

McLennan
C O M M U N I T Y
COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN

American Literature

ENGL 2326.87

&

ENGL 2326.88

Jeremy Land

NOTE: This is a Summer course.

COVID 19 Notice:

McLennan Community College is committed to providing you with every resource you need to reach your academic goals including your safety. We will continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID 19 and adjust our safety guidelines to make sure we offer a safe environment for you and our faculty. Please make sure to consult your faculty and the MCC website at <https://www.mclennan.edu/crisis-management/coronavirus-updates/index.html> on any changes to these guidelines.

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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:

Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 or ENGL 2311. Semester Hours 3 (3 lec)

COURSE NOTES AND INSTRUCTOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

A summer minimester course by its very nature moves very fast. It is not uncommon for students to feel overwhelmed, even if they are typically comfortable with literature courses. If this applies to you, use the contact information below to reach out to me ASAP. Email works best, but if would like we can meet via Zoom at a time convenient for you.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Instructor Name: Jeremy Land

MCC Email: jland@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: (254) 299-8962 (Due to COVID it is best to reach me via email)

Office Location: FO 107

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: By appointment during the summer months

REQUIRED TEXT & MATERIALS:

I will be supplying the reading materials for this course with a combination of public domain text and literature available via library subscription services. As such, **do not use any copies of the text other than the ones I supply.**

MCC BOOKSTORE WEBSITE:

<http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

METHODS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:

This course uses a combination of recorded lectures, discussion boards, and written assessments to encourage students to think critically about major social/cultural changes in American history. There are a total of four units, each with a set of thematically linked texts. Within each unit will read texts that represent both a dominant literary art form for the period and a major social issue. The goal is to understand how various texts reflected both the development of American literature and how that literature reflects important cultural development in our nation's history.

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COURSE OBJECTIVES AND/OR COMPETENCIES:

Students in this course will have a broad understanding of American literature and how that literature reflects our nation's history and its citizens

This understanding will be reflected through both effective writing and discussion.

COURSE OUTLINE OR SCHEDULE:

See outline below

COURSE GRADING INFORMATION:

Grades for the class are divided into the following categories and are weighted as follows:

Quizzes	30%	A	90-100
Document Based Discussion Questions	20%	B	80 - 89
Class discussion posts	15%	C	70 - 79
Literary analysis paper	20%	D	60 - 69
Final exam	15%	F	00 - 59
Class Participation	(See below)		

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS:

Quizzes – There are a total of 6 reading quizzes listed on this syllabus. Each one will be available at 12:00 am on the morning indicated on the schedule and due by 11:59 pm that evening. Each quiz requires a response of between 150 and 250 words. **Effective responses are supported by a combination of direct textual quotes and efficient summaries.** There is a **RUBRIC, VIDEO INSTRUCTIONS, and EXAMPLE ANSWERS** posted to Brightspace to help your answer these questions effectively.

Failure to properly document your sources will count as plagiarism and 10 points will be deducted the first time you do not properly provide paratheatrical citations. Any subsequent failure to document evidence will be graded as a “0”

Document-Based Questions (DBQ) – These assignments pair texts in the course with primary source material that provide a rhetorical context for the class's readings. In these assignments, you will be required to generate discussion questions that encourage readers to see the text in a specific historical/rhetorical light.

Class discussion posts – There are a total of 3 class discussion posts listed on this syllabus. To help you think critically about the literature we are reading, I will post a question that encourages you to draw connections between the text we are reading. You will be graded both on the quality of the responses you provide. There is a **RUBRIC** and **SAMPLE DISCUSSION RESPONSES** posted to Brightspace to help your answer these questions effectively.

Literary analysis paper – You are **responsible for writing one, 2-3-page paper.** There will be a total of three possible prompts posted to Brightspace with specifics. You can choose any one of the three prompts,

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but you must submit a response on or before the final deadline. You can submit the prompt anytime you want, and I'll provide you with feedback. You also are allowed to rewrite the essay up until the final submission deadline. However, if you choose to submit your paper on the last day possible, you will receive little to no feedback on your work as there is little time left in the semester and grades are due imminently.

Final exam – the course concludes with a final exam that is a combination of multiple-choice and short answer questions covering all the material in the course.

Class participation – I will offer 5 recorded lectures throughout the semester. These meetings are designed to answer questions, review student work, and preview important concepts for the upcoming week. Students who watch these meetings **within 48 hours of their posting** will receive **1 bonus point for each meeting you view. These points will be added to your lowest grades.** Remember you have to watch these videos within 48 hours of their posting if you want the bonus points. **If you try to watch the videos after the availability window, you will not receive these bonus points.**

Below is a list of the days, times, and subjects to be covered.

- **Recorded Lecture 1:** Transcendentalism – found in unit 1, week 1
- **Recorded Lecture 2:** Abolitionism and Fredrick Douglass – found in unit 1, week 2
- **Recorded Lecture 3:** Realism & Naturalism – found in unit 2, week 3
- **Recorded Lecture 4:** Modernism & the Harlem Renaissance – found in unit 3, week 4
- **Recorded Lecture 5:** Allen Ginsberg and Post Modernism – found in unit 4, week 5

I will meet with any students who need extra help as needed via Zoom.

LATE WORK, ATTENDANCE, AND MAKE-UP WORK POLICIES:

Given the brevity of this class, **LATE WORK IS NOT PERMITTED.** If unforeseen events prevent you from completing a task on time, you need to **CONTACT ME BEFORE THE DEADLINE** with an explanation and a timeline to complete the assignment if you need an **EXTENSION.**

All work is turned in via Brightspace. Unless otherwise noted, **EMAILING ME AN ASSIGNMENT** when you are finished **IS NOT CONSIDERED TURNING IN AN ASSIGNMENT.**

Unfortunately, some students may suffer a familial tragedy during the semester that prevents them from completing an assignment on time. If this is the case, please contact the MCC Student Counseling Services and ask them to contact your professors. Doing so will save you time, document your situation for your professors, and prevent you from repeatedly having to explain a painful situation.

MCC Student Counseling Center
counseling@MCC.edu
254.299.8210
Hours of operation
Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Because this is an online class, **ATTENDANCE IS TAKEN BY COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING THE DAILY ASSIGNMENTS.** If you do not complete and submit the daily assignments you will be

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counted absent for the day and **DROPPED FROM THE COURSE IF YOU MISS THREE CLASSES.**

Click on the link below for the college policies on attendance and absences.

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

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

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS:

I consider this course a professional working environment and, as such, I expect you to treat it in the same manner. Below I've broken down some of the more common scenarios in which we will interact with one another in this classroom, and I have included my expectations for appropriate behavior.

CLASS DISCUSSIONS GUIDELINES:

Discussions in this course can touch on subjects that evoke strong responses from people. As colleagues, we will respect differences of opinions and academic freedom of expression so long as those opinions and ideas are based on strong evidence and /or logically reasoning.

STUDENT BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS OR CONDUCT POLICY:

Students are expected to maintain an online classroom decorum akin to a face-to-face classroom. That includes respect for other students and the instructor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the educational opportunity.

ZOOM MEETING ETIQUETTE:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this course will have a few meetings via Zoom. Even though we are conducting these meetings from our home or some other place outside the traditional classroom, there are certain expectations for these meetings. They are as follows:

- Your camera must be on, and I must be able to see your face.
- You may have a virtual background, if you like, to maintain your privacy.
- If you choose to have a virtual background, it must be appropriate for class.
- You must be dressed as if you are attending class.
- Your full name must be visible.

A SPECIAL NOTE ON PLAGIARISM:

You are responsible for generating original content for all your assignments in this class. Plagiarized papers, quizzes, and discussion questions will not be accepted and will automatically be counted as a zero. Likewise, particularly egregious offenses will be turned over for disciplinary action.

To help remind you of what constitutes plagiarism, each student is required to submit the results of the Indiana University plagiarism certification test.

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

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

(www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity)

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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

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.

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.

[* Click Here for more information about Title IX](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/)

[\(www.mclennan.edu/titleix\)](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/)

COURSE OUTLINE

Unit 1: Transcendentalism & The Abolitionist Movement	
<p>Week 1: 05/31 – 06/05</p> <p>QUIZ 1 DUE TO BRIGHTSPACE ON FRIDAY 06/03 BY 11:59 PM.</p> <p>DBQ 1 DUE TO BRIGHTSPACE ON SUNDAY 06/05 BY 11:59 PM.</p>	<p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduce Transcendentalism via notes• Review rubric & videos for short-answer quizzes and DBQs• Review Emerson and Thoreau• Review Walt Whitman <p>Assignment Pt. 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Read “Self-Reliance” by Emerson✓ Read “Resistance to Civil Government” by Thoreau✓ TAKE AND SUBMIT QUIZ 1 <p>Assignment Pt. 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Review Walt Whitman✓ TAKE AND SUBMIT DBQ 1 - WHITMAN, TRANSCENDENTALIST IDEALS, AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
<p>Week 2: 06/06 – 06/12</p> <p>QUIZ 2 IS DUE TO BRIGHTSPACE ON WEDNESDAY 06/08 BY 11:59 PM.</p> <p>DISCUSSION BOARD 1 OPENS ON FRIDAY 06/10 BY 12:01 AM.</p> <p>QUIZ 3 IS DUE TO BRIGHTSPACE ON SUNDAY 06/12 BY 11:59 PM.</p>	<p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduce Fredrick Douglas, Melville, and the abolitionist movement. <p>Assignment Pt. 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Read “The Heroic Slave”✓ TAKE AND SUBMIT QUIZ 2. <p>Assignment Pt. 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Read “Benito Cereno” by Herman Melville. (Found in the collection <i>The Piazza Tales</i> on Brightspace)

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	✓ TAKE AND SUBMIT QUIZ 3.
Unit 2: American Literary Realism, Naturalism, and the Working Poor	
<p>Week 3: 06/13 – 06/19</p> <p>THE SUBMISSION WINDOW FOR ESSAY PROMPT 1 OPENS ON TUESDAY 06/14 AT 12:01 AM.</p> <p>RESPONSE TO DISCUSSION BOARD 1 DUE ON MONDAY 06/13 BY 11:59 PM.</p> <p>DBQ 2 IS DUE TO BRIGHTSPACE ON WEDNESDAY 06/15 BY 11:59 PM.</p> <p>DISCUSSION BOARD 2 OPENS ON FRIDAY 06/17 AT 12:01 AM.</p> <p>QUIZ 4 DUE TO BRIGHTSPACE ON SUNDAY 06/19 BY 11:59 PM.</p>	<p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce American Literary Realism and Naturalism. <p>Assignment Pt. 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ FINALIZE RESPONSES TO DISCUSSION BOARD 1 ✓ Read “Life in the Iron Mills” ✓ TAKE AND SUBMIT DBQ 2 - LIFE IN THE IRON MILLS & THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION <p>Assignment Pt. 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read “Maggie: A Girl of the Streets” ✓ TAKE AND SUBMIT QUIZ 4
Unit 3: Modernism, The Poetry of the Harlem Renaissance, and the American Dream	
<p>Week 4: 06/20 – 06/26</p> <p>THE SUBMISSION WINDOW FOR ESSAY PROMPT 2 OPENS ON MONDAY 06/20 AT 12:01 AM.</p> <p>A FINAL RESPONSE TO DISCUSSION BOARD 2 DUE ON MONDAY 06/20 BY 11:59 PM.</p> <p>DBQ 3 IS DUE TO BRIGHTSPACE ON WEDNESDAY 06/22 BY 11:59 PM.</p> <p>DISCUSSION BOARD 3 OPENS ON FRIDAY 06/24 BY 12:01 AM.</p>	<p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Modernism and the Harlem Renaissance <p>Assignment Pt. 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read “Bernice Bobs Her Hair” ✓ DBQ 3 – BERNICE & THE MODERN WOMEN <p>Assignment Pt. 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read selections from <i>Harlem Shadows</i> by Claude Mckay and <i>The Weary Blues</i> by Langston Hughes (List of poems will be posted to Brightspace)

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QUIZ 5 IS DUE TO BRIGHTSPACE ON SUNDAY 06/26 BY 11:59 PM.	✓ TAKE AND SUBMIT QUIZ 5
Unit 4: Post Modernism and the World after World War II	
<p>Week 5: 06/27 – 07/03</p> <p>FINAL RESPONSE TO DISCUSSION BOARD 3 DUE TO BRIGHTSPACE ON MONDAY 06/27 BY 11:59 PM.</p> <p>DBQ 4 IS DUE TO BRIGHTSPACE ON WEDNESDAY 06/29 BY 11:59 PM.</p> <p>TAKE AND SUBMIT QUIZ 6 ON SUNDAY 07/03 BY 11:59 PM.</p>	<p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduce the Beat Movement and the basics of Post-Modernism. <p>Assignment Pt. 1</p> <p>✓ FINALIZE RESPONSE TO DISCUSSION BOARD 3</p> <p>✓ Read “Howl” by Allen Ginsberg</p> <p>✓ DBQ 4 – ALLEN GINSBERG AND COUNTERCULTURE</p> <p>Assignment Pt. 2</p> <p>✓ Read “Game” by Donald Barthelme</p> <p>✓ Read “Entropy” by Thomas Pynchon</p> <p>✓ TAKE AND SUBMIT QUIZ 6</p>
<p>Week 6: 07/04 – 07/07</p> <p>ALL ESSAYS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 07/04 BY AT 11:59 PM.</p> <p>THE FINAL EXAM IS DUE BY TUESDAY 08/11 AT 11:59 PM.</p>	<p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit paper• Take the final exam. <p>Assignment Pt. 1</p> <p>✓ TAKE AND SUBMIT THE FINAL EXAM</p>

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COLLEGE

ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

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. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability.

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disabilities@mclennan.edu

254-299-8122

Room 319, Student Services Center

Title IX:

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Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at www.mclennan.edu/titleix/. It 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.

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 or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing SuccessCoach@mclennan.edu. Students may visit the Completion Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule a meeting with a Success Coach and receive additional resources and support to help reach academic and personal goals. Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff based on household size. Text (254) 870-7573 to schedule a pantry 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 at https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf.

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Go to www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

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 notified via 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.

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 their 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. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward 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 be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.