American Literature II 2328.41430
Fall 2018 (3 Credit Hours)

Scholarmester Online Course:
September 24 to October 14, 2018

Instructor: Kelly Savage
Contact Information:
Office:  N209
Office Hours will be posted in our eCampus course Contacts menu section.
Tentatively, office hours will be **Wednesdays and Thursdays 1:30-3:30**
Virtual Office Hours (via Blackboard IM, Skype, text, phone, etc.) **Mondays 1:30-2:30** and by appt.

**Email address:** KellySavage@dcccd.edu

The best way to reach me is by **email**. Please include your **course name and number** (*American Lit 2328.41430*) and **full name** in all emails. I will do my best to respond within 24 hours. If you have a time-sensitive issue, you are welcome to **text me at 214-403-1060**. Please remember to include your name and the class number in the text.

**Required Textbook and Other Course Materials:**

- **Microsoft Word** – essays and other assignments that are required to be submitted through eCampus course links must be saved and sent as Microsoft Word files. No other file types will be accepted. As a student of DCCCD, you are eligible for a free Microsoft Office account; just follow the link in the “Student Email” section below.

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**Welcome to American Literature!** This is a survey course in which we will be reading and discussing some of the important writers in America from about 1865 to the present. The course will explore these writers through their contributions in prose, poetry, and drama. We will look at the historical context of the selected writings and the development of literary traditions in order to discover how the texts have influenced ideas of American cultural identity. Much of our learning experience will be facilitated via online discussions through our course site in eCampus; so it is important to function as a community of thinkers and writers who support each other and appreciate the different perspectives and life experiences we each bring to the course. Gaining a stronger understanding of the historical pathways of literature and an appreciation of these texts will help all of us strengthen our understanding of human nature, relationships, and American cultural ideologies.
**Warning:** This class may contain short stories, poems, and/or films that could be considered offensive to some individuals. If you are uncomfortable with that, please consider enrolling in an alternate section.

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**Student Email:**
All email communication regarding grades or course progress must be through your DCCCD Office365 student email account, per Eastfield’s confidentiality policies. The account is free. You may set it up by going to [http://www.dcccd.edu/MSOffice](http://www.dcccd.edu/MSOffice).

Always include your full name and course section number when emailing. NEVER send an attachment with a blank email; always write a note to explain what you are sending. ALL emails must include a subject, salutation, body, and signature. See the attached PowerPoint for email etiquette related to emailing instructors (this is also posted in our course if you have trouble accessing it here): Email Etiquette.

**Course Description:**
ENGL 2328 American Literature II: A survey of American literature from the Civil War to the present. Students will study works of prose, poetry, drama, and fiction in relation to their historical and cultural contexts. Texts will be selected from among a diverse group of authors for what they reflect and reveal about the evolving American experience and character.
Approval Number: 23.1402.51 12

**Course Prerequisites:**
English 1301, English 1302 and have met Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standards in Reading and Writing.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
1. Identify key ideas, representative authors and works, significant historical or cultural events, and characteristic perspectives or attitudes expressed in the literature of different periods or regions.
2. Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of characteristic forms or styles of expression during different historical periods or in different regions.
4. Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
5. Write research-based critical papers about the assigned readings in clear and grammatically correct prose, using various critical approaches to literature.

**Core Objectives:**
**Critical Thinking** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.
**Communication** - to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of idea through written, oral, and visual communication.
**Teamwork** - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
**Personal Responsibility** - to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.
Core Objective Development Statements:
ENGL 2328 develops Critical Thinking and Communication by requiring students to read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts in essays, as well as other possible projects, produced both in and out of class. ENGL 2328 develops Teamwork by requiring students to participate in peer editing and/or team research and project creation. ENGL 2328 develops Personal Responsibility by requiring students to attend scheduled conferences on time and prepared; and by submitting work on time and in the manner determined by the instructor (electronic, Safe Assign, hard copies).

EVALUATION PROCEDURES

GRADING SYSTEM

The chart below shows how your final grade for the course will be determined. A complete Course Schedule will be available before class begins.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Discussion Posts + Responses @ 50 pts. each</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Quizzes @ 50 pts. each</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Literary Analysis Essay</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Literary Argument Essay</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
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TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE: 1000

Course Grading Scale:
A = 900-1000  B = 800-899  C= 700-799  D = 600-699  F = anything below 600

NOTE: Scores will NOT be rounded up. If your total is 799, you will still receive a C for the class. Please keep track of your point totals on the grade center in eCampus.

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

Overview:
You will be required to complete five discussion board entries with responses to peers, eight quizzes over assigned readings from the textbook and/or course (which may include PowerPoints, videos, posted documents, etc.), two literary essays, and a final exam.

Discussion Posts:
For each of the five discussion assignments, you should write at least two paragraphs responding to the topics and prompts written in the discussion forum and then post responses to at least two classmates’ posts. To earn full points for each discussion activity, write a minimum of 250 words, respond to at least two peers, use correct spelling and punctuation, and frame your thoughts carefully and thoughtfully. You do not need to include source citations for quotes written from the primary texts you are discussing, and you should not use any secondary source information in the discussions. There is no specific word count.
requirement for the responses to your peers, but the responses should say more than, “You're right,” or “I agree,” or similar expressions. To get credit for the responses, aim to enter into a real discussion about the topic with meaningful dialogue. In addition to the five graded discussion forums, there is an ungraded forum called “General Discussions,” which is a good place to ask questions or make general comments to your peers.

**Quizzes:**
There are 8 quizzes required this semester. These quizzes will be based on assigned readings, authors, and lecture information given through documents, PowerPoint presentations, videos, etc. The quizzes will be based on content, characters, settings, plot, etc., as well as literary movements and trends in the writing periods. You will have 45 minutes to complete each quiz, and you may use a copy of the text as you work; but each quiz must be taken in one sitting (you cannot save it and go back to it later). If you have read the assigned texts, you should be able to do well on the quizzes; however, if you have not read the assigned texts, you will probably not be able to find all of the answers by hurriedly reading through the works; so please do your reading before taking the quizzes!

**Essays:**
You will be given an assignment sheet for each of the two required literary essays. The assignment sheet will give you several prompts so that you may choose ONE that you would like to respond to and will explain the length and source requirements. Each essay must have a strong thesis statement in the introduction and body paragraphs that focus on the chosen topic. It is important to use correct grammar and punctuation, so please proofread your work carefully. Remember to write all titles in the appropriate style of italics or quotation marks. Most of our texts have titles that will require quotation marks since they are short stories, essays, and poems. (Plays, films, and full-length book titles are written in italics.) You should use the complete title of any text you refer to along with the author’s full name the first time it appears in your essay, then refer to the author by his or her last name throughout the rest of the essay. Each response should contain direct quotes from the text(s) you are discussing, and those should be integrated and punctuated correctly. **For the first essay, you will NOT use any source material except for the primary text you are discussing. For the second essay, you will use both primary and secondary sources.** These essays must be written in **MLA format** and must include **8th edition MLA source documentation** (in-text citation parentheticals and works cited page entries). Examples and resources to help you with source documentation will be posted in the course. The essays must not contain plagiarism; whether intentional or unintentional, you are responsible for avoiding plagiarism (see Plagiarism sections below).

**Final Exam:**
The final exam will consist of a variety of fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice, and/or short answer responses to the assigned material. The final is cumulative and will be based on poetry, prose, dramas, and readings assigned throughout the semester with a focus on literary periods and characteristics. More information about how to prepare for the final will be provided near the end of the course.

**General Writing Expectations:**
Students will compose essays that adhere to grammatical and stylistic standards of academic American English and that follow Modern Language Association (MLA) formatting and documentation style. Essays will need to adhere to stylistic, topic, and length requirements designated for each assignment.
MLA FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

All essays must be submitted in MLA format. If by the second essay, you are still not in compliance with MLA standards, I reserve the right to not accept your paper for grading until it is corrected (late penalties will apply). Please be aware of the following basic requirements for your essays:

- Typed with Times New Roman set at 12-point size
- Double-spaced with margins set at 1-inch
- Heading on the top left of the first page ONLY, which should include your name, the class name (American Literature 2328.41430), my name, and the date due or the date of submission. The heading should be double-spaced but cannot have extra spaces between the lines.
- Your last name and page number should be in the upper right-hand corner of each page of the essay (you do NOT have to put it on the first page, but you will not lose points for that either way).
- The first line of each paragraph should be indented the length of one tab (one-half inch).
- Do NOT skip lines between paragraphs. No lines should be skipped anywhere in the essay unless you choose to insert one line ONLY between the title and the first line (though I don’t recommend even skipping that one unless you have a lengthy title). NOTE: Some computers add an extra line automatically in the default template settings; in Microsoft Word, it is easy to take that space out by going to the Line and Paragraph Spacing button in the Paragraph section at the top of the page (the same place you go to change the spacing to single or double – it usually has a blue up and down arrow pictured on the button) and clicking on “Remove Space Before/After Paragraph.” When you look at that section of the Word menu, the last two items in the pull-down menu should both give you the option to “Add Space Before/After Paragraph” which is an option you do NOT want to click on. If it says “Remove” instead of “Add,” you must click on the “Remove” to get rid of the extra spaces between paragraphs or you will not be in compliance with MLA format.
- The whole document should be set to align left; do not justify any paragraphs.
- The title of your paper must be centered and must be original – do not title it with the name of the assignment; instead, choose a title that reflects the content of the essay and shows some creativity. Do NOT use bold, italics, underlining, increased font, or any other special effects on your title unless you are including a title within the title or have another specialized reason.

Other issues that may cause you to do a mandatory re-write before the essay is accepted for grading include:

- An excessive amount of run-on sentences or fragmented/incomplete sentences
- Excessive misspellings (especially with words like it’s/its, they’re/their/there, too/to, and others of a similar nature)
- Use of second person “you” – you are allowed to use first person or third person in this class, but second person “you” or “your” is NOT allowed in academic writing! (Note: Many English instructors are uncomfortable with the use of first person “I” or “we” also, but I’m fine with it IF you deem it appropriate for the voice and style of your essay)
- An obvious lack of proofreading and editing effort that makes your work difficult to understand
- Missing core requirements for the assignment (for example, submitting an essay with no sources when sources are required or not coming close to the required minimum page length on an assignment, etc.)
If you format your work correctly and take the time to revise, edit, and proofread drafts before they are submitted, you can avoid losing points unnecessarily. Any work that you are asked to re-write that is not submitted in the three-day period that follows the return or by an otherwise mutually agreed upon time will not be accepted. This is a college-level writing class, and I will expect professionalism and effort to be reflected in all of your work. It is critical that you work with a rough draft and revise and edit it more than once before submitting a final draft.

ATTENDANCE, LATE PAPERS, EXTRA CREDIT

Attendance Policy/Participation:
Because this is an online class, attendance is determined by the frequency of a student’s interaction on the course site. It is important to log-in and check for announcements daily so that you can stay updated with current information about the class.

Late Work Policy:
Because this is a scholarmester course that is very condensed and moves at a fast pace, no late work can be accepted. If you have a valid emergency, please provide me with documentation and I will consider your case. Please take note: LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE GRADED OR ACCEPTED.

Extra Credit:
Students can earn extra credit by writing a report on a short story or group of poems that are NOT part of the assigned readings but are in the textbook. The report should be two pages minimum, in MLA format, and should include a brief summary along with an interpretation and comments about how the work fits into its literary time period. You can earn up to 20 points for each report with a maximum of 50 points total of extra credit. There is no link to submit extra credit papers in the course, so please send those as Word attachments through email. I will reply to let you know the assignment was received; you should not consider it as officially submitted until you get the reply email from me. You must include a note in the body of the email explaining what you are sending or your work will not be accepted. Remember to include your full name and class information in all email and/or text correspondence.

PLAGIARISM

The biggest error you can make in any paper is to commit plagiarism, which carries severe penalties even when the plagiarism may be unintentional. To protect yourself, read what your book says about plagiarizing, pay attention to class discussions we have about it and/or announcements and documents posted, and read up on the terms and explanations given on the informative and helpful website Plagiarism.org. Claiming that you didn’t realize you were plagiarizing will NOT be a valid excuse; you are expected to understand what plagiarism is and avoid it at all costs. Plagiarism will receive an automatic zero and could lead to your dismissal from the class or suspension from the college, so please, BE ORIGINAL. Have fun writing what YOU like, saying what YOU want to say, and developing the skills to get your own thoughts, opinions, wisdom, and experiences across to others.

A plagiarized paper will be given a grade of zero. Depending on the severity of the plagiarism offense, you may also receive a Failing grade for the entire course. Intentional plagiarism may carry heavier
penalties and will be reported to school officials. If you are unfamiliar with what offenses constitute plagiarism, please refer to the Eastfield College Student Code of Conduct as explained in the Eastfield College and the district catalogs. In addition to obvious plagiarism such as copying another student’s work or buying papers from individuals or from the internet, plagiarism also occurs in the following circumstances:

- Writing quotations that do not give credit to the original author, either student or professional, either in print or from electronic sources; quotations must be clearly indicated by quotation marks or indentions (in the case of block quotes) and not only by in-text citations.
- Using material that is so closely paraphrased that it includes the original author’s exact words or order of sentences, or writing ideas and concepts that come from source material and are not your original thoughts; even writing just a few words that are copied directly from the source without proper documentation is plagiarism. When paraphrasing from a source, try to write from memory and avoid reading the source as you write to avoid this problem. When you take notes from a source, include quotation marks around the source’s language so you do not make mistakes as you include the information in your essays.
- Using summary information without giving credit to the source or substituting words for some of the specific language and not crediting the source for the basis of the information;
- Including facts, statistics, or other research information without citing the source;
- Citing a source in the in-text citation but not in the works cited page or failing to include a works cited page;
- Listing sources in a works cited page but not citing the source in the body of the paper.

If you have any doubt about whether your work could qualify as plagiarism, ask! Do NOT take a chance on being charged with this serious offense. I reserve the right to submit any paper to the college’s SafeAssign website to check for plagiarism.

ACADEMIC HONESTY + PLAGIARISM – ENGLISH DEPARTMENTAL POLICY:
Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the DCCCD Code of Student Conduct published in the DCCCD Catalog at http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/code.cfm.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism and collusion. Cheating includes copying from another student’s test or homework paper, using materials not authorized, collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test, knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, or soliciting the contents of an un-administered test, and substituting for another person to take a test. Plagiarism is the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work. Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements.

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense in college. You can be given a failing grade on an assignment or test, can be failed for the class, or you can even be suspended from college. In any written paper, you are guilty of the academic offense known as plagiarism if you partially or entirely copy the author’s sentences, words, without proper documentation. For such an offense, a student will
receive a zero on the assignment and can receive an F for the course. You cannot mix the author’s words with your own or “plug” your synonyms into the author’s sentence structure. To prevent unintentional borrowing, resist the temptation to look at the source as you write, unless you are using a direct quote that you put in quotation marks. The author’s words, phrases, sentences must be put in your words, in your way of writing. When you do this, you are demonstrating the ability of understanding and comprehension. If you summarize, paraphrase or directly quote from an author, you must use the appropriate documentation because the “idea(s)” still belong to the author.

Please be advised that academic dishonesty and plagiarism are serious issues that may result in serious consequences. Students should be aware that they are responsible for their behavior concerning these issues. This class will adhere to the student’s “Responsibility” as detailed in the DCCCD district-wide statement and the Eastfield College Student Code of Conduct explained in the Eastfield College and district catalogs or on-line at the district website (https://www1dcccd.edu/cat0608/ss/code.cfm).

**Consequences for Academic Dishonesty and/or Plagiarism:**

Any student in this English class found guilty of cheating on an examination or of Plagiarism will receive one or more of the following penalties:

- The grade of zero (0) on that particular assignment.
- A course grade of F (depending on the severity of the student’s dishonesty or plagiarism).
- The professor may request that the student drop the class.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 24 (M)</td>
<td>Class begins!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 25 (T)</td>
<td>Certification day for our class (see note below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 9 (T)</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from this class (see note below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 14 (Su)</td>
<td>Finals / Last day of class</td>
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**CERTIFICATION POLICY AND CERTIFICATION DATE:**

You must attend and participate in your on-campus or online course(s) to receive federal financial aid. Your instructor is required by law to validate your attendance in your on-campus or online course in order for you to receive financial aid. You must participate in an academic related activity pertaining to the course but not limited to the following examples: initiating contact with your instructor to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course; submitting an academic assignment; taking an exam; completing an interactive video; participating in computer-assisted instruction; attending a study group assigned by the instructor; or participating in an online discussion board about academic matters relating to the course. In an online course, simply logging in is not sufficient by itself to demonstrate academic attendance. You must demonstrate that you are participating in your online class and are engaged in an academically related activity such as in the examples described above. Failure to do so will prevent you from being certified and will affect your financial aid. The certification date for this course is **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.**
DROP / WITHDRAWAL POLICY AND SEMESTER DROP DATE:
If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw. Withdrawing is a formal procedure which you must initiate; your instructor cannot do it for you. You must withdraw through the Admissions/Registrar’s Office (C119) in person or by mail by **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9**. You may also withdraw through eConnect. Failure to withdraw before the deadline will result in receiving a performance grade, usually a grade of “F.” You will receive a “W” (“Withdraw”) in each class dropped. A “W” shows up on your transcript BUT does not hurt your GPA.

CLASS POLICIES

Virtual Classroom Environment:
The academic environment is a serious one whether students and the professor interact virtually or on campus. Therefore, **inappropriate, mean-natured, or rude behavior is not acceptable**. Students must be respectful and considerate to each other and to the professor when working together on campus AND online. **Comments that are derogatory towards people based on race, gender, religion, or sexual preference will NOT be tolerated.** Please be polite to your instructor and your peers even when you disagree with them! Students who choose to write (or behave) inappropriately will be prevented from entering the course until they have met with the professor to discuss the infraction and methods for improving online interaction. In addition, students exhibiting inappropriate behavior may be asked to drop the class.

In Conclusion:
*I am looking forward to working with you all this semester!* This class is designed to develop your critical thinking skills and your appreciation for literary texts. Together we will explore issues that have meaning in our lives and learn about new people, places, and things that may affect how we view the world. Because we want to have the freedom to express new ideas, I'll expect everyone here to be respectful and considerate at all times. Being open-minded will help you learn more about the way other people think; and being objective will make you better at recognizing opportunities for growth and discovery. As we delve into discussions that may be controversial at times, arguing and expressing opposing views will be expected and even appreciated; but disagreements must be voiced appropriately and intelligently. **We are now a community of readers and writers, so let’s be supportive of each other’s efforts!**

DISCLAIMER RESERVING RIGHT TO CHANGE SYLLABUS:
The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary. It is your responsibility to go over the contents of the syllabus carefully in order to understand what is expected of you in order to be successful in this class.

INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES and SERVICES

*I institutional Policies relating to this course can be accessed from the following link:*