

**English 213-1**  
**American Literature I**  
**University of Wisconsin, SP, Fall 2021**

**Professor: Dr. G. Christopher Williams**

**Office Hours: By appointment on Zoom**

**Office: CCC 423      Office Phone: 346-2769      E-mail: cwilliam@uwsp.edu**

**Class Time: 5:00-7:00PM TR      Classroom: CCC 128**

**Catalogue Description:** 3 cr. Representative works by American writers up to 1865. GDR: HU2; GEP: HU

**Course Goals and Objectives:**

The *primary goal* of this course is to read and analyze American literature from the inception of the country to 1865. We will be interested in the evolution of literature in the United States, its changing aesthetics and the attitudes surrounding the rise of this literature.

A *secondary goal* of this course is to effectively interpret literary texts. An emphasis on critical reading is paramount and participation in discussion of the works that we are reading is crucial to success in the course.

**Rental Texts:**

Lauter. *Heath Anthology of American Literature*. Second ed.

Hawthorne. *The Scarlet Letter*.

Crane. *Maggie*.

**Grading Formula:**

Exam #1	100 pts.
Exam #2	100 pts.
Exam #3	100 pts.
In Class Writing	10-100 pts.
Attendance & Participation	50 pts.

**Grading Scale:**

93-100% = A	90-92%=A-	
87-89% = B+	83-86% = B	80-82% = B-
77-79% = C+	73-76% = C	70-72% = C-
67-69% = D+	63-66% = D	60-62% = D-
59% and below = F		

**Classroom Regulations:**

1. **Make-up work. Daily work and exams cannot be made up.** If you choose to not attend and miss a daily writing, **you will receive no points for that assignment.** Missing one or two of these writings will probably have no significant effect on your final grade but missing many of them will. Regular attendance is encouraged. Likewise, your presence is expected on exam days and exams may not be made up. (Note to commuters: exceptions may be made for severe or inclement weather conditions that create unsafe driving conditions)

2. **Exams.** Essay exams will be given in class and will be open book. Bring your book, **since quotation from it will be required for justifying your answers.** No cell phones or other electronic devices will be allowed during the exam period. Blue books will be provided on the date of the exam. As noted, exams may not be made up. Plan to attend.

3. **Plagiarism.** Students in this course are responsible for reading and understanding the English Department’s Statement on Plagiarism. While inadvertent plagiarism can be easily corrected, intentional plagiarism is a serious academic offense with potentially grave consequences. With the rise of internet usage, incidents of plagiarism have risen. At the same time, internet tools have made plagiarism easier to identify. Don’t take chances. Do your own work.

4. **Schedule.** The following schedule is **subject to change at my discretion**. If you have been absent, please make sure to always check with me or with your fellow students regarding possible schedule changes for the next day that you will be attending. While you may have been absent, you are still responsible for being prepared for class when you return.

5. **Attendance & Participation.** Attendance is taken at each class. You are allowed TWO absences without penalty. Save these for days when you need them. Any absence following the first two absences may result in loss of up to 25 attendance points per absence and lost points for daily work. In addition to attendance, these 50 points are also considered participation points. As long as you attend and contribute to discussion regularly, these points are yours. Plan on coming **prepared** to discuss the readings. Additionally, plan on leaving your electronic devices off during class time. Texting throughout a class, for example, is not being present and participating in a class.

6. **Students With Special Needs.** If there is anything I can do to help you to make the best of your opportunities in higher education, please let me know. If any special equipment, interpreters, or books on tape that would aid you in pursuing your interests in the course, I will do my best to help make those things available to you.

	TUESDAY	THURSDAY
1 - Week of Aug. 29		Introduction to the syllabus
2 - Week of Sept. 5	Emerson, 730-58	Thoreau, 845-65
3 - Week of Sept. 12	Irving, 1123-35, “Sleepy Hollow” (online)“	Cask of Amontillado” (online)
4 - Week of Sept. 19	Poe, 1200-13	Poe, 1214-18
5 - Week of Sept. 26	Poe, 1218-31	<b>Exam #1</b>
6 – Week of Oct. 3	“The Birthmark” (online)	Hawthorne, 1163-73
7 – Week of Oct. 10	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i> , “Custom House”	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>
8 - Week of Oct. 17	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>
9 - Week of Oct. 24	Melville, 1295-1324	Songs and Ballads, 1459-69
10 - Week of Oct. 31	Longfellow, 1478-83	Dickinson, 1588-1604
11 - Week of Nov. 7	Whitman, 1509-58	<b>Exam #2</b>
12 - Week of Nov. 14	“The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky” (online)	“The Open Boat” (online)
13 - Week of Nov. 21	<i>Maggie</i>	<b>Thanksgiving No Class</b>
14 - Week of Nov. 28	<i>Maggie</i>	<i>Maggie</i>
15 - Week of Dec. 5	“An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge” (online)	“To Build a Fire” (online)

**Final Exam—Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-7:00PM**