

**English 2326: American Literature**  
**Policy Statement**  
**Levelland Campus**  
**Spring 2020**

**Instructor:** Kay McClellan  
**Office:** Cm 101  
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**Office Hours:** MW 10:30-11:00; MTWT 12:15-1:00;  
MW 2:15-2:30; TR 2:15-4:00; and by appointment

**Section 001:** 2:30-3:45 MW CM 105

**Prerequisites:** ENGL 1302

**Credit:** 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

**Course Description:**

This course is a study of selected significant works of American literature, and may include study of movements, schools, or periods.

**Course Purpose:**

English 2326 introduces students to some of the great works of American literature, from the Colonial Period through the present, which helped to shape modern literature, language, and culture. This course includes the general historical background, as well as the principles of literary criticism appropriate to the literature.

**Textbooks and Other Materials:**

Hammett, *The Maltese Falcon* ISBN #978-0-679-72264-9  
Kay McClellan, *English 2326 Workbook*

**This course satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:**

Yes—Language, Philosophy, and Culture Foundational Component Area

**Core Objectives addressed:**

- \***Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- \***Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- \***Social Responsibility**—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- \***Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of the course, students will:

1. Understand the distinguishing elements of non-fiction, fiction, poetry, and drama for the appropriate time period;
2. Understand the major elements of literature that are highlighted by the instructor;
3. Be able to discuss the distinguishing characteristics of American literary movements and analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods;
4. Show an understanding and competent application of the elements of the writing process in all writing situations as developed in English 1301 and 1302;
5. Show an understanding and refinement of the skills of expository and argumentative writing already developed in English 1301 and 1302;
6. Apply critical thinking to the study of literature and to the writing of analytical essays;
7. Use a library and relevant internet sources for research purposes;
8. Research and write an accurately documented paper, using MLA style or other;
9. Participate in class discussions and group work over the literature in the course;
10. Make constructive suggestions for others' work during peer critiques or presentations.

### **Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:**

A pre- and post-test or writing assignment rubric may be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

### **Course Evaluation:**

Students' work will be evaluated by means of A, B, C, D, or F: Superior, Good, Average, Poor, or Unacceptable. Numerical grades are assigned for convenience in averaging grades only. All assignments must be completed and turned in on the date due before students are eligible to pass the class. Late work may be dropped one letter grade. **Students who have not turned in all the assigned work by the final drop day for instructors will be dropped from the course.**

### **Essay/Paper Assessment Guidelines:**

- \***The "A" essay** should be correctly formatted in MLA style in Courier New #12 with only a few spelling, wrong word, and minor grammatical or punctuation errors. It should be on an appropriate topic and have a good title and transitions. The introduction should have a specific thesis as the first or last sentence. The conclusion should have a restated thesis as the first sentence, sum up, draw conclusions, and not contain new material (all relevant material should be presented in the body paragraphs). Each body paragraph should be well supported and have a topic sentence as its first sentence that specifically corresponds back to the thesis by using the appropriate supporting point from the thesis. There should be no major grammatical errors. The essay should be thoughtful, parallel, focused, and developed, with each paragraph having a minimum of three sentences.
- \***The "B" essay** contains all of the above with one or two types of major grammatical errors.
- \***The "C" essay** has a thesis, introduction, and conclusion, but lacks support and/or has three to four types of major grammatical errors.
- \***The "D" essay** contains one or more of the following: lacks a strong thesis, organization, or focus (paper doesn't follow thesis) or has formatting errors or multiple spelling and/or grammatical errors.
- \***The "F" essay** doesn't meet the minimum requirements. Some examples of "F" essays are those that 1) are written on an unapproved or inappropriate topic; 2) do not meet the minimum word count; 3) are not written in the correct format; 4) have fewer than four paragraphs; 5) are unreadable; or 6) are offensive/inflammatory (like saying those who don't agree with the writer are morons, etc.).

### **Grading Policy:**

25%--Unit Tests

25%--Daily Quizzes

25%--Assessment

25%--Literary Paper (students who miss Peer Editing are dropped a letter grade on the paper)

100%--Total

**Two Ways To Be Exempt From the Final:** 1. have **1 or 0 absences**; or  
2. have **an A average**.

### **Peer Editing:**

\*students who don't have a completed Rough Draft by 20 minutes into the period will not be allowed to Peer Edit--with no exceptions;

\*not doing Peer Editing on the **Literary Paper** will drop your Literary Paper one letter grade;  
Peer Editing doesn't count on the Literary Paper Revision;

\*circle any problems that you see on other people's papers; otherwise, don't write on other people's papers;

\*answer the questions on the editing sheets; use n/a for non applicable;

\*spell out all words on the editing sheets, even "yes" and "no".

### **Missed Quizzes:**

\*Reading quizzes can't be made up;

\*Video quizzes can be made up if the student passes the quiz; passing a video quiz will give the student a quiz grade and make up for an absence.

### **Missed Tests:**

A missed test needs to be made up with a week of the student's return to class.

### **Late Work:**

\*Take-Home Tests will be accepted on the due date or the following class period without penalty; they won't be accepted after that.

\*The Literary Paper or its Revision will be accepted on the due date or the following class period without penalty; it won't be accepted after the last day of regular class and will be dropped a letter grade if turned in more than one class period after the due date.

**Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to

1. Be on time and regularly attend class.
2. Be responsible for having an appropriate attitude and using appropriate language in academic environments; not use condescending, inflammatory, threatening, or profane rhetoric, whether verbally or in written form, in academic environments.
3. Have respectful behavior toward instructor and classmates in order to contribute to the atmosphere necessary for learning.
4. Be responsible for courteous actions to others, especially by putting away cell phones and other distractions while in class.
5. Be responsible for writing down all grades and applying them to the grading scale used for the class, which is shown in the course's policy statement/syllabus.
6. Submit all assignments in accordance with due dates, formats, and requirements.
7. Avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism on all assignments, including improper collaboration.
8. Ask questions when something is unclear.

**SPC Attendance Policy:** according to the “Class Attendance” policies stated below in the SPC General Catalog: Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

*When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor.*

*Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. ... It is the student's responsibility to be aware of [the Instructor's attendance] policy.*

### **My Attendance Policy:**

Students who miss half the period will be counted absent. **Students with more than four absences don't meet the minimum standards of the class and will be dropped.** Students who are borderline (59,69,79,89) at the end of the semester will be moved up a letter grade if they have 1 or 0 absences. **The final is optional for students with an A average or 1 or 0 absences. Students who are 5 or more minutes late will be counted absent each time after the second time. The class will be working from the *Workbook* each day, so students who habitually don't bring their *Workbook* to class will be counted absent, starting with the third time.**

### **Plagiarism and Cheating:**

\*Complete honesty is required in all course work.

**\*Plagiarism or cheating of any kind, including taking pictures of a quiz or a test or the answers, will result in an F in the course.**

### **Student Code of Conduct Policy:**

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

### **Disability Statement:**

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

### **Nondiscrimination Policy:**

The instructor will do his or her best not to discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnic background, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

### **Diversity Statement:**

In this class, the instructor will endeavor to establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all participants to learn about others, about the larger world, and about themselves.

**Paper Standards:** Papers not abiding by the following standards will not be accepted.

\***Font:** use Courier New #12 only

\***Spacing:** double space throughout the paper, (even in heading)

\***Margins:** have a one inch margin all around the page

## **Class Rules**

**Violating a class rule at any time can result in a student's being expelled from class with an F.**

### **Students will be dropped with an F if they:**

\*Create a hostile working and learning environment by disturbing the class; this could be by slamming books, muttering under their breath, yelling, or otherwise demonstrating abusive behavior, like raising their voices, calling me or their classmates derogatory names, making threats, etc.

\*Use obscenity, crudeness, or rudeness when addressing me or their classmates.

\*Take pictures of example papers, quiz answers, or test answers.

**Hoods, Ear Buds, and Earphones may not be worn in class.**

### **Example Papers:**

\*Anyone who leaves the classroom before all example papers are accounted for or who takes a picture of them will be given an **F in the course**.

\*Anyone who leaves the classroom with an example paper will be given an **F in the course**.

### **Classroom Etiquette:**

\*You need to stay on task (no talking, texting, surfing the net, etc. while class is in session).

\*You shouldn't make inappropriate remarks or use profanity.

\***You shouldn't make noise with electronic gadgets.** If you're in a true emergency situation, take your call/text in the hall, take care of your business, and don't disturb the class when you come back.

\*You shouldn't be talking when I'm talking or when a classmate is asking a question.

\*Drinks should have lids or caps.

### **Writing Perimeters: Do not write on things that are:**

\*illegal

\*X rated

\*offensive (including using a condescending or inflammatory tone)

\*concerning hate groups

\*concerning blood and guts (including abortion, butchering an animal, trapping, taxidermy)

**Note:** The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies as well as notify students of any changes at any point during the semester.

**Kay McClellan**  
**English 2326 Syllabus**  
**Spring 2020**

**\*This is a tentative calendar; the instructor reserves the right to change assignments and due dates if necessary.**

**Week 1:** Introduction to Course; **Assessment**; Literary Terms and Genres;  
The American Dream; MLK; Romanticism/The Detective Story/Gothic/Transcendentalism

**Week 2:** The American Dream; Romanticism/The Detective Story/Gothic/Transcendentalism; Poe

**Week 3:** Poe; *Dark Shadows*

**Week 4:** *Dark Shadows*; Irving; Iroquois (Seneca) Legend

**Week 5:** **Test #1**;  
Realism/Naturalism/The New Poetry-Symbolism/Science Fiction; Cable; Chopin

**Week 6:** Chopin; **Test #2**; Hard-Boiled Detective; Hammett

**Week 7:** Hammett

**Week 8:** Hammett; Caspary

**Week 9:** Caspary; **Test #3**  
Modernism/Existentialism; Thurber

**Week 10:** Steele; Hemingway; The Literary Paper Assignment

**Week 11:** Welty; Rough Draft Day

**Rough Draft Due--Literary Paper Peer Editing** (last half of period)

**\*not doing Peer Editing will drop your Literary Paper one letter grade;**

**\*students who don't have a completed Rough Draft by 20 minutes into Peer Editing will not be allowed to Peer Edit--with no exceptions.**

\*do not write on other people's Rough Drafts; answer the questions on the editing sheets, and circle any problems that you see on other people's drafts;

\*spell out all words on the editing sheets, even "yes" and "no"

**Week 12:** **Literary Paper due**; **Test #4**

**Week 13:** Soft-Boiled Detective; *Psych*; **Assessment**;

**Week 14:** Postmodernism/Social Activism/Fantasy/Game Literature/Magical Realism  
LeGuin; Poetry; Course Averages; Review for Final

**Final:** Section 001: **Mon., May 4: 1:00** Cm 105