

English 2326: American Literature
Fall 2017 Course Syllabus
Instructor: Associate Professor Ms. Glenda Bryant

General Information:

Office Location: My office is located in the Communications Building on the Levelland campus. My office number is #100.

Office Phone Number: 806.716.2190 (I do not have access to voice mail once I leave my office. If you need to reach me, email me in *Blackboard's Email Center.*)

Course Purpose:

English 2326 introduces students to some of the great works of American literature, 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.

Required Texts and Materials:

- Delbanco, Nicholas, and Alan Cheuse. *Literature Craft & Voice. Second Edition.* (This book is available in both the Levelland and Reese campus bookstores. The ISBN# is 978-0-07-338492-5.)
- **APA Documentation Information**
This information is located in *Special Handouts* and *Power Point Presentations* in *Blackboard*. You are allowed to print this material in the Technology Center on the Levelland campus and on the Reese campus in
- The latest version of *Google Chrome* or *Firefox*

*Do not use any other Internet browsers to access this *Blackboard* course. And always use the latest updated versions of *Google Chrome* or *Firefox*.
- *Microsoft Word* and *Microsoft Power Point* (You must have the appropriate computer software either to send your papers as attachments in *Blackboard* or to read the power point presentations. Note that *Microsoft Works* and *Word Perfect* are not compatible with *Blackboard*.)
- Two jump drives
- A Large Spiral Notebook: This notebook will house all of your handouts from the course.
- A reliable home computer and Internet connection

Course Objectives:

- 1. This course aims to present some of the most celebrated American authors and their writings and help the student view some of the many facets of American society as they are portrayed in literature.**
- 2. The course will highlight some of the major forms of literature apparent in American novels, short stories, poems, and plays, which include Gothicism, realism, naturalism, and modernism. You will be studying the primary features of these forms of literature.**
- 3. You will understand the major elements of literature as these are highlighted in representative poems, short stories, and plays: theme, symbolism, structure, characterization, point of view, setting, tone, language and sound devices, and others.**
- 4. You will be applying critical thinking to the study of literature and will write test essays and two multi-paragraph papers, which include outside sources that are documented in the APA format.**
- 5. You will receive interactive instruction for preparing well-organized, developed, and grammatically correct papers in the APA format. To learn how to write papers in this format, you will study how to create in-text citations and bibliographies and how to format the paper itself in this style.**
- 6. You will complete online tests for assigned readings covering the literature and the analyses of these short stories and poems. This information comes from online articles and power point presentations covering the literature.**

Blackboard Information:

- Use *Blackboard* to do the following: take online tests in *Assessments*, acquire power points and any additional handouts, correspond with students and the instructor about the class's assignments via *Blackboard Email*, and submit writing assignments to *Turn-It-In Assignments*.**
- In the menu on the left side of the homepage, click each topic to access the following: technical support, course syllabus, special handouts, power point presentations, tests, and so forth.**
- Note that to access the power point presentations, which are accessible by using the course menu, you will need this program: *Microsoft Power Point*. This program is installed on the computers in the Technology Center. You may also purchase this software at any Best Buy, Circuit City, Office Max, and so forth. You may also print these power point presentations in the library and / or in the Technology Center on the Levelland campus and do so at no charge. You will need to have a**

SPC student ID card with you in order to use these computers.

- You will complete the tests for the course in *Tests*, a link located in *Course Tools* menu on the left side of the home page. You will have a time limit for each test and will not be able to change or add responses once that time limit ends. Once you have completed the test, click *Finish* before exiting the exam. You will not have access to any graded test until the availability for the exam ends and until I have scored every test.
- *Blackboard* technical support is available to all students enrolled in Internet-based courses. The first place to go for help is your course instructor. I will be able to answer any questions you have about the content of the course, assignment due dates, quiz dates, etc.; however, for technical assistance email blackboard@southplainscollege.edu or call 806.716.2180. In addition, support hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

When e-mailing a request for help, include your full name, course(s) enrolled in, name of instructor(s) and a phone number where you can be reached.

Grading Policies:

- **Types of Assignments:**

(1) Online Tests for Reading Selections

(2) Essay Writing Assignments (Test Essays and a Multi-Paragraph Paper, All of which include APA Citations)

*These assignments will vary in percentage value in the calculation of your averages.

- **Handling of Late Work and Computer Problems**

All students must turn in every assignment or take any online test by the deadline. I do not accept any late papers or allow students to take tests that they miss unless a dire circumstance arises, such as personal illness or a death in the family. Students must contact me, the instructor, by phone or e-mail prior to the deadline of the assignment if such an emergency does occur.

- **Methods of Evaluation**

(1) Students' work will be evaluated by means of this scoring system: A (90-100); B (80-89); C (70-79); D (60-69); F (59 and below).

(2) Students' essay assignments will be graded in *Blackboard's TurnItIn*

Assignments.

(3) Students will be able to know current averages by referring to *My Grades* in *Blackboard*. Throughout the semester, students will be notified by email when grades have been updated.

Attendance Policy:

- Students are expected to be “in class” and complete their work by the deadlines. There are no excused absences. I do not accept late work.
- Students are expected to read assignments, take tests, and prepare essays by the assigned deadlines. There are no exceptions to this rule unless a dire circumstance arises, such as a death in the family. Students should contact me prior to or on the day of a deadline for a test, paper, and so forth if such a situation arises. Failure to contact me within this acceptable time frame will result in a 0 for that assignment.
- The instructor will drop students who fail to submit five or more consecutive or nonconsecutive assignments. If the student acquires five or more missed assignments after the final drop date, which is November 16th, he or she will receive an F for the course. Any student who realizes that he or she needs to drop the course because of missed assignments or low scores must do so no later than Thursday, November 16th. This date is the last day that I, your instructor, may drop a student from the course as well.
- All students who submit every assignment by the deadline will have 3 points added to the final average. Each of these assignments must have all questions answered (scoring at least a 50 or higher) and meet the conditions of the assignments. This policy is one I use since employers advance their employees for consistency, reliability, punctuality, and hard work. These qualities are the ones that contribute to people’s success in any tasks they do!

Plagiarism and Cheating Policy:

- “Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This idea applies to quizzes of whatever length as well to final examinations, to daily reports, and to term papers” (*SPC General Catalogue 23*).
- Cheating: “Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the textbook or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade reports, illegal entry of unauthorized presence in an office

are examples of cheating” (*General Catalog 23*).

Cheating violations include but are not limited to the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion (agreement from the person or persons providing the information)
 2. Discovering the content of an examination before the test is given
 3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, the Internet)
 4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage
 5. Taking an examination for another student
 6. Altering grade records
 7. Copying another student’s work during an examination or on a homework assignment.
- **Plagiarism: “Offering the work of another as one’s own, without proper acknowledgements, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports, or other writings of a fellow student [or another person], is guilty of plagiarism” (*General Catalog 23*).**

Plagiarism violations include but are not limited to the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill.
 2. Cutting and pasting information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation.
 3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them.
 4. Giving an in-text citation only at the end of a paragraph.
- **This instructor deems work as plagiarized if the students fail to write their own essays, copy responses from another student’s paper, or receive help from someone else to complete any assignment. These situations are some of the most common forms of plagiarism.**
 - **“Except in extreme cases, disciplinary action in cases of cheating or plagiarism will be handled by and at the discretion of the instructor, and, if necessary, in consultation with the departmental chairperson.” If you turn in a plagiarized paper, you will receive a *O* for that assignment.**

Disability Policy:

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify

the Disability Special Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his or her disability to the Special Services Coordinator. For more information, call or visit the Disability Special Services Office at one of these locations:

- **The Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office)
Phone Number: 806.716.2577**
- **The Reese Center (Building 8) Phone Number: 806.716.4675**
- **Plainview Center (Main Office) Phone Number: 806.296.9611**

Discrimination Policy:

I will do my best not to discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnic background, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Diversity Policy:

In this class, I will endeavor to establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all participants to learn about others, about the larger world, and about themselves.

Campus Concealed Carry Policy:

Texas Senate Bill-11 (Government Code 41.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a Concealed handgun in the South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas license to carry a handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the state of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of these locations, please refer to the SPC policy by clicking the URL address below:

http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php

Pursuant to PC46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806.716.2396 or 9-1-1.

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

