



ENGLISH 3310: AMERICAN TEXTS (COLONIAL-1890)

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Prerequisites	ENG 2100

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This section of English 3310 surveys representative works of American literature from 1820-1865, a period that includes the so-called American Renaissance. During this time, authors gained recognition as they expressed a sense of nationalism and cultivated a distinct literary voice. Many of the figures we will study are associated with Transcendentalism, a movement of New England writers and philosophers with unified beliefs in self-reliance, introspection, and oneness with nature. The goal of the course is to critically and creatively engage you with the texts under scrutiny as well as to provide a historical context for their emergence.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This is an online course with clear deadlines for all assignments; as long as you are attentive to these deadlines, you may work at your own pace. I am available by email and by appointment for personal consultation.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN THIS COURSE

In general, I expect three simple things from students: [1] follow the directions for all assignments; [2] turn in all assignments on time; [3] demonstrate that you have put effort into your work. If you follow these rules, it is unlikely that you will receive less than a B in this course. In many cases, following these rules will render an A.

TEXTBOOK

The Norton Anthology of American Literature: Beginnings to 1865. Shorter Tenth Edition. W.W. Norton & Company, 2022. ISBN 978-0-39-388617-7.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Throughout the semester, you will complete multiple reading and writing assignments. You can work at your own pace, although strict deadlines will be upheld for coursework. Be sure to read

the weekly modules slowly, carefully, and repeatedly; they contain all core information and are designed to provide you with what you need to know while guiding you from the beginning to the end of the course as smoothly and clearly as possible.

You can email questions to me at any time. I always answer within 24 hours, usually sooner, on the condition that your emails are written in complete sentences and free of mechanical errors. This is a college writing course. Make sure your queries are polished and professional, and I will promptly address your concerns. I want to see everybody excel. I'm here as a resource, but too frequently, students in my online courses don't contact me when they encounter difficulties. Students who do make an effort to connect with me, however, invariably get better grades.

ASSIGNMENTS

Among the assignments that you will be asked to complete for this course are reading quizzes, creative responses, and formal essays. For specific details, see the weekly modules on Pilot. Please monitor your uploads with care. Assignments submitted after the due date has elapsed (whether it be one day, ten days, or one minute) will not be accepted. Assignments are due every **Friday at 8 a.m.** Due dates are clearly itemized in the Dropbox, so you must organize and manage your time accordingly. Never wait until the last minute to submit work in case of computer glitches, power outages, personal crises, or other emergencies. Always provide yourself with enough time to upload and post your work.

Upload all writing assignments as **.doc** or **.pdf** files.

I encourage you to email me drafts of your writing assignments prior to their due date. I will provide extensive feedback. You may not revise and resubmit work once it has been uploaded to the Dropbox. Be sure to send me drafts at least **48 hours** before the due date so that you have ample time to think about and integrate my editorial input. All formal essays should be formatted according to **MLA Style**.

COURSE EVALUATION

Grades are based upon a simple point system tallied throughout the semester. As I grade your work, Pilot tallies the points so that you may gauge your performance at any time during the semester. At the end of the semester, points will be converted to percentages, and percentages will be converted to letter grades. Here is the grading rubric:

90.0-100%	A
80.0-89.9%	B
70.0-79.9%	C
60.0-69.9%	D
0-59.9%	F

WRITING STANDARDS

- A** The student's writing is consistently superior and expresses independent thought with grace, clarity, and force. Words are used with precision and suited to the purposes of the assignment. Writing is free of mechanical errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

- B** The student's writing is above average in thought and expression, demonstrating a clear understanding and execution of the assignment's directions; however, it is not consistently superior in depth of thought, effectiveness of development, and mechanical savvy.
- C** The student's writing is acceptable as college work but lacks an original, significant purpose or point-of-view. It exhibits inadequate support of generalizations, slipshod or hurried style, poor attention to detail, straying from directions, or mechanical errors.
- D** The student's writing meets minimum standards. Work is often underwritten and/or marred by confused purpose, lack of organization, repetition of ideas, improper use of words, and frequent grammatical, spelling, and punctuation errors.
- F** The student's writing does not meet minimum standards.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism occurs when a writer: [1] copies verbatim from an author without quotation or attempts to disguise the act by selective omissions or alterations; [2] paraphrases from an author without naming the source in the text of the paper or providing a list of references at the end; [3] turns in a paper written by somebody else. As a point of academic integrity, you are required to submit original material of your own creation. Plagiarism of any material is a serious offense and, if established with sufficient evidence, can result in failure of the course or dismissal from the university.

Pilot is equipped with an originality checker that sniffs out plagiarized text like a bloodhound. Please do your own work. This includes effectively citing and paraphrasing sources. A word-for-word citation that is not enclosed in quotation marks constitutes plagiarism as much as an essay written by somebody else. Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions about plagiarism.

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER (SSC)



The Student Success Center offers FREE services to help students meet their full potential. Students can find tutoring in any subject, study buddies, one-on-one technology workshops, feedback on writing assignments, and general academic skills coaching. Web: lake.wright.edu/ssc. Phone: **419.586.0333**. Location: **182 Andrews Hall**. Email: ssc-lake@wright.edu.

LIBRARY AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER (LTC)

The Library and Technology Center provides free access to scholarly resources in all formats. Students can also visit the LTC for assistance with creating or editing multimedia projects (i.e., PowerPoint, voiceovers, website development, etc.). Phone: **419.586.0333**. Location: **192 Andrews Hall**.

OFFICE OF DISABILITIES SERVICES (ODS)

At WSU-Lake Campus, we are committed to diversity and inclusion, and we strive to ensure an accessible, successful academic journey for students. If you anticipate or experience disability-

related barriers, please contact the Office of Disability Services. Email: ods-lake@wright.edu. Phone: 419.586.0392. Website: lake.wright.edu/campus-life/disability-services.

CLASS CALENDAR

Here is a weekly breakdown of reading and writing assignments. Refer to the appropriate modules on Pilot for assignment descriptions, directions, and due dates. All of the starred readings are accompanied by quizzes.

- 1 "Introduction: American Literature, 1820-1865"*
- 2 Washington Irving, "Rip Van Winkle"*
- 3 Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Nature"*
Henry David Thoreau, *Walden* (Selections)*
- 4 Emily Dickinson, Poems
Due: Creative Response
- 5 Nathaniel Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown"*
- 6 Edgar Allen Poe, "The Fall of the House of Usher"*
- 7 *Writing About American Literature*
Due: Midterm Essay
- 8 Herman Melville, "Bartleby the Scrivener"*
- 9 Women's Rights and Women Writing
Due: Creative Response
- 10 Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (Selections)*
- 11 Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life*
- 12 Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life**
- 13 Walt Whitman, "Song of Myself"*
- 14 THANKSGIVING BREAK
- 15 **Due:** Final Essay
- E **Due:** Final Meditation