

MORAVIAN COLLEGE  
Spring, 2012  
English 101 A: American Literature

Instructor- Dr. Mary Comfort  
Office Hours- Mon,10-12, & by appt.  
Class Meetings MWF 7:50-8:40, 8:55-9:45

Office- Zinzendorf 104      Phone- (610) 625-7977  
e-mail- memsc01@moravian.edu (No Attachments)  
Class meetings in PPHAC 117

Prerequisite: satisfactory completion of Writing 100 or equivalent writing course

TEXT Perkins . *American Tradition in Literature*. “Concise” 12<sup>th</sup> Edition (Any edition will contain the readings and headnotes required for this course. However, pages will vary from those mentioned in class.)

**COURSE GOALS** (for instructor)

To demonstrate strategies for close reading  
To introduce a variety of authors  
To present historic contexts of American literature  
To respect varied responses during class discussion  
To provide opportunities for oral presentations  
To respond thoughtfully to ideas in essays  
To encourage enjoyment of challenging readings

**GOALS** (for students)

To identify American authors and their works  
To recognize values and themes in literature  
To think critically about serious literature  
To enter into discussions about American literature  
To write essays to shape & extend class discussion  
To understand literal & figurative meanings  
To tolerate—& welcome—ambiguity in literature  
To use literary terms about styles & movements  
To provide a basis for advanced study of literature

**GRADES** Two (or three) essays (40 % total); Midterm Exam = 20%; Final = 20%; Participation (discussion, quizzes, reports) 20% . Absences beyond 3 may lower your final course grade 1/3 (e.g. from C- to D+)

**TIME CONSIDERATIONS** Regular and prompt attendance will protect your grade. After a single excused absence, course grade may be lowered by 1/3 grade for every hour missed.) Plan to invest 2-3 hours outside of class preparing for each hour in class (possibly more time when tests and papers are due.) Before class after an absence, get notes from classmates.

**QUIZZES**, not announced, cannot be made up. Lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

**ESSAYS** – MLA format, minimum length: 2 ½ pages, 1 inch margins on *all* pages, *all* in 12 point font. No credit for late papers. (To get credit, e-mail papers on due date if you must miss class.)

**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 your endeavor.

Students for whom the traditional classroom format and arrangement interferes with learning should get authorization from the office for student services for special considerations in terms of class management or scheduling. Please submit the appropriate documentation to your instructor as soon as possible.

Please turn off computers, cell phones, tape recorders and all other electronic and/or potentially distracting devices before entering the classroom for English 101. Keep them off during the entire class.

**PLAGIARISM** Follow the Moravian College policy on plagiarism and original work. Submit your own work. Cheating and plagiarism will be reported and will result in failure on the assignment or in 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.

**HINTS:** To get an A: Take notes in class. Before each class, study your class notes from the previous class, study scheduled readings & period introductions & author headnotes. Take drafts of essays to Writing Center in time to make suggested revisions.

This is tentative schedule of readings. Always read headnotes, focusing on writing rather than on biography. Discussion and student requests may prompt changes. Be flexible. If an emergency keeps you from class, get updates from classmates. Whenever possible, videos may be shown before class meetings, for your convenience, not as the required time to view them.

M 1/16 Introduction, Bradstreet  
W 1/18 Bradstreet (Author to  
her Book, Prologue,  
Granddaughter, House)  
F 1/20 Taylor (Preface,  
Wedlock, Spider)

M 1/23 Edwards (Sinners)  
W 1/25 Franklin (Autobio)  
F 1/27 **Videos 2-5** (On campus,  
on Blackboard, at your  
convenience, before the midterm)  
*Literature of the Colonies,*  
*Literature of the Revolution, Birth*  
*of a National Literature, Literature*  
*of a Nation Divided, American*  
*Renaissance*

M 1/30 Wheatley (Brought  
from Africa, Cambridge &  
Freneau (Honeysuckle)  
W 2/1 Emerson (Reliance)  
F 2/3 Thoreau (Dis obedience)

M 2/6 Irving (Rip Van Winkle)  
W 2/8 Poe (Sonnet/Science) &  
Hawthorne (Rappaccini)  
F 2/10 Melville (Bartleby)

M 2/13 Douglass (Narrative)  
**Essay #1**  
W 2/15 Whitman (Lilacs)

F 2/17 Dickinson (TBA)

**M 2/20 Midterm Exam**  
W 2/22 Twain (Frog)  
F 2/24 James (Real Thing)

M 2/27 Freeman (Revolt-Mom)  
W 2/29 Chesnutt (Grandison)  
F 3/2 Wharton (Roman Fever)

**M 3/5 to F 3/9 Spring Break**

M 3/12 Videos (Flexible)  
W 3/14 Frost (TBA)  
A. Lowell (Patterns)  
F 3/16 Eliot (Prufrock)

M 3/19 O'Neill (Ape)  
W 3/21 Millay (Chaos), Hughes  
(Dream Deferred), Stevens  
(Sunday, Anecdote)  
F 3/23 Fitzgerald (Babylon)

M 3/26 Faulkner (Barn  
Burning)  
W 3/28 Hemingway  
(Macomber)  
F 3/30 Hayden (Winter  
Sundays), R. Lowell (Union  
Dead, Epilogue), Brooks (We  
Real Cool) **Essay2**

M 4/2 Ellison (Battle Royal),  
W 4/4 O'Connor (Country)  
**F 4/6-M 4/9- Recess**

W 4/11 Malamud (Mourners)  
F 4/13 Updike (Separating)

M 4/16 Barth (Fun House)  
W 4/18 Videos Test,  
**Optional Essay (3)**  
F 4/20 Dove (Dusting, Possum),  
Wright (Autumn, Shack), Song  
(Picture Bride)

M 2/23 O'Brien (Night March)  
W 4/25 Tan (Half & Half)  
F 4/27 Erdrich (Convertible)

**Videos 6-10**  
(On Campus, at your convenience,  
before the final exam, view these  
videos)  
*Realism and Naturalism, Great*  
*War, World Outlook, Lost*  
*Generations, Many Voices, Power*  
*& Alienation, Into the Eighties*

Final Exams (Note: Final for 101 A  
is after 101B!)  
English 101B: Monday, **April 30**,  
8:30 AM  
English 101 A: Friday, **May 4**,  
8:30AM

