

MORAVIAN COLLEGE
Spring 2009
English 101 A,B,C American Literature

Instructor- Dr. Mary Comfort Office- Zinzendorf 104 Phone- (610) 625-7977
Office Hours- MWF, 10-11 a.m. e-mail-
 memsc01@moravian.edu (no attachments)
Class Meetings MWF 7:50-8:40, 9:10-10:00, 11:30-12:20

TEXT Perkins . *American Tradition in Literature*. Concise Edition, 11th or 12th ed. New York McGraw-Hill, 2007,8.

COURSE GOALS (for instructor)

- To introduce the diversity of voices that make up American literature
- To discuss historic, literary, and cultural contexts of American literature
- To model respect for varied responses during class discussion
- To provide opportunities for oral presentations in small groups and in the class
- To respond thoughtfully to students' views as written in essays
- To encourage students to enjoy the challenge of serious literature

GOALS (for students)

1. To identify and locate American authors and their works in the American literary tradition
2. To recognize values and define themes in American literature
3. To think critically about and appreciate the complexity and diversity of American literature
4. To enter into and continue a discussion about American literature, its themes and its style
5. To write essays that shape and extend this discussion, to cite research about our readings
6. To understand literal meanings and consider implications in figurative meanings
7. To tolerate—perhaps to welcome--a lack of closure, a deliberate ambiguity found in some literature

GRADES Three essays @ 15% = 45%

Midterm =15% Final = 20%

Participation (discussion, quizzes, presentations, etc.) = 20%

Regular and prompt attendance is important. Final grades may be lowered 1/3 letter grade (e.g., from a B- to a C+) for each absence after 3 excused absences. Schedule this course when you can invest 2-3 hours outside of class preparing for each class meeting—and possibly more time when tests and papers are due.

QUIZZES may be given at any time and may cover all readings and discussions to date.

Quizzes may *not* be made up, but lowest quiz grade will be dropped. Include period notes, author headnotes, and the readings themselves

ESSAYS – MLA format, minimum length: 2 ½ pages, 1 inch margins on *all* pages, *all* in 12 point font

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS If you have any concerns about this course (the readings, the assignments, the instructor, the classroom, etc.), please contact me right away so we can work together to make this introduction to American literature meaningful for you and so you can succeed in this endeavor.

Students for whom the traditional classroom format and arrangement interferes with learning can submit the appropriate documentation to me as soon as possible. If you do not have a documented learning disability but would like to make a special request in terms of classroom procedures, please see me as soon as possible.

PLAGIARISM Please study and follow the Moravian College policy on plagiarism and original work. Submit your own work; share your own ideas. Cheating or other forms of plagiarism will be reported and will result in failure of the assignment or the course. Repeat offenses could result in your dismissal from Moravian College.

GRADING All course grade and all grades for participation, quizzes, tests, and papers will be assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

Tentative Schedule of Readings: Study headnotes for the period and for individual authors *before* class.

1/19- INTRODUCTION

1/21 BRADSTREET selections

1/23 TAYLOR selections

1/26 EDWARDS Sinners in the Hands

1/28 FRANKLIN *Autobiography*

1/30 WHEATLEY Selections

2/2 IRVING Rip Van Winkle

2/4 EMERSON Self-Reliance

2/6 THOREAU Civil Disobedience

2/9 POE The Purloined Letter

2/11 Hawthorne Rappaccini's Daughter

2/13 Melville Bartleby the Scrivener

2/16 Douglass Narrative of ..Life of ... Douglass

2/18 Whitman When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd

2/20 Dickinson Selections

2/23 Twain, Notorious Jumping Frog

2/25 Henry James, The Real Thing

2/27 Midterm Exam (short answer)

3/2-3/6 Spring Break

3/9: Freeman The Revolt of "Mother"

3/11 Chesnut The Passing of Grandison

3/13 Wharton Roman Fever

3/16 Frost Selections

3/18 A. Lowell; Stevens Sunday Morning

3/20 O'Neill The Hairy Ape

3/23 Millay, Hughes Selections

3/25 Fitzgerald Babylon Revisited

3/27 Faulkner Barn Burning

3/30 Hemingway Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber

4/1 HAYDEN "Winter Sundays" BROOKS "WE Real Cool"

4/3 ELLISON [Battle Royal]

4/6 O'CONNOR Good Country People

4/8 R. LOWELL Selections

4/10-Easter Break

4/13 Easter Break

4/15 T. S. ELIOT: selections

4/17 ELIZABETH BISHOP: selections

4/ 20 BARTH Funhouse

4/ 22 UPDIKE Separating

4/ 24 WRIGHT, RICH, DOVE, SONG

4/ 27 O'BRIEN Night March

4/ 29 ERDRICH Red Convertible

5/ 1: Last class