Spring 2010 Office Hours:

Monday 12 – 1 p.m., Tuesday 9 – 10 a.m.,
Thursday 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m., and by appointment.


Course Description: English 204 is a continuation of English 203, although English 203 is not a prerequisite. The course will be divided into 3 units:

- The Era of Literary Realism (from the late 19th-century to World War I)
- The Era of Literary Modernism (from WW I to WW II)
- The Era of Post-Modern Literature (from WW II to the present)

In each unit we will study the literary movement under discussion and read texts that represent or “resist” those movements. You are much more likely to earn a good grade in this course if you have taken and passed English 102 with a grade of C or higher.

Course Objectives:

Students who pass this class with a “C” or better will be able to:

- Identify and discuss the important movements in 20th-century American literature.
- Identify and discuss the major writers of these movements.
- Recognize the major influences that literature has had on the development of the “idea” of America and the “American ideal.”
- Recognize, discuss, and write about the major themes of the American literature of this time period.
- Recognize connections among literature, history, and other forms of artistic and/or personal expression (such as painting, material culture, popular culture, etc.) of an era.

Course Expectations:

As students in my class, I expect you to:

- Complete your all reading and writing assignments prior to class.
- Bring your textbook with you to class.
- Arrive at class on time and remain in class for the entire period. [Anyone who leaves class during an exam will be considered finished with the exam.]
- Exhibit respectful behavior toward everyone in the classroom.
- Turn off and put away all cell phones and other electronic devices while in class.
- Be prepared to participate in class discussions and any written, in-class work.
- Contact me prior to or immediately after any class absence.
Attendance and Tardiness:

Missing an excessive number of classes (more than 3) will have a negative effect on your grade. When you are absent you risk missing quizzes or other in-class assignments (which cannot be made up—see below), missing important announcements, missing the chance to participate in class discussions, and/or missing important notes and information that will be included on exams.

If you miss a class, please contact me—not to offer an excuse but as a simple courtesy and to find out what you have missed.

Being late to class once or twice in a semester is not a problem. Being late to class more often than that is a problem, however, and you will be asked to resolve the issue immediately, either by arriving at class on time or by withdrawing from the class.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:

Academic honesty promotes continued academic and occupational success. Maintenance of academic honesty and quality education is the responsibility of both faculty and students. Any assignment (including those in all electronic media) submitted by a student must be of the student's original authorship. Representation of another's work as your own shall constitute plagiarism.

Plagiarism is defined as any representation of the thoughts and/or words of another as your own. This definition includes everything from “borrowing” a paper from a roommate to forgetting to include a parenthetical citation as well as a host of other possibilities. Plagiarism is a serious offense and I will treat it as such in our class. Please be aware of what constitutes plagiarism and familiarize yourself with Morrisville State College’s policy regarding plagiarism.

Special Needs:

If you have any learning preferences that need to be accommodated in our classroom, please inform me of them no later than the second week of classes. This will ensure that your accommodations can be met.

Grades:

- 3 Exams (10% each): 30%
- 2 Papers (20% each): 40%
- Quizzes & other in-class graded work, including class participation: 20%
- Class Commitment & Participation: 10%

The grades you receive during the semester will be numerical. When I compute your interim and final grades for the course, I will convert your numerical grade to a letter grade based upon the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numerical Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93 – 100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90 – 92</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>87 – 89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>83 – 86</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>80 – 82</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<td>77 – 79</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>73 – 76</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 – 72</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>67 – 69</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64 – 66</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 64</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignments and Course Work:

PowerPoint slides, class notes, exam preview sheets, and assignment sheets for papers are available on Blackboard (http://www.morrisville.edu/bbwebct/).

The Exams will consist of a mix of objective questions (short answer, identification, etc.) and essay questions.

You will write 2 Papers for this class. Paper #1 can be submitted anytime before the official due date. Everyone will submit Paper #2 on the last day of class. You will be required to submit at least a Thesis Statement prior to each final paper. More details about the paper assignments will be provided in class and on Blackboard.

Quizzes will be given almost always during the first 5-10 minutes of class. At the end of class you may be asked to write “1-minute papers” that ask you to summarize the material covered in class that day or to respond to a question based on the day’s discussion.

Most quizzes are objective in nature and graded out of a total of 100 points (extra credit questions may be offered in some quizzes). Some quizzes, as well as the 1-minute papers, will be more subjective in nature and graded “+” (excellent), “√” (satisfactory), or “-” (unsatisfactory).

Make-Up and Late Work:

- Make-up exams can generally be arranged, but only under dire circumstances—serious illness, legitimate family emergencies, etc. If you request a make-up exam, be prepared to demonstrate that you deserve one.
• If you need to submit one of the papers late you must request an extension at least 24 hours prior to the due date.
• You cannot make up in-class work or quizzes that you miss due to an absence or being tardy. My policy is to quiz frequently and to drop the lowest quiz grade at interim grades and the two lowest quiz grades at the end of the semester. Therefore, one or two missed in-class assignments or low grades should not hurt your overall average.
• Computer and/or printer problems are **not** under any circumstances a suitable excuse for submitting an assignment late. Please take this into consideration when you save/back-up your work and when you print your assignments.

Any schedule changes will be announced in class.

**ENGL 204 Schedule:**

**T 1/19**
- Introduction to the Course

**Th 1/21**
- Literary Realism presentation
- About Ambrose Bierce (1475-1476) and “An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge” (1476-1482)

**T 1/26**
- About Samuel L. Clemens (1270-1273) and From *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1277-1308, 1325-1329, 1412-1418)

**Th 1/28**
- About Charlotte Perkins Gilman (1682-1683) and “The Yellow Wallpaper” (1684-1695)
- About Mary E. Wilkins Freeman (1619-1620) and “A New England Nun” (1610-1628)

**T 2/2**
About Kate Chopin (1602-1604) and:
- “At the ‘Cadian Ball” (1604-1611)
- “The Storm” (1611-1615)
- “Désirée’s Baby” (1615-1619)

About Charles Chesnutt (1638-1640) and “The Wife of His Youth” (1640-1648)

**Th 2/4**
- About Stephen Crane (1777-1779) and “The Open Boat” (1779-1795)

**T 2/9**
- About Henry James (1491-1494) and “Daisy Miller: A Study” (1495-1532)

**Th 2/11**
- About Booker T. Washington (1628-1630) and From *Up From Slavery* (1630-1638)
- About W. E. B. Du Bois (1727-1729) and From *The Souls of Black Folk* (1735-1744)

**T 2/16**
About Robert Frost (1951-1952) and:
- “Mending Wall” (1953-1954)
- “After Apple-Picking” (1958-1959)
- “The Road Not Taken” (1960)
- “Birches” (1961-1962)
- “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening” (1963)
- “Desert Places” (1964)

**Th 2/18**
- EXAM #1

**T 2/23**
- Modernism presentation
About Ezra Pound (2018-2019) and:
- “A Pact” (2021)
- “In a Station of the Metro” (2021)
- “L’art. 1910” (on Blackboard)

About William Carlos Williams (2007-2009) and:
- “The Great Figure” (on Blackboard)
- “Red Wheelbarrow” (2014)
- “This is Just to Say” (2015)

**Th 2/25**
- Modernist Poetry
William Carlos Williams
- “The Young Housewife” (2009)
- “The Widow’s Lament in Springtime” (2011)
- “Spring and All” (2012)

**T 3/2**
About e. e. cummings (2172-2173) and:
- “in Just-” (2174)
- “O sweet spontaneous” (2174-2175)
- “Buffalo Bill’s” (2175)
- “anyone lived in a pretty how town” (2178-2179) “since feeling is first” (on Blackboard)
- “into the strenuous briefness” (on Blackboard)
Th 3/4

- About T. S. Eliot (2037-2039) and “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (2039-2042)

T 3/9

- About F. Scott Fitzgerald (2184-2185) and “Babylon Revisited” (2201-2215)
- About Ernest Hemingway (2241-2243) and “The Snows of Kilimanjaro” (2243-2259)

Th 3/11

The Harlem Renaissance presentation

About Countee Cullen (2283) and
- “Incident” (2284)
- “Heritage” (2284-2287)

About Langston Hughes (2263-2265) and:
- “The Negro Speaks of Rivers” (2265)
- “Mother to Son” (2265)
- “I, Too” (2266)
- “Visitors to the Black Belt” (2269)
- “A Dream Deferred” (on Blackboard)

T 3/16

About Zora Neale Hurston (2157-2158) and:
- “How It Feels to be Colored Me” (2158-2161)
- “The Gilded Six-Bits” (2161-2169)

Th 3/18

- PAPER #1 due

T 3/30

- About William Faulkner (2216-2218) and “Barn Burning” (2224-2236)

Th 4/1

- EXAM #2

T 4/6

- The Post-Modern Era
- The Beats

About Jack Kerouac (2542-2543) and:
- From Big Sur (2543-2547)

About Alan Ginsberg (2590-2592) and:
- “Howl” (2592-2600)
- “America” (on Blackboard)

Th 4/8

- About Flannery O’Connor (2568-2569) and “Good Country People” (2569-2583)

T 4/13

- About Ralph Ellison (2429-2430) and from Invisible Man (2430-2440)
- About James Baldwin (2556-2557) and “Going to Meet the Man” (2557-256

Th 4/15

Civil Rights presentation
- Martin Luther King “I Have a Dream” (on Blackboard)
- Malcolm X “The Ballot or the Bullet” (on Blackboard)

T 4/20

- About John Cheever (2408-2409) and “The Swimmer” (2409-2417)
- About John Updike (2659-2661) and “Separating” (2661-2669)

Th 4/22

About Sylvia Plath (2651-2653)
- “Lady Lazarus” (2654-2656)
- “Blackberrying” (2658-2659)
- “Child” (2659)

About Anne Sexton (2614-1615)
- “The Starry Night” (2615)—see the painting on Blackboard
- “Sylvia’s Death” (2615-2616)
- “Housewife”
- “Her Kind”

About Adrienne Rich (2619-2621) and “Diving Into the Wreck” (2626-2628)

T 4/27

- About Maxine Hong Kingston (2743-2744) and “No Name Woman” (2744-2753)
- About Sandra Cisneros (2819-2820) and “My Lucy Friend Who Smells Like Corn”

Read one of the following stories:
- About Alice Walker (2771-2772) and “Everyday Use” (2772-2778)
- About Leslie Marmon Silko (2784-2785) and “Lullaby” (2785-2791)
- About Julia Alvarez (2791-2792) and From “Yo” (2792-2800)
- About Jhumpa Lahiri (2857-2858) and “Sexy” (2858-2874)

Th 4/29

- EXAM #3

T 5/4

- Conference & workshop on Paper #2

Th 5/6

- PAPER #2 due