

American Literature from 1865 to the Present
EH 224-2C, TTH 12:40-2:45, 236 HB

Dr. Karen Tatum
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Office: 317 Hulsey Center
Office Hours: 3-4 p.m., M-TH
and by appt.

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Prerequisites In accordance with UAB and English department policy, any student who has not received at least a C in EH 101 and EH 102 may be dropped from this course.

Textbook *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. 6th edition. shorter.
ed. Nina Baym

Work Requirements This is a heavy reading, writing, and critical thinking course. In order to successfully complete this course, it is crucial that you come to class every day having read the assigned works, formed questions for discussion in your mind, and otherwise prepared yourself to contribute to class discussion. It is also crucial that you hand in all major and minor assignments in class on the date they are due. Responses, essays, and exams stem from class discussion of the assigned readings.

I expect you to treat this course, me, your classmates, and your course work with the same respect that you would give to a job, your employer, and your coworkers. If you slack on a job, you will get fired. The same applies here.

Penalties All due dates for major assignments are listed on the attached course schedule, so that you know well in advance. Extensions for essays and exams are entirely up to my discretion. For each day an essay is late, it receives a letter grade off. After 2 days, late essays will not be accepted and will receive a 0. If you are absent during an in-class assignment, you cannot make it up.

Attendance will be taken within the first 10 minutes of each class period. Any student who misses 3 or more class periods, with or without an excuse (except for military service or jury duty), will automatically fail this course. If you arrive to class late, remind me after class to mark you present. This is your responsibility. No changes to my attendance records will be made ex post facto.

If you miss more than an hour of class, you will be marked absent. Sleeping, doing homework for other classes while in my class, or otherwise displaying obvious signs of not being mentally present can result in your being marked absent. At my discretion, such consistent actions on your part could mean the difference in determining final course grades.

Assignments There will be 3 in-class exams in essay format. There will also be in-class writings assigned periodically. All grades will be weighted equally and averaged for the final course grade.

Academic Misconduct Do not **cheat, lie, steal** or perform any other acts that should plague your conscience. The School of Arts and Humanities defines **Plagiarism** as “using the words or thoughts of another person without proper citation; specifically, it is submitting as one’s own work any portion of a book, magazine, journal, handout, original creation, speech, lecture, oral communication, paper or examination written by someone else. . . . This includes traditional material and electronically mediated material such as that found on the Internet.” **Any student who commits plagiarism and/or academic misconduct in this course will automatically receive a final course grade of F and be turned over to the Dean.**

Course Withdrawals

W 6/9 Last drop day

TH 6/10 Last add day

If you are registered for this course and you have not attended class or notified me with sufficient documentation for your absence/s by Wed. June 9, I will, at my discretion, initiate an administrative withdrawal on your behalf. Such action depends in part on whether the class is full and how many students come to me in person asking permission to be added to this course.

T 7/13 Last Day to drop with a W

The first major assignment will be returned to you with a grade before the date listed above. At that point, if you are concerned about your final course grade, I highly recommend that you discuss with me withdrawing from the course without grade penalty by the date listed above. This withdrawal action is one you must take yourself. I will not do it for you. If you simply stop attending class without filing the necessary paper work, you will fail.

Course Schedule

American Literature 1865-1914: Realism/Naturalism

TH 6/3 Course Introduction.

Discuss Mark Twain’s *The War Prayer* (handout)

T 6/8 Ambrose Bierce 1453, “Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge” 1454

Bret Harte 1473, “The Outcasts of Poker Flat” 1474

TH 6/10 Kate Chopin 1595, “At the ‘Cadian Ball” 1596-1603, “Desiree’s Baby” 1607-11.

T 6/15 Henry James 1498, *Daisy Miller* 1501-1539.

TH 6/17 Edith Wharton 1671, “Souls Belated” 1673

Charlotte Perkins Gilman 1658, “The Yellow Wall-paper” 1659

T 6/22 Booker T. Washington 1621, “The Atlanta Exposition Address” 1622

W.E.B. Du Bois 1702, from *The Souls of Black Folk* 1703

TH 6/24 Stephen Crane 1719, "The Open Boat" 1721
Robert Frost 1878, "After Apple Picking" 1885, "Birches" 1888, "Nothing Gold
Can Stay" 1890, "Design" 1892

T 6/29 **MID-TERM EXAM/ESSAY 1 DUE**

American Literature between the Wars 1914-1945: Modernism

TH 7/1 Edwin Arlington Robinson 1836, all poems 1837-9
Imagist Poets: WC Williams 1933, "The Red Wheelbarrow" 1940, "This is Just to
Say" 1940; Ezra Pound 1946, "In a Station of the Metro" 1949.
T.S. Eliot 1973, *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock* 1975, *Journey of the Magi*
1997, *The Hollow Men* 1994.

M 7/5 **INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY**

T 7/6 T.S. Eliot con't
E.E. Cummings 2112, all poems 2113-8
Ernest Hemingway 2206, "Hills Like White Elephants" (handout)

The Harlem Renaissance

TH 7/8 Zora Neale Hurston 2096, "How It Feels to Be Colored Me" 2097, "The Gilded
Six-Bits" 2100
Langston Hughes 2225, all poems

The Southern Renaissance

T 7/13 Zella Fitzgerald "Miss Ella" (handout)
William Faulkner 2157, "A Rose for Emily" 2160

Tues., July 13 Last Day to Withdraw with a "W"

TH 7/15 Tennessee Williams 2298, *A Streetcar Named Desire* 2301

T 7/20 Eudora Welty 2288, "Petrified Man" 2289
Flannery O'Connor 2427, "Good Country People" 2428
Essay 2 Due

American Literature 1945-present: Post-Modernism

TH 7/22 Kurt Vonnegut 2405, "Fates Worse Than Death" 2407.
Allen Ginsberg 2730, *Howl* 2732

T 7/27 *Slacker* (in-class viewing)

TH 7/29 Film Discussion

T 8/3 TBA

FINAL EXAM/ESSAY 3: TH 8/5, 10:45-1:15 P.M.

This Course Schedule is Subject to Change with proper notice*