft Days  
**Rough Draft Due--Your Completed Rough Draft is due at the first of the period;**  
it should have documentation and a Work cited entry; if your Rough Draft isn't checked by me by the end of the period, you'll lose a letter grade on the paper

**Week 12: Literary Paper due; Test #4 due**

**Week 13:** Soft-Boiled Detective; *Psych*; **Assessment;**

**Week 14:** Postmodernism/Social Activism/Fantasy/Game Literature/Magical Realism  
LeGuin; Poetry; Course Averages; Review for Final

**Final:** Section 001: Mon., May 4: 1:00 Cm 105