

McLennan
C O M M U N I T Y
COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN

American Literature

English 2326. 003

Dr. Arvis Scott

NOTE: This is a 16-week Blended course.

COVID 19 Notice:

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals. We are also concerned for your safety. We are working through COVID-19 guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. This will include smaller class sizes to manage social distancing and proper cleaning techniques. You will have the advantage of a physical classroom experience but may also need to work part of the time online as we adjust to limited classroom capacity. This will also allow us the flexibility to move online if so directed by federal, state and/or local COVID 19 guidelines. Faculty and staff are preparing now to ensure that you have the best experience in the midst of these uncertain times.

Course Description

A survey of American literature from the period of exploration and settlement to the present. Students will study works of prose, poetry, drama, and fiction in relation to their historical and cultural contexts. Texts will be selected from among a diverse group of authors for what they reflect and reveal about the evolving American experience and character.

Prerequisites and/or

Corequisites: ENGL 1301
(Composition I) or ENGL 2311

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Our class is a Blended course. We will meet once a week in the classroom. The rest of the time, we will engage via online instruction. Specifically, all course content and assignments are posted online in our Brightspace course site. You will submit assignments to me by copying and pasting the content into an email and submitting it to ascott@mclennan.edu .

Read well, take notes, and pay attention to directions for all the required work.

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Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Arvis Scott

MCC E-mail: ascott@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 24 299 8899

Office Location: FOB 111

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Availability via email, phone, or Zoom

Other Instruction Information: Home phone number: 254 224-6433

Required Text & Materials:

Title: Norton Anthology of American Literature, Shorter 9th edition

Author: Levine

Edition: 9th

Publisher: Norton

ISBN:9780393264517

MCC Bookstore Website: <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources, we encourage you to contact a success coach by calling (254) 299-8226. Students can visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. to meet with a success coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) is open 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, without an appointment. The Completion Center and pantry are located on the Second Floor of the Student Services Center (SSC).

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found [here](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf) (https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf).

Minimum Technical Skills:

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be contacted/notified through your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

*** [Click Here for the Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace](https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty%20and%20Staff%20Commons/requirements.html)
(<https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty%20and%20Staff%20Commons/requirements.html>)**

Click on the link above for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Email Policy:

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails.

Instructional Uses of Email:

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with her/his students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails.

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward the emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may become lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

Core Objectives for Language, Philosophy, & Culture:

This course offers a broad survey overview and a foundational basis for general education within the liberal arts. It also prepares students for further study within the academic area of literature.

- **Critical Thinking (CT):** Requires creative innovation in interpretation, inquiry, and analyses of a wide variety of texts and a synthesis of texts with secondary sources.
- **Communication Skills (COM):** Require effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Social Responsibility (SR):** Requires consideration of other cultures and other time periods, which in turn leads to knowledge of civic responsibility in regional, national

and global communities. This knowledge prepares students for an understanding of the effects of good social responsibility, as well as the consequences of the lack thereof in communities, nations, and the world.

- **Personal Responsibility (PR):** Includes skills in connecting choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making, as demonstrated in the wide variety of texts covered in these classes.

Learning Outcomes:

While successfully completing literature courses, students will:

1. Identify key themes, representative authors and works, significant historical or cultural events, and characteristic perspectives or attitudes expressed in the literature of different periods or regions.
2. Analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of characteristic forms or styles of expression during different historical periods or in different regions.
4. Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
5. Write research-based critical papers about the assigned readings in clear and grammatically correct prose, using various critical approaches to literature.

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Online lectures, written posts, written essays, quizzes, exams, web research, presentations of original memoirs and narrative.

Basic Paper and/or Presentation Rubric

Criteria	Outstanding	Proficient	Basic	Below Expectations
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Critical Thinking	-Shows originality of thought and logical connections. -Demonstrates excellent ability to describe, analyze, interpret, evaluate, and engage in intellectual inquiry with regard to course materials.	-Shows less originality and may have minor flaws in logic. -Demonstrates good ability to describe, analyze, interpret, evaluate, and engage in intellectual inquiry with regard to course materials.	-Understands readings but limits focus to ideas discussed in class. -Demonstrates inconsistent ability to describe, analyze, interpret, evaluate, and engage in intellectual inquiry with regard to course materials.	-Fails to comprehend basic and other course concepts. -Unable to describe, analyze, interpret, evaluate, or engage in intellectual inquiry with regard to course materials.
Communication	-Clear main idea with supporting organization and developed examples and explanation. -Communication shows excellent awareness of communication situation, including the audience, topic, and position as speaker/writer.	-Shows a clear main idea but might have minor lapses in organization, less developed examples and explanation. - Communication shows good awareness of rhetorical situation and matches the work to that need.	-Shows competence but has weaker or unfocused main ideas, organization, and few developed examples and explanation. -Communication shows awareness of rhetorical situation but does not fully meet needs.	-Fails to show basic competence in developing, organizing, and/or presenting ideas and supporting content. -Fails to adapt language, content, and structures to match rhetorical situations.
Mechanics	-Demonstrates	-Shows competent	-Shows basic	-Fails to show basic

	thorough command of format and language, with few or no grammar,	command of format and language, with few and generally minor grammar, spelling, and diction errors.	competence with format and language but may have frequent minor or occasional major grammar, spelling, and diction errors.	competence with format and language, exhibiting many grammar, spelling, and diction errors.
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	spelling, and diction errors.			
Social Responsibility	-Consistently recognizes and connects choices, actions, and consequences to outcomes affecting others.	-Frequently recognizes and connects choices, actions, and consequences to outcomes affecting others.	-Acknowledges and understands connections between choices, actions, and consequences to outcomes affecting others.	-Fails to recognize or acknowledge connections between choices, actions, and consequences to outcomes affecting others.
Personal Responsibility	-Completes all assigned tasks by deadlines; work is thorough, insightful, and comprehensive.	-Completes almost all assigned tasks by deadlines; work is generally thorough but may show minor shortcomings or gaps.	-Makes most deadlines with occasional major or frequent minor lapses in responsibility; work meets minimum requirements.	-Fails to connect choices, actions, and consequences with ethical responsibilities; work is often late and/or of poor quality.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Reading Selections:

****The readings are from Volume 1.**

Week One: August 24-28

Class orientation.

Assign Discussion Board topics for reports over poets.

Week Two: August 21-September 4

The Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson p. 132

Paragraph One due Friday, September 4, by 11:00 p.m. Under "Content" click on "Essay Points" to find paragraph assignments.

Week Three: September 8-11

The Wonders of the Invisible World p. 160;

Benjamin Franklin's "The Speech of Polly Baker" p. 214; "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," p. 192.

Week Four: September 14--18

Ralph Waldo Emerson's "The American Scholar" p. 582.

Chapters I, II, III, and IV of *Nature* p. 553; Margaret Fuller's "The Great Radical Dualism" p. 810

Quiz One--Thursday, September 17 from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Week Five: September 21-25

Edgar Allan Poe's "The Fall of the House of Usher" p. 749.

Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Young Goodman Brown" p. 668 and "The Birth-Mark" p. 69

Paragraph Two due Friday, September 25, by 11:00 p.m. Under "Content" click on "Essay Points" to find paragraph assignments.

Week Six: September 28--October 2

The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass by Frederick Douglass p. 1000, the preface and chapters 1,2,5,6,7,9, 10, and 11

Week Seven: October 5-9

Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl by Harriet Jacobs, p. 879 (all chapters) --

Quiz Two--Thursday, October 8 from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Week Eight: October 12-16

Objective Portion: Tuesday, Oct. 13 from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m., via Brightspace.

Essay Portion: Thursday, Oct. 15 from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m., Copy and paste the essay into an email.

**** The readings are from Volume Two.**

Week Nine: October 19-23

Kate Chopin's "Desiree's Baby" p. 442 and "The Story of an Hour" p. 446.

Charles Chesnut's "The Wife of His Youth" p. 488; please read the essays of Julius Lester, p. 295, David L. Smith, p. 296, Jane Smiley, p. 299, and Alan Gribben, p. 302. These essays discuss the controversy surrounding the novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

Sarah Orne Jewett's "The White Heron," p. 434

Paragraph Three is due Friday, October 23 by 11:00 p.m.

Week Ten: October 26-30

Edith Wharton's "Roman Fever" p. 540

Stephen Crane's "The Open Boat," p. 614; Zora Neale Hurston's "Sweat," p. 950.

The **Third quiz is available from 8:00 a.m., until 10:00 p.m., on Thursday, October 29.**

Week Eleven: November 2--6

The Analysis Essay is due by 10:00 a.m., Thursday, November 5. Please see specific instructions by clicking on the Analysis Essay tab under the Table of Contents.

Week Twelve: November 9-13

F. Scott Fitzgerald's "Babylon Revisited" p. 991; Richard Wright's "The Man Who Was Almost a Man," p. 10,

and Hemingway's "Hills Like White Elephants," p. 1032;

Week Thirteen: November 16-20

Faulkner's "A Rose for Emily," p. 1009.

Toni Morrison's "Recitatif," p. 1429 and Sandra Cisneros's "Woman Hollering Creek," p. 1614.

Week Fourteen: Nov. 23-24

Maxine Hong Kingston's "No Name Woman," p. 1544. **The Fourth quiz is available from 8:00-10:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 24.**

Week Fifteen: November 30--December 4

Prepare for the Final Exam Essay

****The Optional Make-up Assignment is due by 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 4.**

Week Sixteen: December 7--10

The Final Exam is due no later than 10:00 A.M., Tuesday, December 8, no exceptions. Please copy and paste the essay into the email.

Course Grading Information:

GRADING SCALE:

QUIZZES, PARAGRAPHS, AND DISCUSSION BOARD POST—25%

MID-TERM EXAM—25%

ANALYSIS PAPER WITH SOURCE—25%

FINAL EXAM—25%

While we will meet in the classroom at least once a week, please note all written assignments will be emailed to me at ascott@mclennan.edu. You will copy and paste the content into the email. **DO NOT SEND ATTACHMENTS.**

You will have specific due dates for all assignments in our class. However, you will not need to be online for a specific hour. For example, if you have a quiz on a particular day, you will generally have from 8:00 a.m., until 10:00 p.m. to complete the quiz. All due dates for the entire semester are posted so you can set up your calendars as soon as possible when the course begins.

Quizzes and Tests:

You may not make up missed quizzes and tests. Please make note of the due dates and times for all quizzes and tests and schedule accordingly. It is your responsibility to maintain internet access. Not having internet access is not a viable reason for missing assignments, quizzes, or tests. However, I understand events may occur that are out of your control. Therefore, I will allow students to complete a make up assignment at the end of the semester that will replace one quiz or paragraph assignment.

*****Tests and quizzes are timed. You must complete them in one sitting.**

Textbook:

You are required to use the *The Norton Anthology of American Literature: Shorter Ninth Edition*. The general editor is Robert S. Levine. The text comes in two volumes. We will use both volumes. If you choose to use an older edition, the page numbers will be different, and the selections may be different. You will be responsible for all of the assignments regardless. Also, you are still responsible for all assignments on the due dates even if you do not have a textbook. Fortunately, most of our reading selections may be found online.

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

All assignments are due on the assigned due dates. Specific times will vary. Please see the list of assignments under “Course Schedule.” Points will be deducted for papers and assignments turned in after the posted due dates at a rate of 10 points per day. **I will not accept any assignments beyond the fifth day an assignment is due.**

Attendance

This course is a Blended class which means we will meet in the classroom one day a week and also engage in an online learning environment. I will check roll each class day and maintain a record of enrollment on Brightspace.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy

Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the instructor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the education opportunity.

[* Click Here for the MCC Academic Integrity Statement](#)

(www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)

The link above will provide you with information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

[* Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](#)

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. Your instructor may have guidelines specific to this course.

Accommodations/ADA Statement

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. Instructors should not provide accommodations unless approved by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit mclennan.edu/disability.

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

[* Click Here for more information about Title IX](#)

(www.mclennan.edu/titleix)

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling Dr. Drew Canham (Vice President for Student Success) at 299-8645. Individuals also may contact the MCC Police Department at 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at MCC by calling 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student or employee may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting the following website: <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>.

McLennan's Title IX webpage (<http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/>) contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape,

acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence or domestic violence.

* *You will need to access each link separately through your Web browser (for example: Internet Explorer, Mozilla, Chrome, or Safari) to print each link's information.*