

# ENGL G155: AMERICAN LITERATURE 1865 TO THE PRESENT

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	11/02/2021
Top Code	150100 - English
Units	3 Total Units
Hours	54 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 54)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	No
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Open Entry/Open Exit	No
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S)
Local General Education (GE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area 3 Arts and Humanities (GC)</li> </ul>
Diversity Requirement (GCD)	Yes
California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cal-GETC 3B Humanities (3B)</li> </ul>
Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IGETC 3B Humanities (3B)</li> </ul>
California State University General Education Breadth (CSU GE-Breadth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CSU C2 Humanities (C2)</li> </ul>

## Course Description

This course is a study of American literature from the Civil War to the present. The course examines the texts and thematic concerns of the literature during this time period. Students define and deconstruct American literature—tracing significant writers who have shaped American cultural history, including women and minorities. The course also addresses varieties of critical approaches to the literature. PREREQUISITE: ENGL C1000, ENGL C1000E, or achieve qualifying score on English Placement. Transfer Credit: CSU; UC. C-ID: ENGL 135. C-ID: ENGL 135.

## Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Course Outcomes
2. Evaluate literary, historical, social, and/or cultural significance to critically interpret American literature from 1865-present.
3. Interpret artistic and/or historical contributions to American literature by evaluating the stylistic, formal, thematic, and/or rhetorical elements of texts.
4. Examine the relationship between literary works and the literary movement associated with their periods.
5. Compile the major theories of relevant critics in a well developed and scholarly analysis of a subject relevant to the period.
6. Compose a paper synthesizing scholarly sources which augment, strengthen, and complement an original analysis of American literature from 1865-present.

## Course Objectives

1. Review the development and continuity of major forms of American literature.
2. Identify what is uniquely American about American literature.
3. Explain literary forms—poetry, short stories, sermons, autobiography, and opinion papers.
4. Discuss the literary contribution of selected American authors.
5. Analyze readings to show relationships among literary texts, historical documents, and philosophical assumptions of the era, and compare/contrast these with current ideologies.
6. Discuss the function of literature as an art form in American culture.
7. Write cogent and persuasive arguments in and out of class.
8. Conduct independent research on issues discussed in class.

## Lecture Content

Literature of the nineteenth century e. g James, Twain, Dickinson, Freeman, Alcott, Johnson, Dunbar Literature of the early twentieth century e.g Crane, Chesnutt, Frost, Dreiser, Hemingway, Faulkner, O Neill, Wharton, Chopin, Cummings, Barnes Literature of the mid-twentieth century e.g Hurston, Hughes, Rich, Plath, Sexton, Lowell, Updike, Bellow, Roethke, Richard Wright, Williams, James Wright, Ellison Literature of the late twentieth century e.g Morrison, Mailer, Roth, Alexie, Lee, Hamby, Oates, Momaday, Silko, Taylor, Baraka, Tan, Angelou, Edrich Literature of the twenty-first century e.g Doerr, Franzen, McCarthy, Diaz, Robinson, Whitehead, Nelson, Harrison, Powers, Goff, Tartt, Lahiri

## Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)
- DE Live Online Lecture (02S)
- DE Online Lecture (02X)

## Instructional Techniques

Instructional techniques involve some or all of the following: lecture/discussion, in-class writing, peer feedback, close reading, group work, response papers, quizzes, presentations, demonstrations, conferencing (individual and small group), multiple draft assignments, and instruction in revision and editing.

## Reading Assignments

Reading, analyzing, and annotating representative works of American Literature 1865-present. Reading critical articles on the texts discussed in class.

## Writing Assignments

1. Writing at least two critical documented papers.
2. Writing critical open-book essays in class on relevant works of literature.
3. Completing written quizzes and examinations (midterm and final).
4. Analyzing writing and genre in class discussions.
5. Writing journals and/or reflective free writes.

## Out-of-class Assignments

Readings, essays, reading responses, research essays using secondary sources, and take-home exams. Doing additional library research and integrating this research for support

### **Demonstration of Critical Thinking**

Analyzing and evaluating literature in class discussions. Evaluating the various aspects in historical and regional contexts. Midterm and final.

### **Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration**

Writing at least two critical documented papers. Writing critical open-book essays in class on relevant works of literature. Completing written quizzes and examinations (midterm and final). Analyzing writing and genre in class discussions. Writing journals and/or reflective free writes.

Doing additional library research and integrating this research for support.

### **Eligible Disciplines**

English: Master's degree in English, literature, comparative literature, or composition OR bachelor's degree in any of the above AND master's degree in linguistics, TESL, speech, education with a specialization in reading, creative writing, or journalism OR the equivalent. Master's degree required.

### **Textbooks Resources**

1. Required Levine, Robert S., et al. The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Package 2 (vols. ed. W.W. Norton and Company (classic) , 2016  
Rationale: TBD

### **Other Resources**

1. Instructor prepared materials.