American Literature

through the Civil War

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Course Overview

American Literature through the Civil War

Credit Hours: 3hrs

**Course Description**

This course explores the foundations and development of the early American literary canon. Beginning with the early explorers of the New World and ending with the Civil War, we will read selections from the explorers/settlers, the Founding Fathers, early writers of fiction and poetry, philosophers, and those recording historic events as they unfolded.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify key early American writers and their representative works.
2. Describe the development of the American literary canon and the characteristics of and influences on its development.
3. Explain the philosophical, political, religious, and aesthetic concepts of the early American literary canon.
4. Appreciate divergent points of view through readings, responses, and class discussion.

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Instructor Information

Name:

Contact Information:

Bio:

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Resources

Levine, R., Elliott, M., Gustafson, S., Hungerford, A. & Loeffelholz, M. (2017). The Norton anthology of American literature. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

Course Outline

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| MODULE ONE: EXPLORERS AND SETTLERS IN THE NEW WORLD |
| Title | Type | Duration | Points |
| Read and Watch | Input | 5hrs | -- |
| Discussion Forum | Discussion | 3hrs | 35 |
|  Quiz 1 | Assessment | 1hr | 15 |
|  Quiz 2 | Assessment | 1hr | 15 |
|  | **Totals** | **10hrs** | **65** |

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| MODULE TWO: POLITICAL WRITERS OF THE FOUNDING ERA |
| Title | Type | Duration | Points |
| Read and Watch | Input | 5hrs | -- |
| Discussion Forum | Discussion | 3hrs | 35 |
|  Quiz 3 | Assessment | 1hr | 15 |
|  Quiz 4 | Assessment | 1hr | 15 |
| Response Paper | Submission | 5hrs | 100 |
|  | **Totals** | **15hrs** | **165** |

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| MODULE THREE: THE KNICKERBOCKERS |
| Title | Type | Duration | Points |
| Read and Watch | Input | 5hrs  | -- |
| Discussion Forum | Discussion | 3hrs | 35 |
| Circle Discussion | Discussion | 1hr | 50 |
|  Quiz 5 | Discussion | 1hr | 15 |
|  Quiz 6 | Assignment | 1hr | 15 |
|  Mid-Term Exam | Assessment | 2hrs | 155 |
|  | **Totals** | **13hrs** | **260** |

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| MODULE FOUR: TRANSCENDENTALISM |
| Title | Type | Duration | Points |
| Read and Watch | Input | 5hrs | -- |
| Discussion Forum | Discussion | 3hrs | 35 |
| Quiz 7 | Assessment | 1hr | 15 |
| Quiz 8 | Assessment | 1hr | 15 |
| Response Paper 2 | Submission | 5hrs | 100 |
|  | **Totals** | **15hrs** | **165** |

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| MODULE FIVE: THE AMERICAN RENAISSANCE |
| Title | Type | Duration | Points |
| Read and Watch | Input | 5hrs | -- |
| Discussion Forum | Discussion | 3hrs | 35 |
| Circle Discussion | Discussion | 1hr | 50 |
| Quiz 9 | Assessment | 1hr | 15 |
| Quiz 10 | Assessment | 1hr | 15 |
|  | **Totals** | **11hrs** | **105** |

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| MODULE SIX: CLOUDS OF WAR  |
| Title | Type | Duration | Points |
| Read and Watch | Input | 5hrs | -- |
| Discussion Forum | Discussion | 3hrs | 35 |
| Quiz 11 | Discussion | 1hr | 15 |
|  Quiz 12 | Assignment | 1hr | 15 |
|  Final Exam | Assessment | 2hrs | 155 |
|  | **Totals** | **12hrs** | **220** |

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Live Sessions

This course has live meetups for Q & A, typically one hour every module. If you cannot attend, you can recoup the points for the session by watching the recording and submitting a 300-word summary/response. Since these sessions will be audio-visually recorded, those who participate with their camera engaged are agreeing to have their video, image, or voice recorded.

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Grading

Discussion Forums: 210 points

Live Q&A Sessions: 100 points

Quizzes: 180 points

Response Papers: 200 points

Exams: 310 points

# Course Grading Scale

95-100 A (Excellent) 75-78 C (Satisfactory)

92-94 A- 72-74 C-

89-91 B+ 69-71 D+

85-88 B (Good) 65-68 D (Passing)

82-84 B- 62-64 D-

79-81 C+ Below 62 F (Below Min. Standards)

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Policy/Procedures

The following are the academic policies and procedures for Oklahoma Baptist University, the university providing academic credit for this course:

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY STATEMENT**

The University maintains a strict policy concerning academic dishonesty, which includes cheating, plagiarism, giving assistance on an examination or paper when expressly forbidden by the instructor, and any other practices which demonstrate a lack of academic integrity. Cheating occurs any time a student uses deception in order to avoid fulfilling the specific requirements of an assignment or course and/or in order to receive a higher grade than he/she might otherwise receive. Using artificial intelligence software (such as ChatGPT) to generate writing and passing it off as one’s own is also considered cheating. Plagiarism occurs when a student appropriates passages or ideas from someone else's writing into his/her own without providing proper documentation and/or without using quotation marks to indicate when he/she is directly quoting from a source. It is the responsibility of the student to know and to adhere to principles of academic honesty. A student found guilty of academic dishonesty will be subject to academic sanctions ranging from failure on the assignment to failure in the course to, in cases of repeated or flagrant violation, suspension or dismissal from the University. Records of academic dishonesty cases will be kept in a confidential file in the office of the chief academic officer. More information concerning this policy can be found in OBU’s Student Handbook located at: https://www.okbu.edu/student-life/documents/student-handbook.pdf

**INCOMPLETE GRADE**

A temporary neutral mark “I” is given at the discretion of an instructor when, for a legitimate reason, a student is unable to complete course requirements in a given semester. Typical instances might be absence from a final examination due to illness or inability to complete a term project because of extenuating circumstances. A contract signed by the instructor and the student must accompany this grade to indicate the nature of the work to be completed. An Incomplete Grade (I) may not be used as an alternative to a grade of F. An Incomplete Grade must be made up before the seventh week of the next fall or spring semester whether or not the student is subsequently enrolled at OBU. If the grade is not made up by the deadline, it will be changed to a failing grade (F) on the transcript. More information concerning this policy can be found in OBU’s Academic Catalog at: http://catalog.okbu.edu/

**DISABILITY STATEMENT**

Oklahoma Baptist University complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need accommodations must self-identify and submit acceptable documentation to the Office of Disability Services.

Additional information is available at https://www.okbu.edu/student-life/student-services/disability-services.html

**CLASS ATTENDANCE**

Students are expected to be faithful in class attendance for in-person, hybrid, and online classes. Persistent failure to attend class will be reported by instructors to the Registrar at academic.center@okbu.edu and the student may be requested to withdraw from the University. When a student fails to attend class for any reason (including University- sponsored activities or illness) for as much as 25 percent of the total number of class meetings, the student may be given a grade of FX in the course regardless of the quality of his/her work. The grade of FX is computed in the GPA as an “F.” Other penalties for class absences may be assessed at the discretion of the instructor.

If a student offers illness or absence due to participation in an official University activity as an excuse for absence from class, the instructor may elect to require additional work to compensate for class absences. The illness or absence due to participation in an official University activity must be properly attested by a licensed medical professional (for illness) or a faculty sponsor or University officer (for an official University activity). The student is responsible for assuming the initiative to ensure that course work is not adversely affected by absence, for whatever cause.

Students experiencing medical circumstances that require prolonged absences beyond the 25 percent minimum attendance expectation, are encouraged to communicate with faculty and determine if successful continuation of the course is possible. Faculty may, but are not required to, accommodate delivery method of instruction and timeline of completion (see Incomplete Grade section of this attachment). In some cases, withdrawing from the course for medical reasons may be deemed most appropriate.

More information regarding class attendance can be found in OBU’s Student Handbook located at: https://www.okbu.edu/student-life/documents/student-handbook.pdf

**LIBRARY RESOURCES**

Library information is available at https://okbu.libguides.com/main

**CREDIT HOUR POLICY - EXPECTATION OF WORK**

In compliance with federal regulations (34CFR 600.2), Oklahoma Baptist University requires all courses in all formats including, but not limited to, traditional classroom courses, online courses, internships, practica, and independent studies require a total workload of at least 2250 minutes per credit hour for the typical student. This workload may be comprised of time allocated to direct faculty-student interaction, assigned readings, independent or group assignments, expected study time, or other course related activities as appropriate to the specific course and determined by the faculty of record.

**GRADE APPEALS**

In the case of a grade appeal, the student shall be considered to have an authentic grievance when he/she can demonstrate his/her grade for a course has been adversely affected due to certain actions by a faculty member. A grade appeal shall be initiated within ten (10) working days after receipt of the grade or after the beginning of the next academic semester. This period may be extended by the chief academic officer on petition from the student(s) involved.

More information concerning this policy and the steps for resolution can be found in OBU’s Student Handbook located at: https://www.okbu.edu/student-life/documents/student-handbook.pdf

**UNIVERSITY DIRECTORY**

https://www.okbu.edu/directory/index.html

**CAMPUS EDU PRIVACY POLICY**

https://www.campusedu.com/privacy-policy