



RANGER COLLEGE

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COURSE SYLLABUS

**AMERICAN LITERATURE II**

**ENGL 2328**

**3 credit hours**

**INSTRUCTOR**

**Roger Walton Jones**

INSTRUCTOR: Roger Walton Jones  
EMAIL: rjones@rangercollege.edu  
OFFICE: Jameson A  
PHONE: 254 647 3234, ext. 7026  
HOURS: Tuesday and Thursday: 10:20-11:05, 1:30-4:00

### **I. Texas Core Curriculum Statement of Purpose**

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

### **II. Course Description**

This course presents a one-semester survey of American literature from the Civil War 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.

### **III. Required Background or Prerequisite**

1301

### **IV. Required Textbook and Course Materials**

Baym, Nina ed. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*. Eighth Edition. New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 2013. ISBN 9780393918854

### **V. Course Purpose**

To explore the formation of a unique American cultural identity through the study of its literature from the Civil War until the present. In the process, we will focus on how ideas, values, and beliefs, and other aspects of culture express and affect human experience.

### **VI. Learning Outcomes**

- 1) Identify key ideas, 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 and styles of expression during different historical periods or in different regions.
- 4) Articulate the aesthetic principles that guide the scope and variety of work 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.

## VII. Core Objectives

This course meets the following of the six Core Objectives established by Texas:

- Critical Thinking Skills (CT)** – Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis; evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills (COM)** – effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS)** – The manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Teamwork (TW)** – The ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- Social Responsibility (SR)** – Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- Personal Responsibility (PR)** – The ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

## VIII. Methods of Instruction

Lectures, discussions, videos, etc.

## IX. Methods of Assessment

Major tests will be given in class. They will include both objective and short essay type questions (CT) (COM). You will receive a daily grade at the end of the semester based on your attendance, class participation, and performance on pop quizzes (PR) (SR) (CT) (COM). You will have the option of doing a research paper for extra credit later in the semester to raise your lowest test grade (PR) (SR) (CT) (COM). There will be a comprehensive final exam (CT) (COM). Your three major tests, your daily grade, and your final exam will each count 20% of your final grade.

Grading scale: A = 90-100%    B = 80-89    C = 70-79    D = 60-69    F = Below 60

### **X. Course/Classroom Policies**

- 1) Come to class on time having done the assigned reading and bring your text. Be prepared to discuss assigned readings in class.
- 2) If you cannot for some reason make it to class the day of a major test, you must make it up within a week during my office hours.
- 3) Keep your cell phones and laptops turned off and out of sight.
- 4) Any piece of work containing elements of plagiarism will receive a grade of zero.
- 5) Regular attendance is crucial in a class like this. Anyone who receives six unexcused absences may be dropped from the course.
- 6) Adult behavior is expected at all times.
- 7) If you need to email me between class meetings, please remember to mention at the outset the class you are in.

### **XI. Course Outline**

**Class 1 Introduction**

**Class 2 The Gilded Age (1865-1914)**

**Class 3 Mark Twain**

**Class 4 Mark Twain**

**Class 5 Henry James**

**Class 6 Henry James**

**Class 7 Stephen Crane**

**Class 8 Theodore Dreiser**

**Class 9 Review for Test 1**

**Class 10 Test 1**

**Class 11 Modernism (1914-1945)**

**Class 12 Robert Frost**

**Class 13 Robert Frost**

**Class 14 William Carlos Williams**

**Class 15 T. S. Eliot**

**Class 16 Review for Test 2**

**Class 17 Test 2**

**Class 18 F. Scott Fitzgerald**

**Class 19 F. Scott Fitzgerald**

**Class 20 Ernest Hemingway**

**Class 21 William Faulkner**

**Class 22 Review for Test 3**

**Class 23 Test 3**

**Class 24 American Literature since 1945**

**Class 25 Tennessee Williams**

**Class 26 Tennessee Williams**

**Class 27 John Cheever**

**Class 28 Robert Lowell**

**Class 29 Raymond Carver**

**Class 30 Review for Final**

## **XII. Non-Discrimination Statement**

Admissions, employment, and program policies of Ranger College are nondiscriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

## **XIII. ADA Statement**

[Insert Course Code] – [Insert semester]

Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. Students are responsible for making initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor, Gabe Lewis (glewis@rangercollege.edu). It is advisable to make this contact before or immediately after the semester begins.