



Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number and Name: ENGL 2120 Modern American Literature

Section ID: 50303.202350

Semester and Year: Summer 2023

Credit Hours: 3

Start Date: July 05, 2023

End Date: August 03, 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: July 24, 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Kelsey Solomon

Role: Assistant Professor of English

Office Location: HUM 148C

Office Hours: See Virtual Office Hours and Office Schedule in the Getting Started module within eLearn Content.

Office Phone: 423-585-6963

Email: Kelsey.Solomon@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Christopher Morelock

Supervisor Phone: (423) 585-6780

Secretary Name: Debbie Wilson, Gayle Nelsen

Secretary Phone: (423) 585-6947, (423) 585-6922

Required Textbook(s) and Materials

Open Educational Resources - No Textbook Required.



The Norton Anthology of American Literature

ISBN: 9780393264555

Authors: Robert S. Levine, Michael A. Elliott, Sandra M. Gustafson, Mary Loeffelholz, Amy Hungerford

Publisher: W. W. Norton

Publication Date: 2016-12-19

Additional Information

Optional Textbook

Supplemental or Optional Materials

Supplementary or Optional Materials	Home computer or laptop Reliable internet Headphones or earbuds External memory (USB thumb drive or cloud service)
Suggested App(s)	Microsoft Teams Microsoft Word

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 English 1020.

Instructional Approach and Methods

Instructional and Evaluation Methods

1. Students will complete a weekly test/quiz based on our reading and engagement schedule.
2. Each week, students will compose analytical, creative, and/or critical responses to course readings in a discussion boards.
3. Final assessments will include a final exam, post-test, and a critical, objective essay, the last of which includes (1) a 1000-word minimum, (2) primary sources, (3) secondary sources, and (4) MLA documentation.
4. The final grade will be derived from an evaluation of weekly tests, critical writing assignments, and final assessments.

Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

eLearn

eLearn is a crucial component to your success in this course. Students should check in to our course shell every single day. I will use this platform to do the following, for example:

1. a news item that recounts classroom content, assignments, responsibilities, due dates, and the like.
2. post documents such as readings, lectures, assignment sheets, supplementary materials, and the like.
3. repositories for assignments, like discussion boards, quizzes, surveys, and dropbox assignments.

If I need to communicate with you, then I will do so via posting a news item and/or via e-mail function. I will plan to check my eLearn e-mail daily.

Word Processing

Students will use Microsoft Word since essays and assignments will be submitted electronically. Documents are **best submitted in Word Documents (.doc or .docx)**. Use .pdf as a backup, especially for students who use Google Docs. The following formats, for example, will not be accepted for credit:

1. .rtf (Rich Text)
2. .pages (Pages on Mac)

Here is the standard rule of thumb: If I can't open your documents and if a TurnItIn report cannot be processed according to the format in which you've submitted your assignment, then that's the same as if you didn't submit the assignment on time, with all attendant late penalties as warranted. Students are encouraged to check with me to make sure that I can read your file, but if I have problems with opening your file, then I will contact you directly.

Dropboxes

Dropbox assignments will be due in their respective dropbox in eLearn. Every submission in the dropbox will be run through TurnItIn. Here are the rules regarding submitting assignments:

1. Students must submit their assignments to the correct dropbox because the dropbox is directly linked to a grade item. The correct assignment must be housed in its proper dropbox in order to be assessed.
2. I cannot accept assignments via email because assignments must be linked directly with the dropbox and its grade item and because they must be filtrated through the TurnItIn portal. Please turn in your work to the Dropbox and never through email because technology cannot allow me to grade an assignment that is not connected to a Dropbox.
3. If you initially have trouble working a dropbox, then please feel free to reach out to me. However, ultimately, it is your responsibility to make sure that you are able to submit documents in acceptable formats.

Testing Procedures

Quizzes/tests will be auto-graded in eLearn, within which students will be allowed to see which questions they missed. Each student will be allotted two attempts on each weekly quiz to ensure students' opportunity to self-correct.

In kind, the instructor evaluates each writing assignment on its own merits. While there is no single formula for evaluating any paper, in this course all papers will be assessed by standard rubrics. These rubrics will address criteria such as the quality of content and organization, student engagement, thesis, specific detail to support and develop general statements, and the number and frequency of serious errors (such as fragments, comma splices, fused sentences, errors in agreement and tense, and awkward constructions). Repeated errors and deficiencies become significant in the evaluation of the student's writing. Since progress is the principal objective, students will have multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery of the evaluated criteria.

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.

Grading Scale

A	90 to 100
B	80 to 89
C	70 to 79
D	69 to 60
F	59 or lower

Assignments

Weight of Individual Assignments

Points that determine grades for this course are as follows:

Assignment	Points
Quizzes	160
Discussion Boards	170
Ideal Library Epilogue	100
Final Exam	100
Post-Test	30
Total	565

Class Participation

Attendance

Because this is an online class, I will take weekly attendance according to students' login history and according to students' completion of the week's assignments. I keep up with attendance for institutional purposes, like financial aid and dual enrollment, and attendance will mirror your dedication to the class and completing coursework.

First Week Attendance will be logged when students complete both the Syllabus Quiz and the Pre-Test.

Proper Etiquette in Classroom Situations

In English 2120, we will be reading, analyzing, and discussing classic literature, new and old, and it is important to understand early that there are various credible readings of any given piece of literature. We, to the best of our ability, will explore the texts in this course through their respective literary movements and discover how those movement's sentiments still exist in and affect the present day. This requires us to uncover and consider multiple styles and perspectives, so in order to do the literature the justice it deserves, then we must also be respectful of others during our class discussions. Please respond politely and civilly in the discussion board and via emails to one another.

Microsoft Teams

In an online class, Microsoft Teams is optional as our means of communication and content facilitation, namely the Chat feature. This application will also be how I conduct virtual office hours with students by appointment via my Bookings calendar.

Course and Class Policies/Procedures

Late Policy

Because this is not only an online class, but a fast-paced one, no assignment posted during the duration of this class will be accepted late.

Plagiarism Procedure

To be a college student is to become a member of a new community of scholarship. As scholars, we must uphold the high virtue of academic integrity and shall not commit plagiarism, a serious offense. Using sources without proper citation is considered plagiarism. For example, copying and pasting from sources without proper citation for those sources is cheating.

- The first offense for plagiarism is a ZERO on the assignment.
- The second offense for plagiarism is an F for the course.

If you are unsure about the definition of plagiarism, please see elsewhere in this syllabus. Each item submitted to the eLearn dropbox is checked for plagiarism by utilizing a program called TurnItIn, which color codes plagiarized material with links to websites. It will detect plagiarism even if the student has attempted to reword the material.

To uphold academic integrity, to paraphrase originally, to properly quote, and to accurately cite source material are all rites of passage into the community of scholarship. Please uphold these high standards for yourself to establish good habits for the remainder of your college career because I, most of all, want you to succeed.

Quizzes

After the welcome week, in which students will complete the Syllabus Quiz and the Pre-Test, the following three weeks of class will be dedicated to understanding American literature from the 1865 to the present. There will be reading quizzes that assess students' comprehension of the literature, literary movements, and relevant history on the course calendar. There will be no opportunities for a make-up, as these assignments are not accepted late. You earn this part of the grade over the course of the semester, up to 160 points, approximately 29% of your final grade.

Discussion Boards

During the first four weeks, students are expected to complete a weekly discussion board, including replies to classmates. These discussion boards are designed as opportunities for students to creatively apply what they've learned about the literature, literary movements, and relevant history to our current spot in time. There will be no opportunities for make-up on these discussion boards, including the replies, as these assignments are not accepted late. Collectively, students can earn up to 170 points, approximately 30% of your final grade, for the quality of your original post and replies to classmates.

Ideal Library Epilogue

Part of your cumulative final assessment in English 2120 will include a part reflective, part academic writing assignment that reflects their knowledge of American literature since 1865 and that connects to students' first discussion board about their ideal library. There will be no opportunities for make-up on this final writing project, as it is due at the very end of the semester and cannot be accepted late. It is worth 100 points, approximately 18% of your final grade.

Final Exam

The final is comprehensive and will be derived for any content related to literary movements, historical events, and the literature. It is worth 100 points, approximately 18% of your final grade.

MSV Assessment

Students must take BOTH the required MSV Pre-Test and the required MSV Post-Test in order to pass the class. In other words, they are mandatory. The lack of completion of a mandatory assignment results in failure of the course.

The MSV Pre-Test will not be counted as a grade, but students are encouraged to do their best.

The MSV Post-Test will be conducted at the end of the semester. It will be graded, and it will be worth 30 points, or approximately 5% of your final grade.

Grading Policy

For writing assignments, projects, and formal papers, the professor requires up to 7 days after a due date to complete grading. Please observe this 7-day grace period and refrain from inquiring about when something will be graded until after the grace period expires.

Grade Dispute

In the event of a grade dispute, it is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of course work.

Assignment Sheets as Syllabus

Any and all assignment sheets for both major and minor assignments in this course will stand as an extension of this syllabus. Each assignment sheet will be provided for you to review in eLearn Content.

Student Work for Educational Purposes

This section of the syllabus is a formal contract between the instructor and the student that allows the instructor to use any student work for future educational purposes in the classroom. I will omit your name from any writing assignment that I may use for educational purposes for future 2120 students.

Online/Web-Enhanced Course Supplementary Information

Virtual Office Hours	To book a video conferencing appointment with me during my availability, see my Bookings Calendar .
Library Information	For direct access to our library, click the link below: WSCC Library Homepage

Technical Support	<p>For computer problems or eLearn access issues, please reach out to our WSCC Helpdesk:</p> <p>WSCC Helpdesk</p> <p>Morristown: 423-318-2742</p> <p>Sevierville: 865-286-2789</p> <p>(Dial last 4 numbers from any WS campus classroom phone.)</p>
Web Addresses/Resources	<p>Students will be required to include research support in each major paper. Here is a direct link to our library's academic database list:</p> <p>Academic Databases</p>
Guidelines for Communication: Email, Discussion Posts, Chat	<p>My primary mode of communication will be in eLearn. However, students are welcome to use the Chat feature and video conferencing in Microsoft Teams as a form of individualized communication about the course.</p> <p>I am accessible through both the eLearn email as well as your Outlook email address. The quickest way to write a new email to me or your classmates in eLearn is through the Classlist under Course Tools.</p> <p>See Proper Etiquette clauses in this syllabus for guidance about academic conduct in discussion boards.</p>

Additional Course Requirements/Details/Information

Course Calendar

See eLearn for the class's daily/weekly schedule.

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.

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 \(opens in new window\)](https://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 \(opens in new window\)](#)