

ENGL 202 Nineteenth-Century American Literature

Trimester 2 2016

11 July to 13 November 2016

20 Points

A word is dead
When it is said,
Some say.

I say it just
Begins to live
That day.

– Emily Dickinson



Emily Dickinson Photograph: ©Amherst College Archives and Special Collections

IMPORTANT DATES

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Last assessment item due: 24 October 2016

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (please see: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Mon, Wed, Fri

1.10 – 2.00pm

Hunter HULT323

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the ENGL 202 site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorial instructions” and then follow the instructions carefully. Remember to record your tutorial time, day and

room for future reference. Tutorial rooms will be listed on myAllocator, Blackboard and on the noticeboard in the Level 3 corridor of the Hugh Mackenzie Building.

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Staff:	Email:	Phone:	Room:
Adam Greener (co-ordinator)	adam.greener@vuw.ac.nz	463 6811	vZ915
	Office Hours: Monday 3-4pm, Wednesday 12-1pm		
Anna Jackson	anna.jackson@vuw.ac.nz	463 6840	vZ919
	Office Hours: by appointment		

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All additional information will be communicated through Blackboard to your Victoria email address; if you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, you should forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

PRESCRIPTION

A survey of American literature of the nineteenth century with special attention to major works and writers. This course explores topics such as the gothic, race, indigenous populations, transcendentalism, and national identity through a range of literary forms, including poetry, short stories, novels, and the essay.

COURSE CONTENT

- Most of the required readings in the course are included in the set texts—the Norton Anthology and the two novels. However, additional short readings that are required will be delivered through Blackboard. You are responsible for all material that is labelled and distributed as required.
- While this course offers a survey of a particular body of literature, it also focuses on analysing a variety of literary forms. To this end, tutorials are essential for practising and developing your skills of analysis. Worksheets will be provided for each tutorial to facilitate your engagement with the texts. Completing these worksheets is a mandatory requirement for passing the course; you will be asked to hand in the worksheet at the end of each tutorial. They cannot be submitted at a later date.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CLOS)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

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1. Analyse a range of literary forms, including poetry, fiction, and non-fiction prose, as well as indigenous responses to those forms.
2. Generate interpretations of specific passages and discuss those interpretations within theoretical and cultural contexts relevant to nineteenth-century American literature.
3. Identify themes and issues that are important to American literature of the nineteenth-century and compare how different texts engage them.
4. Develop original arguments about individual texts and present those arguments coherently in writing.

TEACHING FORMAT

This course is delivered through lectures (three per week) and tutorials (one per week, beginning in Week 2). To succeed in this course and get the most out of it, you are encouraged to read the set texts carefully, to engage with the texts and your peers in your tutorials, and to pursue the ideas and issues that interest you. Powerpoint presentations used in lecture will be posted on Blackboard, but they are by no means a substitute for the lecture; students who attend lectures, read the required readings carefully, and engage actively in tutorials will have the best experience in the course and put themselves in the best position to succeed.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- Complete and submit Assignment #1, the Preliminary Draft of the Essay, and the Final Draft of the Essay by the specified due dates and achieve at least a 40% mark (prior to any penalties for late submission) to demonstrate achievement of the CLOs;
- Sit both Class Tests, which assess your mastery of the course themes and material as well as your skills of analysis and interpretation;
- Attend a minimum of 8 out of 11 tutorials (though it is expected that you will attend all tutorials).
To gain credit for attending a tutorial, you must also complete the relevant worksheet before tutorial begins and submit it at the end of the tutorial. Worksheets will be made available by the Friday prior to the tutorial at the very latest. Worksheets cannot be submitted at a later date.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of these mandatory course requirements because of *exceptional personal circumstances* should contact the Course Coordinator as soon as possible.

WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20-point course is 200 hours over the trimester or 13 hours per teaching week.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Assignment #1: Micro-Essay (700 word maximum)	20%	1, 2, 3	1 Aug
2	Class Test #1 (50 minutes)	20%	1, 2, 3	19 Aug
3	Class Test #2 (50 minutes)	20%	1, 2, 3	10 Oct
4	Preliminary Draft of the Essay (1500 words minimum)	10%	2, 3, 4	23 Sept
5	Final Draft of the Essay (2000 words maximum)	30%	2, 3, 4	24 Oct

SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK

You are required to submit all written assessment in both hard and electronic copies. Electronic versions of your assignment and essays will be submitted through Blackboard, and will be checked for academic integrity by Turnitin. Follow the "Formatting and Submission" guidelines provided in the "Assignments and Turnitin" section of Blackboard.

Hardcopy assignments are submitted in the drop slot outside the administration office: von Zedlitz Level 8. Attach an assignment cover sheet found on Blackboard or outside the administration office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

Your marked assignment will be handed back by your tutor in tutorials or during their office hours. Any uncollected assignments can be picked up from the Programme Administrator after the last day of teaching. Assignments will be held in the administration office until the end of the following trimester. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignment from the administration office.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES**EXTENSIONS**

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances an extension may be granted. To apply for an extension, you must request it in writing (via email) to the Course Coordinator (adam.grener@vuw.ac.nz) **at least 24 hours** before the assignment is due. If granted, your Course Coordinator will inform you of the new due date.

Tutors cannot grant extensions. **No assignment with or without an extension will be accepted after Friday 11 November 2016**

PENALTIES FOR LATE SUBMISSION

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 mark deduction per work day late. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

SET TEXTS

Baym, Nina (ed). *The Norton Anthology of American Literature Volume B 1820-1865*. WW Norton & Company. [ISBN: 978-0-393-93477-9]

Twain, Mark. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Penguin.

Wharton, Edith. *The Age of Innocence*. Penguin.

You can order textbooks online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz.

RECOMMENDED READING

Given the volume of required reading for this course, there is no supplementary “recommended reading.” However, the Norton Anthology contains a useful Appendix of selected bibliographies on specific topics. If you desire to explore a topic or issue from the course further, this is a good place to start—your tutor and lectures would also be happy to direct you to relevant sources as well.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep’s name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

STUDENT FEEDBACK

Student feedback on courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php. This is a new course, so no feedback on the course exists.

In week six or seven of the trimester your class representative will be invited to a meeting with the Programme staff. In week five your class representative will ask the class for any feedback on this course to discuss at this meeting.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)

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- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the Assessment Handbook, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute:
www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1	11 Jul	Class Introduction (AG)
	13 Jul	Irving, "Rip Van Winkle" & "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" (AG)
	15 Jul	Poe, "The Raven," "Annabel Lee," "The Fall of the House of Usher," "William Wilson," "The Tell-Tale Heart," & "The Black Cat" (AJ)
Week 2	18 Jul	Poe, continued (AJ)
	20 Jul	Hawthorne, "The Birth-Mark" & "Young Goodman Brown" (MG)
	22 Jul	Print Culture of c19 America [resources and readings on BB] (MG)
Week 3	25 Jul	Native American Writing [resources and readings on BB and in Norton] (NH)
	27 Jul	Native American Writing [resources and readings on BB and in Norton] (NH)
	29 Jul	Native American Writing [resources and readings on BB and in Norton] (NH)
Week 4	1 Aug	Slavery, Race, and the Nation; Norton readings: <i>Narrative of the Life of Frederic Douglass</i> , selections from Harriet Jacobs, <i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i> , selections from Stowe, <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> (tba) (AG) ASSIGNMENT #1 (MICRO-ESSAY) DUE
	3 Aug	Slavery, Race, and the Nation; same continued (AG)

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	5 Aug	Slavery, Race, and the Nation; same continued (AG)
Week 5	8 Aug	Whitman, "Song of Myself" and other selections (AJ)
	10 Aug	Whitman, "Song of Myself" and other selections (AJ)
	12 Aug	Emerson, "Self-Reliance" & "Experience" (AJ)
Week 6	15 Aug	Thoreau, "Resistance to Civil Government" & Walden (selections) (AG)
	17 Aug	Thoreau, Walden (selections) (AG)
	19 Aug	CLASS TEST #1
Mid-Trimester Break: 22 August to 4 September		
Week 7	5 Sep	Twain, <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> (AG)
	7 Sep	Twain, <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> (AG)
	9 Sep	Twain, <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> (AG)
Week 8	12 Sep	Prose Satire [readings and resources on BB] (MG)
	14 Sep	Melville, "Benito Cereno" (AG)
	16 Sep	Melville, "Benito Cereno" (AG)
Week 9	19 Sep	Writing Workshop #1 (AG)
	21 Sep	Melville, "Bartleby the Scrivener" (AG)
	23 Sep	Dickinson, poems in Norton Anthology (AJ) PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF ESSAY DUE
Week 10	26 Sep	Dickinson, poems in NA (AJ)
	28 Sep	Dickinson, poems in NA (AJ)
	30 Sep	Wharton, <i>The Age of Innocence</i> (AG)
Week 11	3 Oct	Wharton, <i>The Age of Innocence</i> (AG)
	5 Oct	Wharton, <i>The Age of Innocence</i> (AG)
	7 Oct	Review Day (Preparation for Class Test) (AG)
Week 12	10 Oct	CLASS TEST #2
	12 Oct	Writing Workshop #2 (AG)
	14 Oct	Class Summary
	24 Oct	FINAL DRAFT OF ESSAY DUE