
AMERICAN LITERATURE: ENGLISH 2326

FALL 2023

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Katherine (Kaytee) Jackson (she/her/hers)

Sections: English 2326.601, Room 2015

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Office: Downtown Center, #2027

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Office Hours

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:15a – 9:15a 12:30p – 2:00p	8:15a – 9:15a	8:15a – 9:15a 12:30p – 2:00p	8:15a – 9:15a	10:00a – 11:00a

☞ by appointment. To schedule an appointment via Calendly:

<https://calendly.com/katherine-jackson-1/office-hours-appointment?month=2022-01>

Course Description

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

Prerequisite: ENGL 1302

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.

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: Native Oral, Colonial, Revolutionary, Independence, Pre- and Post-Civil War, Late 19th, 20th Century Modern, and Post Modern literature 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 assigned documentation style
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

Textbook & Supply Requirements

TexBook Program: This course is in the SPC TexBook program, so you do not need to purchase a textbook or access code for this course.

- *What is TexBook?* The required textbook/digital content for this course is available to you in Blackboard from the first day of class. The charge for the textbook/digital content is the lowest price available from the publisher and bookstore and is included in your tuition.
- *How do I access my TexBook?* Your course material is in your Blackboard course from the first day of class. Access to your course material is provided either by VitalSource or other links inside your Blackboard course. VitalSource (and many publisher's) eBook features include the ability to hear the text read aloud, highlight, take notes, create flash cards, see word definitions, build study guides, print select pages, and download 100% of the book for offline access.
- *Help with TexBook issues and support:* check with your professor or visit: <https://support.vitalsource.com/hc/en-us/requests/new> (available 24/7 via chat, email, phone, and text)
- *Opting out of TexBook:* Participating in TexBook is not mandatory, and you can choose to opt out. However, by opting out you will lose access to the course textbook/digital content and competitive pricing, and you will need to purchase the required course material on your own. If you drop the class or opt-out before the opt-out deadline, the TexBook fee will be automatically refunded to your SPC account. The opt-out deadline for Fall and Spring is the twelfth class day. The opt-out deadline for shorter terms varies between the second and third class day.

*Please consult with your professor before deciding to opt-out. If you still feel that you should purchase the course textbook/materials on your own, send an opt-out email to pwells@texasbook.com. Include your first name, last name, student ID number, and the course you are opting out of. Once you have been opted-out, you will receive a confirmation email. If you need assistance with the process, contact the SPC Bookstore:

Email: pwells@texasbook.com / Phone: 806-716-2097

Email: agamble@texasbook.com / Phone: 806-716-4610

Required Software & Materials

You will need access to a laptop or computer for this course to complete your writing activities and class assignments. Laptops will be available during class for your use; however, these cannot be taken home. If you need a personal device to use outside of class, you can request to borrow a Chromebook from the SPC Library. For more information, see:

<https://library.southplainscollege.edu/c.php?g=1021659&p=7400614>

You are required to have access to the following technologies:

- Blackboard
- Norton Textbook & InQuizitive for Writers (included with course)
- Microsoft Word

All of these technologies are either included in the course or free to sign-up. You will also utilize various multimedia technologies (Canva, Genial.ly, Spotify for Podcasters, Google Sites, Wix, etc.) for various multimedia projects this semester. All projects will be able to be completed with a free or trial version of these software, and you do not need to purchase them. I will provide resources for all software in class. No additional software purchases are necessary.

Communication

The best way to contact me is via email at kejackson@southplainscollege.edu. During office hours, you may also call me in the office. I will respond to emails as quickly as possible during regular business hours (M-F, 8-5). In the evenings and on the weekends, please allow up to 48 hours for a response. As I make every effort to be current and prompt with my email, I ask that you do the same. **You should check your official SPC email at least once per day.** You are responsible for all information disseminated through SPC email and course announcements. To protect your privacy as a student, I ask that all emails originate from your official SPC email address. I cannot guarantee that emails from a third-party account (Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.) will be read or responded to. You can find instructions to access your SPC email account below.

In all correspondence with me (and I recommend with all your instructors), you should communicate at the level of a college student. E-mails should include your course number, a subject line, salutation, and closing. You should write in complete sentences and be clear in your message.

SPC Student Email Account: If you haven't already, you must go ahead and activate your SPC student email account.

- Your SPC Email address is: yourSPCusername@southplainscollege.edu
- Your student email password is the same as your Blackboard password. If you need help, call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600.
- To access your SPC email account, log in to MySPC and click the Unread Messages: South Plains College O365 link at the bottom of the page.
- You can also set up access to your SPC email account through mobile phone mail apps, such as default smartphone Mail app or the Outlook app.
- Check with the SPC Help Desk for assistance: 806-716-2600.

Attendance

This is a face-to-face course, which means that regular and active course attendance is required in order to complete the course successfully. I have a professional responsibility to ensure that any student has met the course learning outcomes in order to receive credit for English 2326. Quite simply, I cannot do this if you're not here! Your attendance is taken at the beginning of class each day via Microsoft Forms. You must answer a unique question that is only provided during class to be counted present. If you arrive after your attendance question has been given, it's your responsibility to ask for it at the end of class. If you miss more than 15 minutes of class at any point during a class meeting, you are counted absent for the day. Be aware that you must **also** be mentally present in class to be counted present for the day.

You are allowed three absences without penalty this semester. Four absences and beyond can result in a drop from the course with an X. It's your responsibility to initiate your own withdrawal in the event that you stop attending the course and do not plan to complete it. While I encourage you to be in open communication with me about legitimate absences, it is not necessary to provide doctor's notes or other documentation as you will still accrue an absence for every day you are not present, regardless of reason. I will accommodate extenuating circumstances at my discretion.

Screens and Technology

During class, we will be speaking to each other the majority of the time. It's rude to stare at your phone while someone is speaking to you, and it is expected in this course that you will be courteous and polite adults with your phone and screen usage. If you have an emergency, you may step outside to use your device. If you are using technology for something unrelated to the course, you will receive a zero for the day's process work and could be marked "absent" for the class period.

Grading

Grades will be evaluated as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (59 and below).

Final grades are calculated as follows:

Film Poster Project	5%
Infographic Project	10%
Podcast Project	10%
Video Project	10%
Article Summaries (4)	10%
Digital Exhibit Project	10%
Cultural Analysis Essay	10%
Media Connections Essay	10%
Literature Annotations	15%
Packback Discussions (6)	10%

General Guidelines for Major Assignments

Major papers should meet the guidelines of the assignment prompt and be properly formatted in MLA 9th edition. You are responsible for understanding and following MLA format and asking questions when needed. Here's a quick overview: <https://www.scribbr.com/mla/formatting/>

Final drafts should be **double-spaced**, and written in a 12-pt, readable font. The title of your essay

should be centered; the body of your essay should be left-aligned. Margins should be 1” on all sides. Points will be deducted for final drafts that do not meet basic formatting standards for a college essay. All major assignments should be submitted as ***Microsoft Word files (.doc or .docx)***. I cannot accept .gdoc, .pages, .odt, .rtf, or .txt files. I will not accept assignments written in the “Submission Text” or “Comments” portion of the submission link. Incorrectly submitted files are counted late until the appropriate file type is uploaded. This is a firm guideline. I cannot stress this enough—do not, for any reason whatsoever, assume that I will accept anything that does not end in .doc or .docx. Any submission that is blank or corrupt is considered late until properly submitted. Make sure you receive confirmation and a readable preview through Blackboard after submission.

Multimedia project submission guidelines will be provided for each assignment in the rationale and in Blackboard.

Late Assignment Policy for Major Assignments:

All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m., with a grace period until 8 a.m. the following day before the late penalty goes into effect. Late projects receive a 10% deduction per day up to one week, and projects are not accepted more than a week after the deadline. Extensions are granted at instructor discretion and must be requested at least twelve hours ahead of a deadline. **Note that this policy only applies to major projects. Late work is not accepted for any reason on quizzes, activities, exams, annotations, or discussions.**

Grading Procedure:

Essay grades are returned within two weeks; on average, you can expect them within ten days. You are responsible for reading and understanding all grading feedback. You are welcome to ask questions about your grading feedback; however, I ask that you wait at least 24 hours after an assignment has been returned to do so.

Multimedia Projects

You will complete various multimedia projects over the semester including a Movie Poster, Infographic, Podcast, Video Project, and Digital Exhibit. In addition to your multimedia submission, you will complete a brief written Statement of Goals and Choices for each. Detailed instructions will be provided for each component. Multimedia project deadlines are always Sunday at 11:59 PM. Late projects are subject to the late penalty unless prior approval for an extension has been granted. Projects will not be accepted more than one week after the deadline.

We will utilize free software and apps for all of these projects, and no special skills or equipment beyond a computer will be required. Any projects containing images, audio, or video should utilize royalty-free and copyright-free content. I will provide resources for finding open-source materials on Blackboard.

Perusall (Literature Annotations)

You will complete your reading of our most major texts in the course through the Literature Annotations assignments, which are completed in Perusall. Perusall is a social annotation platform where you will complete a multi-step assignment that may include videos, reading, and other media and provide annotations in small groups with your peers as part of our ongoing literary discussion. These graded assignments are scored on the quality of annotations and overall engagement, including some or all of the criteria below:

- Contributing thoughtful questions and comments to the class discussion, spread throughout the entire reading
- Starting the reading early
- Breaking the reading into chunks (instead of trying to do it all at once)
- Reading all the way to the end of the assigned reading
- Posing thoughtful questions and comments that elicit responses from classmates
- Answering questions from others
- Upvoting thoughtful questions and helpful answers

Reading and thinking critically about literature is the foundation of this course, and these assignments are the most important part of your coursework to start with each week. You are strongly encouraged to start these early and complete them over several days in order to be successful and get the best outcomes in your learning.

If you would like to download or print your own copy to have outside of Perusall, you will be provided with access to a OneDrive folder that contains PDFs of all major literature.

Packback

Participation is a requirement for this course, and the Packback Questions platform will be used for online discussion about class topics. Packback Questions is an online community where you can be fearlessly curious and ask open-ended questions to build on top of what we are covering in class and relate topics to real-world applications.

Packback Discussion Questions Requirements:

You will complete six posts and responses in Packback over the semester, and your participation on Packback will count toward 10% of your overall course grade. You can refer to the course calendar for deadlines.

In order to receive full credit, you should submit the following per each deadline period:

- 1 open-ended Question with a minimum Curiosity Score of 80, worth 50 points
- 2 Responses with a minimum Curiosity Score of 65, worth 25 points of each assignment grade
- Half credit will be provided for questions and responses that do not meet the minimum curiosity score.

How to Register on Packback:

Note: Only access Packback through Blackboard in order to ensure your grades sync properly

- Click “Packback Discussions” within Blackboard to access the community.
- Follow the instructions on your screen to finish your registration.
- In order for your grade to be visible in Blackboard, make sure to only access Packback via Blackboard.

How to Get Help from the Packback Team:

If you have any questions or concerns about Packback throughout the semester, please read their FAQ at help.packback.co. If you need more help, contact their customer support team directly at help@packback.co.

For a brief introduction to Packback Questions and why we are using it in class, watch this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OV7QmkrD68>

Blackboard

We will also use Blackboard in this course. You may access the Blackboard login page at southplainscollege.blackboard.com. Do not—under any circumstances—give your username and/or password to anyone else or allow anyone else to log in to your Blackboard account. Doing so will be viewed as academic dishonesty and will be treated as such.

If you need technical support for Blackboard, please contact the Instructional Technology Department at blackboard@southplainscollege.edu. Include your name, student ID, the name of the course you're taking, a description of the problem you are having.

Like all other areas of this course, there are no exceptions to the late work policy, for any reason, including technical difficulties.

Student Code of Conduct

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 which 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.

Extra credit is available for students who carefully and thoroughly read the syllabus. In order to receive these extra points, email me a photo or link to a photo of your favorite animal and a fun fact about them. These points are for students who are still reading this document carefully at this point—do not disclose this opportunity to other students. They must find it on their own.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

It is the aim of the faculty at South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense. Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy may result in an F for the assignment and/or an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps to generate all or part of a paper or other assignment;
- Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another writer or from an online site;
- Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
- Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
- Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
- Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
- Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, texting, internet, Quizlet, etc.) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
- Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
- Taking an examination for another;
- Altering grade records;
- Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
- Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.
- Do not attempt to submit an assignment for this course that you also submitted to another course without my express approval.

Do not, under any circumstances, turn in another student's work as your own. Do not, under any circumstances, give your work to anyone else to turn in as their own. Both situations are representative of academic dishonesty and will be treated as such.

There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this course. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind will automatically result in a 0 for the assignment and can, in many cases, result in getting dropped from the course with an F. Assignments that earn a zero for plagiarism cannot be made-up under any circumstances and will be reported to South Plains College.

Artificial Intelligence Statement & Procedure

I have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all students receive credit for only work that they have originally and ethically produced. Any evidence of AI through detection ratings or faculty review will be subject to further investigation. It is your responsibility as a student to demonstrate that your work is original in order to avoid penalties or plagiarism violations. I encourage all students to keep a comprehensive draft history and track changes in Microsoft Word as a precaution. This is the easiest way to prove authorship and protect your academic integrity as a college student in the age of AI. In certain cases, work containing evidence of AI assistance will require a Zoom conference for an interview and proctored writing sample. These conferences may be recorded and reviewed by at least one other faculty member, and a determination will be made as to whether there is satisfactory evidence of authorship to earn credit. Failure to respond to an instructor request for authorship verification on any assignment will be considered a student's acceptance of the AI penalty per the plagiarism policy.

SPC Tutors

Tutoring is FREE for all currently enrolled students. Make an appointment or drop-in for help at any SPC location or online! Visit the link below to learn more about how to book an appointment, view the tutoring schedule, get to know the tutors, and view tutoring locations.

<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/exploreprograms/artsandsciences/teacheredtutoring.php>

Tutor.com

You also have 180 FREE minutes of tutoring with tutor.com each week, and your hours reset every Monday morning. Log into Blackboard, click on the tutor.com link on the left-hand tool bar and grab a session with a tutor. You can access tutor.com tutors during the following times:

Monday – Thursday: 8pm-8am

6pm Friday – 8am Monday morning

Disclaimer

Because we will use Blackboard to conduct a portion of this class, please note that the materials you may be accessing in chat rooms, bulletin boards, or unofficial web pages are not officially sponsored by South Plains College. The United States Constitution rights of free speech apply to all members of our community regardless of the medium used. We disclaim all liability for data, information or opinions expressed in these forums.

For information regarding Intellectual Exchange, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, use the following link: [Syllabus Statements \(southplainscollege.edu\)](https://southplainscollege.edu).
