



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS & EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE - WINTER 2016

**EN1210 (A3 & B3) LITERATURE IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:
Early American Fiction - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours**

INSTRUCTOR: Sally Jones **PHONE:** (780) 539-2235
OFFICE: C-426 **E-MAIL:** sjones@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2:30-4:00 and Friday 1:00-2:30 and by appointment

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:

Successful completion of English 30 (or equivalent of Grade 12 English)

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Four Classic American Novels: The Scarlet Letter, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, The Red Badge of Courage, Billy Budd. (Penguin Signet Classics)

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave. (Penguin Signet Classics)

Note: Please use the editions on sale at the Bookstore. If, however, you use other editions, please make certain that they are all unabridged.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course will introduce post-secondary students to English studies and the historical contexts that shape literature. Generally, a specific historical period will be covered and the development of various genres will be examined. Instruction will include essay writing skills. Because the course content will vary among instructors, it is strongly recommended that students consult an academic advisor or the Department of Arts and Education for more specific descriptions regarding the course focus.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 credits / 3 hours per week

DELIVERY MODE(S):

Course work includes lectures, class discussions, group work, in-class quizzes, online assignments, film, and individual student work, both written and oral.

OBJECTIVES:

- To consider what might be distinctly “American” about American fiction and to understand the major themes and ideas shaping early American literature

- To explore the short story and novel as artistic forms;
- To grasp basic literary concepts and terms;
- To appreciate intellectual/cultural trends such as Romanticism, Naturalism, or Realism;
- To examine the historical/sociological climate in which literature is produced;
- To discover the diverse perspectives presented;
- To learn how to speak and write articulately about the literature we encounter

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students who complete this course successfully should be able to

- use their writing to analyze thoughts and to express ideas effectively
- use their writing to respond critically to another piece of writing or external prompt
- plan, outline, and draft a piece of writing that develops a specific thesis
- revise a text, adjusting style and content for specific purposes and audiences
- proofread writing for surface errors and correct the majority of these errors

TRANSFERABILITY:

University of Alberta, University of Calgary, University of Lethbridge
Athabasca University, Grant MacEwan University, King's University College *

* An asterisk (*) beside any transfer institution indicates important transfer information.

Consult the Alberta Transfer Guide.

Note: Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability

GRADING CRITERIA:

A+ 95-100	B+ 77-79	C+ 67-69	D+ 55-59
A 87-94	B 74-76	C 64-66	D 50-54
A- 80-86	B- 70-73	C- 60-63	F 0-49

EVALUATION:

There will be several unscheduled reading quizzes during this course, and in terms of preparation, these will only require careful reading of the day's assigned text. A final examination will be scheduled in December by the registrar, and students **must not** make travel plans before this exam date is available.

Reading Quizzes	20%
Writing Exercises	10%
1 st Essay	20%
2 nd Essay	20%
Final Examination	30%

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Essays will **not** be accepted after the due date unless prior arrangements have been approved by the Professor. Penalties of 10% per day late may be applicable in these cases. All essays

must be typed, double-spaced, and stapled together. **Assignments not meeting these criteria will not be accepted. No essay may be submitted by e-mail.**

2. Quizzes cannot be made up, but in the case of a *verifiable medical emergency*, with official doctor's note, may be excused.

3. The reading outline is subject to change according to time constraints and other considerations; therefore, students are responsible for any changes that are announced in class whether they are in attendance or not.

4. Please keep a copy of all written work. In the event of theft or loss, the student is required to submit a duplicate copy.

5. Cell phones must be turned off during classes. This also means **NO TEXTING** or **INTERNET SURFING** during class time.

6. Students are expected to check the Moodle site for this course before each class to stay informed; in the event of a class cancellation, the announcement will be posted to Moodle.

7. Students are advised to read the College Calendar for the rules regarding Registration, Withdrawals, Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> Or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

* *Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page. Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE: (a separate detailed daily reading schedule with sources and page numbers will also be distributed in class)

Weeks 1-2 EARLY AMERICAN STORYTELLING

Washington Irving
James Fenimore Cooper

Weeks 3-8 ALLEGORY, ROMANTICISM, and the PURITAN LEGACY

Edgar Allan Poe
First novel study: Nathaniel Hawthorne - *The Scarlet Letter*
Second novel study: Herman Melville - *Billy Budd, Sailor*

Weeks 8-14 ABOLITION and SLAVERY

Third novel study: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave*

Fourth novel study: Mark Twain - *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

Weeks 15-16 THE CIVIL WAR

Fifth novel study: Stephen Crane - *The Red Badge of Courage*

* All assignments will be discussed thoroughly in class, and guideline handouts will be distributed in class and made available on Moodle.