ENGLISH 50B SYLLABUS:
INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN LITERATURE, II
fulfills GE Area C3, "Introduction to the Humanities"
Fall 2010

Course Description

English 50A is designed as an introductory survey of American literature from the turn of the twentieth century to the present. The course will deal primarily with fiction and poetry, though some drama will also be discussed. Representative figures include: Crane, Anderson, Frost, Fitzgerald, Faulkner, Eliot, Hemingway, Pound, Stevens, Williams, and Cummings. These authors will be placed within the historical traditions of American literature.

Learning Objectives

- to familiarize students with some significant and culturally diverse examples, both canonical and non-canonical, of American literature between the 17th and mid-19th centuries
- to introduce students to some of the major literary genres and modes employed by writers of the period
- to provide students with the opportunity to examine some recurring themes in the literature of the period
- to help students understand the relevance of the literature of past to the modern world
- to give students practice in analyzing, discussing, and writing about the literature

Writing assignments will be both formal and informal, in-class and out-of-class. Some required writing will take the form of examinations.

Weekly Course Outline

M--8/30--Introduction
W--9/1--ROBINSON (313)--"Richard Cory," "Miniver Cheevy," "Eros Turannos," "Mr. Flood's Party"

M--9/6--HOLIDAY
W--9/8--FROST (581)--"Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening," "Birches," "Two Look at Two" (online), "Fire and Ice," "After Apple Picking," "Come In" (online)

W--9/15--ELIOT (669)--"The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"

M--9/20--MILLAY (1166)--"What Lips My Lips Have Kissed" (online), "Love is not All"
H.D. (1103)--"Heat" (online)

W--9/22--MOORE (1336)--"In Distrust of Merits," "No Swan So Fine"
CULLEN (765)--"Yet Do I Marvel," "Only the Polished Skeleton"
HUGHES (752)--"Dream Boogie," "Harlem"

M--9/27--STEVENS (605)--"Anecdote of the Jar," "The Emperor of Ice Cream" "The Idea of Order at Key West"
W--9/29--WILLIAMS (626)--"Tract," "The Red Wheelbarrow," "This is Just to Say"

M--9/27--STEVENS (605)--"Anecdote of the Jar," "The Emperor of Ice Cream" "The Idea of Order at Key West"
W--9/29-- W--9/29--WILLIAMS (626)--"Tract," "The Red Wheelbarrow," "This is Just to Say"

M--10/4--" "The Dance" (online), "Raleigh Was Right"
W--10/6--

M--10/11--CUMMINGS (716)--"in Just--," "Buffalo Bill's," "I Sing of Olaf Glad and big." "Anyone Lived in a Pretty How Town," "When Serpents Bargain for the Right to Squirm" (online)
W--10/13--ROETHKE (1079)--"My Papa's Waltz," "I Knew a Woman," "Elegy for Jane," "In a Dark Time"

M--10/18--LOWELL (1252)-- "Skunk Hour," "For the Union Dead," "Reading Myself" (online)
W--10/20--MIDTERM (essay form; bring blue book; all material to this point)

M--10/25--JAMES (420)--"The Jolly Corner"
W--10/27--CRANE (334)--"The Open Boat"

M--11/1--CATHER (935)--"Paul's Case"
W--11/3--DREISER (online)--"The Second Choice"

M--11/8--ANDERSON (online)-- "I Want to Know Why," "Death in the Woods"
W--11/10--FITZGERALD (online)--"Babylon Revisited"

M--11/15--WRIGHT (1008)--"Big Black Good Man"
W--11/17--HEMINGWAY (1266)--"A Clean, Well-Lighted Place"

M--11/22--" "Hills Like White Elephants"
W--11/24--FAULKNER (948 ) "That Evening Sun"

M--11/29—ELLISON (1134)--"King of the Bingo Game"
W--12/1—CISNEROS (1492)—“Mericans”

M--12/6--O'NEIL (1123)--THE HAIRY APE

POETRY QUIZ

FICTION QUIZ
W--12/8--LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION

M--12/13--FINAL EXAM 3:00--5:00 (blue book mandatory)

TEXTS

_Literary Terms: A Dictionary_, Beckson & Ganz

INSTRUCTOR--Dave Madden, Calaveras 156, Office Hrs--MW 11-12 & MW 2:00-2:30. Phone: 278-5623 or 278-6586; Email: maddendw@csus.edu. The course syllabus and general policies can also be found at my home page--http://www.csus.edu/indiv/m/maddendw

EXPECTATIONS

*Complete all reading assignments by dates assigned
*Participate in class discussions
*Regular class attendance

Since this is not a correspondence course, attendance is **mandatory**. A student will be allowed no more than **TWO (2) unexcused absence** (and no more than TWO excused absences). Those who have more than 3 hours of unexcused absences will have **one full grade** deducted from the final grade for each additional hour. Attendance will be taken at the start of each class. If a student arrives after attendance has been taken, it is his/her responsibility to see that s/he is recorded as being present. Excused absences will be granted only for extenuating circumstances (neither general malaise nor an assignment in another class will do) and must be cleared no later than the next class period. It is your responsibility to check your attendance; my records are final.

I recommend you **date your class notes** in order to demonstrate your attendance should there be a conflict in records. Be prepared to show those notes at the time that you inquire about your absences.

Class begins on the hour; students arriving consistently late by more than 5 minutes will be considered absent for any time missed. The time missed will be calculated as absences which will affect the final grade as explained above.

**GRADING**
The final course grade will be based on;

- 2 essays--choose either early or late paper which equals approximately 1/3 final grade
- 1 essay midterm--1/3 final grade
- 1 essay final exam--1/3 final grade
- class participation, improvement--swing factors
- quizzes--factored in at no more than 10%
*To miss any of the assignments above will result in an automatic failure of the course. NO EXCEPTIONS.

GRADING STANDARDS

Grading standards are identical to those defined by the university in the Catalog.

A Exemplary achievement of the course objectives. In addition to being clearly and significantly above the requirements, the work exhibited is of an independent, creative, contributory nature.

B Superior achievement of the course objectives. The performance is clearly and significantly above the satisfactory fulfillment of course requirements.

C Satisfactory achievement of the course objectives. The student is now prepared for advanced work or study.

D Unsatisfactory achievement toward the course objectives, yet achievement of a sufficient proportion of the objectives so that it is not necessary to repeat the course unless required to do so by the academic department.

F Ineffective achievement toward the course objectives. The student has made no clearly significant progress.

NB: I do not negotiate grades. If you have questions, I will be glad to explain, but I will not barter a grade up or down. If you wish to discuss a paper, you may not do so on the day it is returned to you; see me at my next office hour. No exceptions.

GENERAL POLICIES

LATE PAPERS--in this class they do not exist; the date an assignment is due is the date the assignment is due. If there is some clear and compelling reason for a late paper (not great powder at one's favorite ski resort, general malaise, or an assignment in any other class), see or call me in advance of submission. All papers must be submitted in class on date due, not some time that day.

TYPING--mandatory for all papers and out-of-class exercises or assignments. Papers should be neat and free of extreme typographical errors. Double-space, use 1" margins, and use only a 12 pt font. Number pages, beginning with second page, in upper right hand corner, and secure pages only with a staple in the upper left hand corner. On a cover page center the title and put in the lower right hand corner your name, the topic number you are addressing, and my name.
PLAGIARISM—Plagiarism is the false assumption of authorship, and, as the *MLA Handbook* notes, it constitutes the “use of another person’s ideas, information, or expressions without acknowledging that person’s work. . . Passing off another person’s ideas, information, or expressions as your own to get a better grade or gain some other advantage constitutes fraud.” Simply put, if you didn’t think of it, didn’t say it, or didn’t write it, you must give full attribution in the form of proper citation. I will not tolerate plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, and I will fail anyone I catch cheating and report that student to the Dean of Students. For information on the university’s policy concerning plagiarism and academic honesty, see http://www.csus.edu/umanual/student/UMA00150.htm.

BEHAVIOR---recently a professor in another department did a survey of standards of behavior, and the results suggested there is some confusion about what is (and is not) acceptable in university classes. She has advised that professors define their standards, so here are mine: certain fundamental standards of behavior must be observed in this class. Common courtesy and respect is demanded of all enrolled in this class. Therefore you are not to read the newspaper or a textbook for another course once the class meeting has begun. **Turn off your cell phones:** no one is to take or make a call during class; the same goes for texting, don’t send or view any during class. **Turn off the laptops:** no one may use a laptop during class. Likewise, no one is to work on assignments for another course in this class. Do not talk or otherwise interrupt me or another student who is speaking, and under no condition will anyone be permitted to sleep during class lectures of discussions. Those who cannot or will not follow these obvious rules of behavior will be counted as absent for that class period and may be subject to dismissal from the course.

MISCELLANEOUS--Students must keep abreast of assignments; I will not accept the excuse that because someone misses a class s/he did not know there was a change in the syllabus or an assignment. If there are any changes in the syllabus, they will be announced in class, and students are then responsible for these on dates announced.