



Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number and Name: ENGL 2120 Modern American Literature

Section ID: 81079.202380

Semester and Year: Fall 2023

Credit Hours: 3

Start Date: August 21, 2023

End Date: December 08, 2023

Course Format: WEB - Web Classes

Catalog Course Description: A survey of American masterpieces from the Civil War to the present.

Prerequisite(s): ENGL 1010 and ENGL 1020. **F, S**

General Education Course Designation: General Education Course

Meeting Details: TBD

Course Drop Deadline: October 27, 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Chippy A. McLain

Role: Associate Professor of English

Office Location: HUM 148B

Office Hours: As my work hours will be completed on Cherokee and Volunteer High School campuses, office time will be by appointment only. Contact me via eLearn email.

Office Phone: 423-585-6956

Email: chippy.mclain@ws.edu

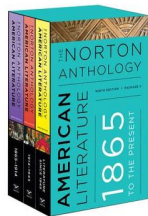
Supervisor Name: Chris Morelock

Supervisor Phone: 423-585-6780

Secretary Name: Gayle Nelsen

Secretary Phone: 423-585-6922

Required Textbook(s) and Materials



The Norton Anthology of American Literature

Subtitle: Package 2: Vol. C, D, & E

ISBN: ISBN: 978-0-393-26455-5

Authors: Levine

Publisher: Norton

Publication Date: 2017

Edition: 9th

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- 1. Demonstrate knowledge of the literary masterpieces of American Realism, Naturalism, Romanticism, Modernism, and Postmodernism.
- 2. Sharpen critical reading and writing skills by analyzing and interpreting specific literary works from these periods and by using primary and secondary sources.
- 3. Demonstrate knowledge of the diverse social, philosophical, historical, cultural and political contexts of these literary works.
- 4. Demonstrate a basic understanding of how modern American traditions and thought—as reflected in the course readings—continue to influence contemporary thought.
- 5. Demonstrate knowledge of the writing and documentation skills taught in English 1010 and 1020.

Instructional Approach and Methods

- Essay and objective exams (2-3)
- Critical paper, 800 to 1000 words, documented, typed, corrected
- Quizzes
- Writing Assignments

Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

The final grade will be derived from an evaluation of examinations, a critical paper, writing assignments, and quizzes.

Quizzes will not count more than 20% of the course grade, and at least 60% of the course grade will derive from essay writing.

Grading Scale

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| A | 90-100% (900-1000 points) |
| B | 80-89% (800-899 points) |
| C | 70-79% (700-799 points) |
| D | 60-69% (600-699 points) |
| F | 59% and below (0-599 points) |

Assignments

Your grades for this 1000-point class (with **tentative** due dates) are broken down as follows:

| ASSIGNMENT / ACTIVITY | POINTS | DUE DATE* |
|---|---------------|------------------|
| MSV Pretest | 0 | 8/26/2023 |
| Quiz 1 | 20 | 9/2/2023 |
| Quiz 2 | 20 | 9/9/2023 |
| Discussion Board Essay 1 (with two replies) | 50 | 9/9/2023 |
| Quiz 3 | 20 | 9/16/2023 |
| Quiz 4 | 20 | 9/23/2023 |
| Discussion Board Essay 2 (with two replies) | 50 | 9/23/2023 |
| Quiz 5 | 20 | 9/30/2023 |
| Midterm Objective Exam | 100 | 10/7/2023 |
| Midterm Essay Exam | 100 | 10/7/2023 |
| Fall Break | - | 10-9 thru 10-10 |
| Quiz 6 | 20 | 10/14/2023 |
| Quiz 7 | 20 | 10/21/2023 |
| Discussion Board Essay 3 (with two replies) | 50 | 10/21/2023 |
| Quiz 8 | 20 | 10/28/2023 |
| Quiz 9 | 20 | 11/4/2023 |
| Discussion Board Essay 4 (with two replies) | 50 | 11/11/2023 |
| Critical Paper Draft | 100 | 11/18/2023 |
| Critical Paper Final | 100 | 11/25/2023 |
| Final Objective Exam | 100 | 12/2/2023 |
| Final Essay Exam | 100 | 12/2/2023 |
| Quiz 10 (mandatory MSV Post-test) | 20 | 12/5/2023* |

*Please note that all due dates are Saturdays at 11:30 pm for this online section--except for the MSV Post, which is due Tuesday of exam week. No one can pass the course without completing the MSV Pre and Post Tests.

Class Participation

Attendance

Attendance will be reported to Walters State Community College as follows:

- First day attendance: You will be reported as “Attending” when you (1) attend your first class session and (2) complete the MSV pretest in eLearn.
- Attendance throughout the semester: You will be reported as “Stopped Attending” when you have not attended class for two weeks OR have not completed any assignments in eLearn for three weeks or longer. If you are a dual enrollment student, this information also will be shared with your school. Please keep in contact with your instructor about assignments, due dates, and anything that hinders your completion of your assignments. The success of our course depends on your preparedness to discuss the works we read. Always come to class. Always read your assignments prior to class. Always be ready to discuss. Missing our Tuesday/Thursday meetings hurts you and the class as a whole, so please attend unless you are ill or have an emergency. Finally, communicate with your instructor as soon as possible in the unlikely event that you have to miss a class.
- Last date of attendance for final reporting is determined by your eLearn access log.

Course and Class Policies/Procedures

Graded Work and Late Assignments

1. Graded work will be returned with feedback within two weeks of submission. Often, it will be sooner than this. Please read your feedback!
2. Grades will be recorded in elearn so that you can keep track of your progress in this class. Please check your grades often!
3. Per English department policy,
 - late essays (Critical Essay Rough Draft and Final Draft) are accepted but are penalized 10% per each day that the essay is late.

- essays that are more than 10 days late will not be accepted for credit but will receive feedback.
 - the final essay in the course will not be accepted after the last day of classes (Week 15). Students must submit all essays to be eligible to pass this course.
4. Writing activities, quizzes, and exams may be made up within 1 week of due date and may be penalized 10% per each day they are late. Contact the instructor to make up any missed work.

Online/Web-Enhanced Course Supplementary Information

- Your instructor will use eLearn email to communicate with the class as a whole and with individual students. Your instructor will reply to email within 24 hours of receipt during the work week.
- **You should check eLearn email at least every other day.**
- You will use Walters State's online course management system (eLearn) to
 - read assigned content and assignment pages
 - submit writing activities through Discussion Board or Dropbox, as required
 - submit the rough draft and final essay, including all materials accompanying them, through Dropbox
 - take exams
 - view your grades
 - communicate with your instructor
- It is crucial that you familiarize yourself with the "Email," "Grades," "Content," "Quizzes," and "Dropbox" tools in elearn. Go to elearn.ws.edu, log in with your WSCC username and password, and then click on our course (ENGL 2120) to get into the site. Help is available there.
- Be courteous! If you wouldn't say it in front of Grandmom, don't say it in our class or electronic spaces. I'll try to respond to your emails in 24 hours, excluding weekends.

Additional Course Requirements/Details/Information

The student may be required to attend cultural events that are related to the course content, such as literary readings, plays, and concerts. The student may receive extra credit in quiz points for attendance. The student may submit cultural event reviews for extra credit.

The student must draft, revise, and submit a documented critical paper and take all scheduled exams before the final grade is recorded. The exams and the critical paper are kept on file for one semester and are not returned to the student. All students must complete the Multiple Sections Verification (MSV) Pretest and Posttest. The MSV Posttest will be given in conjunction with the final exam and count no more than 5% of the course grade.

The instructor may refuse to accept papers that are not written according to class requirements or those for which there is a question about authorship or revision.

The instructor encourages the student to schedule conferences. Any student who needs additional help should request extra conferences. In the conferences the instructor reviews the student's written work, explaining and clarifying points that are giving the student trouble, noting evidence of improvement, and making suggestions for further improvement. The instructor also helps the student to self-diagnose any areas of punctuation, diction, or sentence structure to which additional attention and study should be directed. The student may also seek further help from the English Learning Lab Technician (Jennifer Mayes) in Humanities 120, where both professional and peer tutors are available to assist, either on site or online.

Students for whom English is a second language may contact Michelle Mitrik at 423-585-6930 for advising and/or tutoring referrals.

Academic Program Standards/Policies/Accreditation Information

Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students may not submit work from other classes unless permitted by the instructor. According to *Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary*, plagiarism is to "steal and pass off as one's own (the ideas or words of another); to present as one's own an idea or product derived from an existing source." Also, see *The Little, Brown Essential Handbook* pages 5-6 and 212-218. Any student who plagiarizes will receive a zero on the paper and may receive a grade of F in the course. (See the Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook.)

Excessive absences may substantially lower the course grade. A late paper receives a one-letter grade deduction for each day it is late unless the student has an excused absence and notifies the instructor in advance. This rate of deduction could result in a grade value of zero if a paper were to be several days late. The instructor can require written proof of a valid excuse. Even if the absence is justifiable or administratively approved, the student must complete the paper or make arrangements to do so within one week after returning to class. After one week, if the student has not made up the

paper or made satisfactory arrangements to do so with the instructor, the student receives a 0 for that theme.

Using AI generated materials (for example, ChatGPT or other chatbots) for assignment submissions is cheating. If AI detection software suggests that students have employed AI to complete submitted materials, they will need to schedule an in-person conference where they may be asked to recreate the materials without external assistance while monitored in person.

Academic Honesty

Faculty expect all students to refrain from acts of academic misconduct including but not limited to:

1. Plagiarism - refers to using another person's ideas or writing without giving proper credit to the original source. Indulging in this type of conduct will subject the student to disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures of Walters State Community College as outlined in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for the paper/exam/presentation. Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions contained in the college Catalog/Student Handbook apply (see policy 04:18:02 Disciplinary Sanctions). Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Using cut/paste tool from original document with no references given.
 - b. Copying another student's work and submitting it as one's own.
 - c. Forging or otherwise altering signatures.
 - d. Giving or falsifying academic documents or materials.
2. Cheating - construed as attempting to deceive or mislead which includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Utilizing old tests, projects, notes or written papers.
 - b. Providing unauthorized information to a fellow student about exam content.
 - c. Receiving unauthorized aid from any source with quizzes, examinations, or other assignments.
 - d. Seeking information in an unacceptable manner during/preceding an exam or other assigned work (cheat sheet, verbal exchange, looking at another person's paper or electronic device, utilizing headphones, using textbook when the test/quiz is not an open book test/quiz, using textbook test bank etc.).
 - e. Consulting with a classmate or others when taking a computerized test.
 - f. Disregarding other specific policies and procedures outlined for a particular class.
 - g. Utilizing unapproved technology/electronic equipment during testing (i.e.: mobile devices such as cell phones, smart devices, or tablets, etc.).

- h. Using the same Internet Protocol network address (IP address) as another student for testing without approval from the course faculty.
3. The use of any generative artificial intelligence (AI) tool, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google's Bard, or any other pre-trained language model (commonly referred to as "chatbot"), must be cited for any assignment where it has been used and may not be used unless specifically allowed by your instructor. Please see your instructor or the course policies within the syllabus if you have questions.

Student Resources

TUTORING SERVICES

Students in need of tutoring assistance are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Tutoring located as follows:

- Morristown Campus - Student Services Building Room L107 - (423) 585-6920
- Niswonger Campus - GRNV 226 - (423) 798-7982
- Sevierville Campus - MMH Room 210 - (865) 286-2787
- Claiborne Campus - Room 123A - (423) 851-4761

Specific tutoring assistance in mathematics and writing is available in-person and online as follows:

- Morristown Campus - English Learning Lab - HUM 120 - (423) 585-6970

[Walters State English Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.walters.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab](https://www.walters.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)

- Morristown Campus - Mathematics Lab - MBSS 222 - (423) 585-6872

[Walters State Mathematics Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.walters.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab](https://www.walters.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Students who need assistance with computing and technology issues should contact the IET Helpdesk by phone at Morristown: (423) 318-2742; Niswonger: (423) 798-8186; or Sevierville: (865) 286-2789 or on-line access.

[Walters State Helpdesk \(opens in new window\)](https://helpdesk.walters.edu)
helpdesk.walters.edu

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES

Students with disabilities must register with Student Support Services each semester in the Student Services Building, Room U134 (phone (423) 585-6892) if they need any special facilities, services, or consideration.

[Walters State Student Support Services \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/student-services/disability/)
[ws.edu/student-services/disability/](https://www.waltersstate.edu/student-services/disability/)

SUICIDE PREVENTION STATEMENT

Walters State is committed to and cares about all students. Support services are available for any person at Walters State who is experiencing feelings of being overwhelmed, hopelessness, depression, thinking about dying by suicide, or is otherwise in need of assistance. For immediate help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 9-8-8 or the Trevor Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. Veterans may also contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or Text 838255.

Walters State has a relationship in place with the following community agencies to provide services (may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, etc.):

- Cherokee Health Systems 423-586-5032
- Frontier Health 423-467-3600

College Policies

STUDENTS HANDBOOK AS OFFICIAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT

This class is governed by the policies and procedures stated in the current Walters State Community College Student Handbook. All students attending Walters State Community College, regardless of the time, location, or format of the class, must abide by the rules and regulations outlined in the current Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook and the current Walters State Timetable of Classes.

[Walters State Catalog \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/catalog/)
[catalog.ws.edu/](https://www.waltersstate.edu/catalog/)

[Walters State Timetable of Classes \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/admissions/registration/)
[ws.edu/admissions/registration/](https://www.waltersstate.edu/admissions/registration/)

PURPOSE, LIMITATIONS AND MODIFICATION OF SYLLABUS

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to

change at any time. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time with written notification to the students. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus for the semester/year specified in the Course Information section of the syllabus. This syllabus is only valid for the semester/year specified and course requirements are not guaranteed for future semesters.

COURSE GROUND RULES

- Students must attend the first day of on-ground class or contact the instructor prior to the first class. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class. Excessive absences may substantially lower the course grade.
- Regular class attendance is a student's obligation for any course regardless of format. (See the Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook). If a student misses class, it is his or her responsibility to contact the instructor regarding missed assignments and/or activities and to be prepared for the next class assignment.
- Students enrolled in web courses must follow the course attendance policy defined for online attendance during the first week of class and throughout the term. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class during week one OR may result in the accrual of absences which may negatively impact the student's grade in the course.
- Students who have not paid fees on time and/or are not correctly registered for this class and whose names do not appear on official class rolls generated by the Walters State student information system (MyWS) will not be allowed to remain in class or receive credit for this course.
- Electronic devices must not disrupt the instructional process or college-sponsored academic activity. Use of electronic devices is prohibited unless use of the device is relevant to the activity and use is sanctioned by the faculty member in charge. Electronic devices that are not relevant to the activity or sanctioned by the faculty member in charge should be set so that they will not produce an audible sound during classroom instruction or other college-sponsored academic activity.

FINANCIAL AID

Students receiving any type of financial aid or scholarship should contact the Financial Aid Office before making any changes to their schedule. Schedule changes without prior approval may result in loss of award for the current term and future terms.

All forms of student Financial Aid may be jeopardized or lost due to the lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress in one or multiple courses. Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress may negatively impact a student's degree/certificate completion pace and further jeopardize Financial Aid eligibility.

CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

For information related to the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather or other events, please check the Senators Emergency Text system or the college's Web site at:

[Walters State Homepage \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/home/

[Walters State Facebook page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/>

[Walters State Twitter page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://twitter.com/waltersstate>

or call the college's student information line, 1-800-225-4770, option 1; the Sevier County Campus, (865) 774-5800, option 7; the Niswonger Campus (423) 798-7940, option 7; or the Claiborne County Campus, 423-636-6200, option 7. Also, please monitor local TV and radio stations for further announcements.

When an event or disaster interrupts the scheduled operations of the college and the ability to proceed with the academic course activities as planned, the college and your instructor may alter the course plan outlined in the syllabus. Should an event occur, students should refer to their course e-Learn pages and/or class materials previously delivered to receive guidance from their instructor. Students should continue to monitor the official college channels of communication listed in the above paragraph. If you would like to sign up for the Senators Emergency Text system, please go to the following Web site:

[Senator Emergency Text System \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/set/

Dual Enrollment students attending on a high school campus should refer to the high school inclement weather cancellations.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Brightspace (commonly known as eLearn or D2L) is the college's Learning Management System (LMS).

Brightspace is committed to accessibility by "deliver[ing] a learning experience that meets the needs of all people, regardless of age or ability." [Brightspace Accessibility Standard \(opens in new window\)](#)

Brightspace is also committed to guarding student data and privacy. [Brightspace Privacy Policy \(opens in new window\)](#)