



Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number and Name: ENGL 2120 Modern American Literature

Section ID: 81082.202380

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: Jay McMahan

Role: Instructor

Office Location: ACAD 126

Office Hours: Monday And Tuesday: 8-10:30, 11:10-11:30, 2:50-3:15, 3:45-4; Tuesday and Thursday: 8:30-10:30, 11:10-30, 2:50-3:25, 3:45-4

Office Phone: 865-774-5843

Email: Jay.McMahan@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Christopher Morelock

Supervisor Phone: 423-585-6780

Secretary Name: Debbie Wilson

Secretary Phone: 423-585-6947

Required Textbook(s) and Materials

The Norton Anthology of American Literature Vol. C, D, & E.

ISBN: 978-0393264555

Authors: Levine

Publisher: Norton

Publication Date: 2016

Edition: 9th

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- 1. demonstrate knowledge of the literary masterpieces of American Realism, Naturalism, Romanticism, Modernism, and Postmodernism
- 2. sharpen his or her 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

The class will be broken up into two chapters that culminate in an exam and essay. Each week you'll work through a module with a mixture of primary source reading and secondary source supplements such as videos and other texts. You'll reflect your learning through a mixture of quizzes and written assignments.

Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

The class will feature weekly quizzes, dropbox, and discussion boards.

In addition, we'll have two end-of-section tests and essays.

The class will culminate in a final exam.

Grading Scale

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

Assignments

Test 1 and paper 1: 300 points

Test 2 and paper 2: 350 points

Final Exam: 50 points

Discussion Boards (drop lowest grade) 120

Dropboxes (drop lowest) 120

Quizzes (drop lowest) 60

Total: 1000

Class Participation

Since this is an online class, this is mostly represented in the discussion boards. You can gain points by responding to your peers and meeting the word minimum. Please be respectful to your fellow classmates as well as your instructor. You can lose points by violating the student handbook: bullying, bigotry, or prejudice will not be tolerated and will negatively reflect in your discussion grade. Be courteous to your peers; treat other people as you want to be treated.

Course and Class Policies/Procedures

Attendance Policy: Since this is an online course, submitting the assignments will count as your course attendance. Your last date of attendance will reflect your last submitted assignment. Completing the MSV Pre-test is required to be marked attending.

Submitting Work:

Written and In-Class Homework: All written homework is to be typed and formatted using MLA rules with 12 point Times New Roman or Arial font. Quizzes, Dropbox submissions, and discussion boards all have hard deadlines. You cannot request extensions on them. You can complete them early though. I'll drop the low score from the discussions, the quizzes, and dropboxes.

Submitting Major Assignments: **All major essays (tests and essays) should be submitted to the dropbox before the due date.** The major assignments all **have soft deadlines**. If they aren't submitted before the due date, they will be counted as late. According to English department policies, essays and exams are penalized 10 percent a day. Therefore, after an assignment is ten days late, you cannot score higher than a zero. The first day late starts one minute after the due date. In addition, you may request extensions on the major assignments if you notify me two days before the due date. Extensions will only be granted because of emergencies and with documentation. Last, the final essay cannot be turned in after the start of final's week because of grade deadlines.

Online/Web-Enhanced Course Supplementary Information

The modules in this class have a mixture of written texts and video.

Additional Course Requirements/Details/Information

Communication: The biggest thing you can do to succeed in the class is communicate with me. If you're having trouble with a specific unit, let me know and we can go into further detail to get you to where you want to be. So too, if a life situation arises, let me know sooner rather than later,

The best way to contact me is by using elearn. Only use my Walters State email for emergencies or if elearn is down. I'll typically check it Monday through Thursday between 9-5. If you email me over the weekend, expect a response on Monday. It helps me respond more quickly if you let me know your course, section, and the assignment you have a question on.

If you need to meet with me, please consult the office hours or schedule a meeting.

To protect your privacy, I won't engage with emails from a non-WSCC address.

Remember, email lacks the nuances of speech, so strive to use a respectful tone; I'll do the same! Last rule of thumb, I'll assume you're trying your best, and I hope you'll assume the best of me too. Let's work together to create a collegial classroom.

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 \(opens in new window\)](#)
ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab

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

[Walters State Mathematics Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](#)
ws.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 \(opens in new window\)](#)
helpdesk.ws.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 \(opens in new window\)](#)
ws.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://catalog.ws.edu/)
catalog.ws.edu/

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

[Walters State Facebook page \(opens in new window\)](https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/)
<https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/>

[Walters State Twitter page \(opens in new window\)](https://twitter.com/waltersstate)
<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 \(opens in new window\)](http://ws.edu/set/)
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 \(opens in new window\)](#)