

## **ENG-33002 United States Literature, 1865 to 1945 (10774)**

Dr. Wesley Raabe

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T Th 3:45–5:00 Satterfield Hall, Rm. 118

### **Office Hours:**

Satterfield 202c on T Th, 9:30–10:45 (Phone: 672-1723)

Library 1118 (IBE) on M W 10:30–12:00 (No Phone)

By appointment (contact through email).

### **Required Books**

*Norton Anthology of American Literature*, vols. C and D (Norton)

Sarah Orne Jewett, *Country of the Pointed Firs and Other Stories* (Oxford)

Edith Wharton, *House of Mirth* (Norton)

### **Course Description**

This period from 1865 to 1945 is bounded by two devastating wars, the Civil War and the World War II. This course surveys the literary, cultural, and social dimensions of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries through a (mostly) chronological study of major authors and their writings.

### **Papers**

You will write two papers this semester. The first paper will be 4–5 pages. The second will be 5–6 pages. A “page” is approximately 250 words. Papers are due as specified on syllabus. Due dates apply for early drafts, final drafts, and (when allowed) revised final drafts. Please visit during office hours to discuss your paper ideas or a paper draft. As a declared English major you will be expected to cite with MLA style. I will generally return your graded paper within one week of the date that it was handed in.

### **Mid-Term and Final Exam**

You will take a Mid-Term and a Final Exam. Exams will consist of identifications, quotations from readings, and questions. Your response to identifications and quotations will indicate your familiarity with assigned readings. Your written response to questions will demonstrate familiarity with assigned readings, the ability to apply concepts from class discussions to particular texts, and fundamental tools for addressing literary texts.

### **Reading Responses and Assignments**

You will write four reading responses, which will be due according to a sign-up sheet. These responses should be approximately 500 words long. Send the reading response to class e-mail list by 7:00 pm the day before class. Before class, everyone must read all reading responses. While not as formal as a paper, a reading response should engage carefully with an assigned text and should cite the text to support its claims.

You will complete a handful of small assignments that are designed to aid the development of skills and concepts that are useful for literary study. Small assignments will include examining digital resources for literary study, creating scholarly citations in the proper form, reading and summarizing a critical article, and reading a poem aloud in class. Your reading responses and small assignments will count toward the bulk of your participation grade.

## Grades

Your grade is based on the quality of papers, exams, and participation.

- Papers            50%
- Exams            30%
- Participation    20%

## Policies

### Late Work

- **Papers:** One paper version (draft, final, revised) may be turned in late without penalty. For a paper to qualify as “late,” it must be turned in by the day following the next class session (i.e., by Friday if the due date was Tuesday, by Wednesday if the due date was Thursday). Each subsequent late submission will result in a grade penalty.
- **Reading Responses and Assignments:** No credit is given for late reading responses or assignments. You may submit them for evaluation.

### Absence

You are permitted to miss the equivalent of 1.5 weeks of class, with said absences only harming your participation grade. Every additional absence will harm your final grade. If you miss more than 2 weeks, you can withdraw. In general, explanations for occasional absences on regular class days—you oversleep, contract a contagious illness, or must attend to a pressing matter—are not necessary.

Absences on assignment due dates and test dates, to avoid penalties, must include documentation. Missing a scheduled office visit without notification will be counted as an absence.

Provide proper notice for absences due to scheduled university activities (which will be excused). Assignments are due prior to the expected absence.

Excessive absences late in the semester, if less than 75 percent of the course work is complete, will result in a failure. Incompletes may be offered in extraordinary circumstances, provided that you have a record of regular attendance and an extraordinary circumstance that merits such consideration. An inability to complete assignments on time is not an extraordinary circumstance.

### Class Disruptions

Forms of disruption include arriving late, allowing your cell phone to ring, permitting text messaging or other electronic interaction to distract yourself or others, holding conversations unrelated to class subjects, or taking class time to discuss individual concerns that are better reserved for office hours. Please keep disruptions to a minimum.

### Registration Requirement

The official registration deadline for this course is September 7, 2008. University policy requires all students to be officially registered in each class they are attending. Students who are not officially registered for a course by published deadlines should not be attending classes and will not receive credit or a grade for the course. Each student must confirm enrollment by checking his/her class schedule (using Student Tools in FlashFast) prior to the deadline indicated. Registration errors must be corrected prior to the deadline.

### Accommodations for Documented Disability

University Policy 3342-3-01.3 requires that students with disabilities be provided reasonable accommodations to ensure their equal access to course content. If you have a documented disability and require accommodations, please contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to make arrangements for necessary classroom adjustments. Please note, **you must first verify your eligibility for these through Student Accessibility Services** (contact 330-672-3391 or visit [www.kent.edu/sas](http://www.kent.edu/sas) for more information on registration procedures).

### Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism constitute fraudulent misrepresentation for which no credit can be given and for which appropriate sanctions are warranted and will be applied.

“Cheat” means to intentionally misrepresent the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit, or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation.

“Plagiarize” means to take and present as one’s own a material portion of the ideas or words of another or to present as one’s own an idea or work derived from an existing source without full and proper credit to the source of the ideas, words, or works.

The official “Administrative Policy and Procedures Regarding Student Cheating and Plagiarism (3342-3-01.8) includes additional detail to define “Cheating” and “Plagiarism” and provides further elaboration of “Definitions,” “Intent and Scope,” “Sanctions,” “Procedures,” and “Appeals.” See <http://www.kent.edu/policyreg/chap3/3-01-8.cfm>. A condensed version of policy is also provided in the student *Flashguide*.

**Instructor Note:** For sanctions that rely on the judgment of the instructor (see the “Sanctions” section), you can expect to fail the course. For serious violations of academic integrity, you can expect me to pursue further sanction with the department chair. This abbreviated version of the “Cheating and Plagiarism” policy is provided on this syllable for convenience. The official policy (see *Flashguide* or *Policy Register*) will apply for all cases of suspected cheating or plagiarism.

### Class Schedule

**Note:** When a work from an author is first assigned, also read the introduction.

#### Week 1

T (8/26)

Th (8/28) “American Literature 1865–1914,” *Norton*, vol. C., 1–16

Introduction to Mark Twain section, 100–104

Twain, “Fenimore Cooper’s Literary Offences”

Twain, *Huckleberry Finn*, chaps. I–VIII

Emily Dickinson, [Safe in their alabaster chambers...], [Tell all the truth...],

#### Week 2

Tu (9/2)

Twain, *Huckleberry Finn*, selection from *The Century* [details on assignment]

Twain, *Huckleberry Finn*, *Norton*, vol. C., chaps. IX–XXIV

Emily Dickinson, [Wild Nights...], [I like a look...]

Th (9/4)

Twain, *Huckleberry Finn*, chaps. XXV–XXXII

Emily Dickinson, [Because I could not...], [Much Madness...], [My life had stood...],

*Norton*, vol. C

**Week 3**

- Tu (9/9) Twain, *Huckleberry Finn*, Norton, vol. C., chaps. XXXIII–end  
Charlotte Perkins Gilman, “The Yellow Wall-paper,” “Why I Wrote ‘The Yellow Wall-paper’?” and “To the Indifferent Women,” Norton, vol. C
- Th (9/11) Henry Adams, Preface and “Chapter XXV. The Dynamo and the Virgin,” *The Education of Henry Adams*, Norton, vol. C  
Booker T. Washington, “Chapter XIV. The Atlanta Exposition Address,” *Up from Slavery*, Norton, vol. C  
W. E. B. Du Bois, *Souls of Black Folk*, Norton, vol. C

**Week 4**

- Tu (9/16) Joel Chandler Harris, “The Wonderful Tar-Baby Story” and “How Mr. Rabbit Was Too Sharp for Mr. Fox,” Norton, vol. C  
Charles W. Chesnutt, “The Goophered Grapevine,” “The Passing of Grandison,” Norton, vol. C
- Th (9/18) Paul Laurence Dunbar, “We Wear the Mask,” “An Ante-Bellum Sermon,” “Frederick Douglass”  
Mark Twain, “War Prayer,” Norton, vol. C  
Sarah Winnemucca, selections from *Life among the Piute*, Norton, vol. C

**Week 5**

- Tu (9/23) Chopin, Kate, *The Awakening*, Norton, vol. C  
**Paper I Draft Due**
- Th (9/25) “Realism and Naturalism,” Norton, vol. C, 911-26  
Crane, Stephen, “The Open Boat,” Norton, vol. C  
Henry James, “The Figure in the Carpet,” Norton, vol. C  
Walt Whitman, “Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking” Norton, vol. C

**Week 6**

- Tu (9/30) Hamlin Garland, “Under the Lion’s Paw,” Norton, vol. C  
Sui Sin Far, “In the Land of the Free,” Norton, vol. C  
Sara Orne Jewett, *Country of the Pointed Firs*, Library of America, chaps. I–IV
- Th (10/2) Sara Orne Jewett, *Country of the Pointed Firs*, Library of America, chaps. V–XII  
**Paper I Due**

**Week 7**

- Tu (10/7) Sara Orne Jewett, *Country of the Pointed Firs*, Library of America, chaps. XIII–end  
Dunnet Landing Stories: “Queen’s Twin,” “A Dunnet Shepherdess,” “The Foreigner,” and “William’s Wedding”
- Th (10/9) Edith Wharton, *House of Mirth* (Norton critical edition) chaps. I–III and Preface

**Week 8**

- Tu (10/14) Edith Wharton, *House of Mirth*, remainder of Book I (chaps. IV–XV) and Book II, chaps. I–IV
- Th (10/16) Edith Wharton, *House of Mirth*, Book II (chaps. V–XIV), and Thorsten Veblen, “Conspicuous Leisure and Conspicuous Consumption”

**Week 9**

- Tu (10/21) **Mid-Term Exam**
- Th (10/23) No Class.  
Read American Literature 1914–1945, Norton, vol. D, pgs. 1177–1190  
Modernist Manifestos, Norton, vol. D, pgs. 1499–1513

**Week 10**

- Tu (10/28) Robert Frost, “Birches,” “Mending Wall,” “The Road Not Taken,” “Stopping by Woods[...],” *Norton*, vol. D  
Wallace Stevens, “The Snow Man,” “The Emperor of Ice-Cream,” “Anecdote of the Jar,” *Norton*, vol. D
- Th (10/30) Edwin Arlington Robinson, “Luke Havergal,” “Richard Cory,” *Norton*, vol. D  
William Carlos Williams, “This is Just to Say,” “Landscape with the Fall of Icarus”  
Marianne Moore, “Poetry,” *Norton*, vol. D  
Claude McKay, “The Harlem Dancer,” “If We Must Die,” *Norton*, vol. D  
Edna St. Vincent Millay, “[I, being born a woman],” “[I will put Chaos into fourteen lines],” *Norton*, vol. D  
Sherwood Anderson, selections from *Winesberg, Ohio*

**Week 11**

- Tu (11/4) “World War I and its Aftermath,” *Norton*, vol. D, pgs. 1371–1386  
Ezra Pound, “In a Station of the Metro,” “The River-Merchant’s Wife,” “Villanelle: The Psychological Hour,” “Hugh Selwyn Mauberley (Life and Contacts),” *Norton*, vol. D  
T. S. Eliot, “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock,” “Gerontion,” *Norton*, vol. D
- Th (11/6) **Paper 2 Draft Due**

**Week 12**

- Tu (11/11) No Class, Veterans Day Observance  
Th (11/13) T. S. Eliot, “The Waste Land,” *Norton*, vol. D

**Week 13**

- Tu (11/18) William Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying*, *Norton*, vol. D  
**Paper 2 Due**
- Th (11/20) *As I Lay Dying*, cont’d, and Jean Toomer, *Cane*, *Norton*, vol. D

**Week 14**

- Tu (11/25) Eugene O’Neill, *Long Day’s Journey into Night*, *Norton*, vol. D  
Th (11/27) Elizabeth Glaspell, *Trifles*, *Norton*, vol. D

**Week 15**

- Tu (12/2) Zora Neale Hurston, “How it Feels to be Colored Me,” “The Gilded Six-Bits”  
Nella Larsen, “Quicksand,” *Norton*, vol. D
- Th (12/4) Langston Hughes, “The Negro Speaks of Rivers,” “I, Too,” “Theme for English B,” “Silhouette,” *Norton*, vol. D  
Richard Wright, “The Man Who Was Almost a Man,” *Norton*, vol. D

**Final Exam as designated on exam schedule.**