

ENGL 310: AMERICAN LITERATURE SURVEY I**FALL 2007****Instructor: Dr. Kelly C. Walter Carney****e-mail: kcwaltercarney@vanguard.edu****office: Scott 205**

In this course we will consider American Literature produced before the Civil War. This period provides us with a variety of fiction and non-fiction genres, as the national literary identity is formed. We will consider the issue of American identity through three thematic lenses: the land, the nation, and the people.

Grades will be based on:

Exams	3x 15= 45	Attendance/Participation =	15
Papers	2x 20 = 40	Total	100

Papers: Each of the papers should be 5-7 pages long, and use MLA format. For help with the MLA format, consult the Writing Center's style sheet ([http://www.vanguard.edu/uploadedFiles/WritingCenter/MLAstylesheet\(1\).pdf](http://www.vanguard.edu/uploadedFiles/WritingCenter/MLAstylesheet(1).pdf)) or the Purdue Owl materials on the topic (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>). You may choose which paper to submit on each deadline. Papers are to be submitted electronically.

Paper A: choose one of our writers and consider how they would respond to a current issue: women's rights, immigration, war, the environment, race issues, literary theory, religion, etc. Imagine your author writing a letter to the editor, or publishing a broadsheet. You are encouraged to make every effort to imitate your author's style (although misspellings and archaic orthography must be consistent and accurate). Clearly, you will need to do some research here: you will need to be familiar with the major positions on the contemporary topic, and you will need to research your author's ideas and opinions. MLA format is expected. Even though it may seem out of character (Stowe surely would not have used MLA), please be careful to use in-text citations as appropriate. Submit this paper using the document name 312F07PAlastname, according to the guidelines for electronic submission found below.

Paper B: Contextualize one of our readings. Compare it to two or three other texts from the same period and on the same topic, or refer to one of the anthology's critical clusters: America in the European Imagination (106 ff), Cultural Encounters (132 ff), On Nature and Nature's God (633 ff), or On the Discourse of Liberty (1049 ff). It would be beneficial to find texts from different genres and perspectives. MLA format is expected. Submit this paper using the document name 312F07PBlastname, according to the guidelines for electronic submission found below.

The Exams will take place in class according to the course schedule and may consist of a variety of question types, including short answer, matching, definition, essays, and the like. No electronic devices are permitted in the classroom during the exam.

Your **attendance and participation** in this class are important to your learning experience. Due to the discussion-oriented nature of this course, your thoughtful preparation (or lack thereof) will directly affect the quality of the class for all of us. The instructor reserves the right to use reading quizzes or other methods of reinforcing participation. After three absences, your grade will begin to drop.

This includes the assumption that all students will own and read our textbooks. These are *required* for the course; please do not think that you can succeed in a literature course without using our books. If it becomes apparent that you are in class unprepared, or are browsing the internet or otherwise not participating, you may be asked to leave, and would certainly be marked absent.

Guidelines for Electronic Submissions: Documents should be saved in MSWord format and sent to vugrading@gmail.com by 9:00 pm on the due date. The documents should be named as instructed above. The last name that should be used is the student's, not the instructor's. Please do not submit papers with generic titles like "English paper" or "definition paper." All documents should follow MLA format: that is, headers containing the student's name, date of submission, and course should be included, as should page numbers. Do not send any correspondence, other than paper submissions, to this address. If you wish to e-mail me regarding the class, questions about our reading, etc., please use the vanguard e-mail address.

Late Work is strongly discouraged. All take-home materials (papers, worksheets) will drop a letter grade for each calendar day that they are late. Make-up exams are at the discretion of the instructor.

Plagiarism is a form of theft that I take very seriously. In my classes, the first instance of plagiarism generally results in a failing grade for that assignment; further plagiarism can cause you to fail the class and/or be reported to the dean's office. According to the Student Handbook, "Either cheating or plagiarism (presenting as one's own, the words or opinions of others), is regarded as a serious violation of both the academic and moral standards of VUSC.... The dean of the program and the Vice President for Student Affairs are to be notified in instances of academic dishonesty. A student commits plagiarism if submitted as his/her work: Part or all of an assignment copied from another person's assignment, notes, or computer file. Part or all of an assignment copied or paraphrased from a book, magazine, pamphlet, or website. A sequence of ideas transferred from another source which the student has not ... integrated and reorganized and to which he/she fails to give proper acknowledgement. A student is an accomplice in plagiarism if he/she: Allows his/her paper or other assignment, in outline or finished form, to be copied and submitted as the work of another. Lends his/her computer disk to another student or otherwise allows his/her computer files to be copied for the purposes of plagiarism. Prepares a written assignment for another student and allows it to be submitted as another's work" (61-62).

The Required Books for this course are:

- Lauter, Paul, Ed. *The Heath Anthology of American Literature*, 5th Ed, Package A/B.
ISBN: 0618542396
- Stowe, Harriet Beecher. *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Penguin Classics.
ISBN: 0140390030

This syllabus is tentative and may be changed by the instructor at any time.

Course Schedule

WHAT IS AMERICA? THE LAND

W 29 August	Course Introduction	
F 31 August	Whitman	<i>Song of Myself</i> 14 (2945), 21 (2951), 31 (2959), 32 (2960)
W 5 September	Navajo	“Changing Woman” (36-48)
	Seneca	“The Origin of Stories” (51-53)
	Zuni	“Night Chant” (69-88)
	Seattle	Speech (1473-1474)
F 7 September	Columbus	<i>Journal of the First Voyage</i> (120-128)
	Yuichi	“Creation of the Whites” (65)
M 10 September	Cabeza de Vaca	<i>Relation</i> (139-151)
W 12 September	Rowlandson	<i>Narrative of the Captivity...</i> (440-468)
F 14 September	Rowlandson	<i>Narrative of the Captivity...</i> (440-468)
M 17 September	Smith	<i>Description of New England</i> (264-267), “Advertisements” (267-269)
	Jefferson	<i>Notes on the State of Virginia</i> (994-1010)
	Freneau	“The Wild Honeysuckle” (1219), “Red Streak Apple” (1221) “On the Universality...” (642)
W 19 September	Cooper	<i>The Pioneers</i> (2187-2206)
	Copway	<i>The Life of Kah ge gan gah bowh</i> (1477-1489)
F 21 September	Thoreau	<i>Walden: Where I Lived and What I Lived For</i> (1753-1761), Conclusion (1779-1788)
M 24 September	Hawthorne	“Young Goodman Brown” (2258-2266), “The Birth Mark” (2276-2286) “Rappacini’s Daughter” (2287-2306)
W 26 September	Dickinson	“These are the Days...” (3048), “There’s a Certain Slant of Light” (3050), “I’m Nobody...” (3051), “It sifts from leaden sieves” (3054), “Some keep the Sabbath...” (3056), “A bird came down the walk” (3056), “This is my letter to the world” (3059), “I reckon...” (3064), “A narrow fellow in the grass” (3074),
F 28 September	EXAM 1	

WHAT IS AMERICA? A NATION

M 1 October	Whitman	<i>Song of Myself</i> 10 (12943-2944), 15-17 (2946-2949)
	Handsome Lake	“How America Was Discovered” (803-804)
	Hopi	“The Coming of the Spanish...” (203-207)

W 3 October	Bradford Morton	<i>Of Plymouth Plantation</i> (324-346) <i>New English Canaan</i> (294-306)
F 5 October	Paine Adamses	<i>Common Sense</i> (957-975) Letters (979-983)
M 8 October	Haynes Boudinot PAPER DUE	“Liberty Further Extended” (1258-1267) “Address to the Whites” (1445-1451)
W 10 October	A. Grimke S. Grimke Stanton Sojourner Truth	“Appeal to the Christian Women...” (1863-1870) <i>Letters on the Equality of the Sexes</i> (2082-2088) “Declaration of Sentiments” (2113-2115) Speeches (2094-2100)
F 12 October	Emerson Thoreau	“The American Scholar” 1609-1620 “Resistance to Civil Government” (1738-1752)
M 15 October	TBA	
W 17 October	EXAM 2	
WHAT IS AMERICA? AN EXPERIENCE		
M 22 October	Whitman	<i>Song of Myself</i> 24 (2954-2956), 39 (2970), 44 – 45 (2975-2978)
W 24 October	Bradstreet	“The Prologue” (396-397), “The Author to Her Book” (402), “Upon the Burning of our House” (409)
	Sor Juana Wheatley	“In Reply to a Gentleman from Peru...” (188-191) “On Being Brought From Africa to America (1247), “Phillis’s Reply...” (1250)
F 26 October	De Crevecoeur	<i>Letters From An American Farmer</i> (922-956)
M 29 October	Franklin	<i>Autobiography</i> (828-889)
W 31 October	Franklin	Continued...
F 1 November	Occom	“A Short Narrative of My Life” (1116-1121), A Sermon (1122-1136)
	Equiano	<i>The Interesting Narrative...</i> (1154-1184)
M 5 November	Rowson	<i>Charlotte Temple</i> (1361- 1372)
W 7 November	Foster	<i>The Coquette</i> (1341-1359)
F 9 November	Douglass	<i>Narrative of the Life...</i> (1882-1945)
M 12 November	Douglass PAPER DUE	Continued...
W 14 November	Jacobs	<i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i> (2031-2054)
F 16 November	Melville	“Bartleby the Scrivener” (2625-2650)

M 19 November	Hentz Fitzhugh	<i>The Planter's Northern Bride</i> (1978-1988) <i>Southern Thought</i> (1987-1996)
W 21 November	Stowe	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> (41-140; ch 1-8)
M 26 November	Stowe	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> (141-238; ch 9-14)
W 28 November	Stowe	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> (239-350; ch 15-19)
F 30 November	Stowe	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> (351-438; ch 20-27)
M 3 December	Stowe	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> (439-532; ch 28-35)
W 5 December	Stowe	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> (533-end; ch 36-45)
F 7 December	TBA	
F 14 December 8:00-10:00		EXAM 3