English 2326: American Literature
Summer 2019 Course Syllabus
Instructor: Professor Ms. Glenda Bryant

General Information:

During this summer school session, you may reach me by sending a message in *Blackboard***'s** *Course Messages***.   I will be checking these messages on Mondays-Fridays between 9 AM-3 pm. I will also not be available on the Levelland campus.**

You should begin the course on the first day of classes, which is Monday, June 3rd, and purchase the textbook entitled *Literature Craft & Voice***, 2nd edition.   You will also be downloading and printing handouts from** *Blackboard* **that will help you prepare for tests and the writing assignments.   If you live close to the Reese campus or the Levelland campus, know that you are permitted to print documents for this course on these campuses. But to print any item in the printing centers, you must have a current SPC photo ID and will be charged a minimal fee for using the printers.**

As you work on this course, you must proceed in chronological order.   You will have a short amount of time to prepare assignments and must meet the deadlines. If you do not meet the deadlines you will not be permitted to take the test or turn in a writing assignment.

Any time I need to communicate with you, I will do so by emailing you in *Blackboard***'s** *Course Messages* **or in** *Announcements***.**

Required Textbook, Internet Browser, Computer Programs and Software, and APA Information:

- **Delbanco, Nicholas, and Alan Cheuse.** *Literature: Craft & Voice. Second Edition.* **(This book is available in both the Levelland and Reese campus bookstores. The ISBN# is 978-0-07-338492-4.) *Be sure that you purchase the 2nd edition of this textbook.)**

- **The Internet Browser:** *Google Chrome*

- **Computer Programs:** *Microsoft Word* **and** *Microsoft Power Point* **(You must have the appropriate computer software either to send your papers as attachments in** *Blackboard* **or to read the power point presentations. Note that** *Microsoft Works* **and** *Word Perfect* **are not compatible with** *Blackboard.***) You may use printers on the Reese campus and Levelland campus but must have a current student ID in order to use the printers.**

- **A reliable home computer and Internet connection**

- **Two jump drives**

- **The Following Items in** *Blackboard***'s** *Special Handouts***:**

"Model Paper Typed in the APA Format"

"Power Point Presentation for the APA Format and In-Text Citations"

"Creating APA Works Cited Entries"

- **A Large Notebook to Place All the Handouts (You will find these handouts helpful as you prepare assignments for future courses.)**

Course Objectives:

- **This course aims to present some of the most celebrated American authors and their writings and help students view some of the many facets of American society as they are portrayed in literature.**

- **The course will highlight some of the major forms of literature apparent in American novels, short stories, poems, and plays, which include Gothicism, realism, naturalism, and modernism. You will be studying the primary features of these forms of literature.**

- **You will understand the major elements of literature as these are highlighted in representative poems and short stories: theme, symbolism, structure, characterization, point of view, setting, tone, mood, language and sound devices, the structure of a literary work, and so forth.**

- **You will be applying critical thinking to the study of literature and will write one multi-paragraph papers.**

- **You will receive instruction for preparing well-organized, developed, and grammatically correct papers in the APA format. You will be following the new standards for preparing a paper in the APA format, a format present in the online textbook available in *Blackboard*.**

- **You will complete online tests for the assigned readings, which include the biographies of the authors, the authors' literary works, the power point presentations, the APA formatting style for typing a paper and the references page, and any special handouts you have been assigned to read and study.**

- **You will not be permitted to complete tests prior to the time period in which the tests are available. Though you have access to all of the assignments for the course, you will be completing the tests and submitting the major paper during the time frame in which we study the information for the tests and the time in which we work on the major literary paper.**

Blackboard Information:

- Use *Blackboard* to do the following: take online tests in *Tests*, acquire power points and any additional handouts, correspond with students and the instructor about the class's assignments via *Blackboard Email*, and submit writing assignments to *Turn-It-In Assignments.*

- In the menu on the left side of the homepage, click each topic to access the following: technical support, course syllabus, special handouts, power point presentations, tests, and so forth.

- Note that to access the power point presentations, which are accessible by using the course menu, you will need this program: *Microsoft Power Point.* This program is installed on the computers in the Technology Center. You may also purchase this software at any Best Buy, Circuit City, Office Max, and so forth. You may also print these power point presentations in the library and / or in the Technology Center on the Levelland campus and do so at no charge. You will need to have a SPC student ID card with you in order to use these computers.

- You will complete the tests for the course in *Tests,* a link located in *Course Tools* menu on the left side of the home page. You will have a time limit for each test and will not be able to change or add responses once that time limit ends. Once you have completed the test, click *Finish* before exiting the exam. You will not have access to any graded test until the availability for the exam ends and until I have scored every test.

- *Blackboard* technical support is available to all students enrolled in Internet-based courses. The first place to go for help is your course instructor. I will be able to answer any questions you have about the content of the course, assignment due dates, quiz dates, and so forth. You may reach me in Blackboard by using Course Messages, a link in the left margin on the homepage for the course. For technical assistance email blackboard@southplainscollege.edu or call 806.894.9611 ext. 2180. In addition, support hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

  When e-mailing a request for help, include your full name, course(s) enrolled in, name of instructor(s) and a phone number where you can be reached.

Grading Policies:

- **Types of Assignments:**

  (1) Tests covering the and the APA Formatting and Writing about Literature

  (2) Essay Writing Assignments

*All of the above assignments will have different weights, all according to the amount of material the assignments cover and the complexities in completing the work.

- **Handling of Late Work and Computer Problems**

  All students must turn in every assignment or take any online test by the deadline. I do not accept any late papers or allow students to take tests that they miss unless a dire circumstance arises. Students must contact me, the instructor, by e-mail in *Blackboard* <u>prior to the deadlines</u> if such emergencies do occur.

- **Methods of Evaluation**

  (1) Students' work will be evaluated by means of this scoring system: <u>A</u> (90-100); <u>B</u> (80-89); <u>C</u> (70-79); <u>D</u> (60-69); <u>F</u> (59 and below).

  (2) Students' essay assignments will be graded in *Blackboard*'s *TurnItIn Assignments*.

  (3) Students will be able to know current averages by referring to *My Grades* in *Blackboard*. Throughout the semester, students will be notified by email when grades have been updated.

Attendance Policy:

- **Students are expected to be "in class" and complete their work by the deadlines. There are no excused absences. I do not accept late work.**

- **Students are expected to read assignments, take tests, and prepare the essays by the assigned deadlines. There are no exceptions to this rule unless a dire circumstance arises, such as a death in the family. Students should contact me prior to or on the day of a deadline for a test, paper, and so forth if such a situation arises. You may contact me by emailing me in *Blackboard*. Failure to contact me within this acceptable time frame will result in a *0* for that assignment.**

- **The instructor will drop students who miss <u>five</u> or more consecutive or nonconsecutive assignments. <u>If the student acquires five or more missed assignments after the final drop date, which is, he or she will receive an *F* for the course. Any student who realizes that he or she needs to drop the course because of missed assignments or low scores must do so no later than June 26th.</u> This date is the last day that I, your instructor, may drop a student from the course as well.**

- **<u>All students who submit every assignment by the deadline will have 4 points added to the final average.</u> Each of these assignments must have all questions**

answered (scoring at least a *50* or higher) and meet the conditions of the assignments. This policy is one I use since employers advance their employees for consistency, reliability, punctuality, and hard work. These qualities are the ones that contribute to people's success in any tasks they do!

Plagiarism and Cheating Policy:

- **"Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work. This idea applies to quizzes of whatever length as well to final examinations, to daily reports, and to term papers" (*SPC General Catalogue* 23).**

- **Cheating: "Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the textbook or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade reports, illegal entry of unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating" (*General Catalog* 23).**

- **Plagiarism: "Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgements, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from the themes, reports, or other writings of a fellow student [or another person], is guilty of plagiarism" (*General Catalog* 23).**

- **This instructor deems work as plagiarized if the students fail to write their own essays, copy responses from another student's paper, or receive help from someone else to complete any assignment. These situations are some of the most common forms of plagiarism.**

- **"Except in extreme cases, disciplinary action in cases of cheating or plagiarism will be handled by and at the discretion of the instructor, and, if necessary, in consultation with the departmental chairperson." If you turn in a plagiarized paper, you will receive a *O* for that assignment.**

Disability Policy:

- **Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Special 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 or her disability to the Special Services Coordinator. For more information, call or visit the Special Services Office in the Student Services Building, 894-9611, ext.**

2529.

Discrimination Policy:

- **It is the policy of this instructor not to discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnic background, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. In addition to complying with federal and state equal opportunity laws and regulations and / or resolutions of professional organizations in education and psychology, my diversity policy declares harassment based on individual differences to be inconsistent with my instructional mission and educational goals.**

Diversity Policy:

- **"In this class, the teacher will 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 of us to learn about others, about the larger world, and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be."**

*This instructor reserves the right to make changes in these policies.