Postmodern American Literature: 1945 to 1999

ENGL-441

Template 2015  Section Template  3 Credits  01/01/2015 to 12/31/2015

Faculty Contact

Course Description

Prerequisite: WRTG 112 or WRTG 101. A comprehensive study of literature in America from 1945 till the end of the 20th century. The objective is to interpret American literature as a reflection of national and world events, recognize the differences among types of American literary works, and apply critical methodology. Topics include the American Dream; war; fear and paranoia; rebellion and counterculture; civil rights, feminist, and gay movements; postmodernism; and multiculturalism.

Course Introduction

This course is a comprehensive study of literature in America from 1945 to the present, taking into account historical, political, social, and economic context.

By the end of this course, you will be able to analyze American literature, interpret literature as a reflection of national and world events, recognize differences among types of American literary works, and apply critical methodology.

Topics include the American dream; war; fear and paranoia; rebellion and counterculture; the civil rights, feminist, and gay movements; postmodernism; multiculturalism; and environmentalism.

Course Outcomes

After completing this course, you should be able to

- analyze how cultural diversity was increasingly expressed in American literature after 1945
- distinguish movements and styles in American literature after 1945 in order to place literary works in historical context
- evaluate how American literature has reflected and influenced economic, political, and social events since World War II
- apply critical theory in the analysis of literature in order to illuminate the diversity of American writing since World War II

Course Materials

Grading Information

Grading Information and Criteria

This course consists of the following graded items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Discussions</th>
<th>30%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Part 1: Proposal</td>
<td>5%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Project Descriptions

More detailed and specific instructions regarding assignment descriptions, rubrics, and reading lists for this course are provided within the "Content" section of the classroom.

Academic Integrity Tutorial

You will find the description of the Academic Integrity Tutorial assignment in the classroom under "Content" in Week 1. This required assignment is graded as a pass/fail assignment, and no points will be added to your final grade.

Weekly Discussions

Each week you will respond to a question, or several questions, posted in the Discussions area of the classroom. You will also provide substantive responses to other classmates' postings as noted in the discussions.

Course Project

The course project will include a proposal, an annotated bibliography, a 10 slide PowerPoint presentation outline, an analytical paper, and a self-reflection memo.

Special Note to English Majors and Potential English Majors

To complete your requirements as an English major, all majors must accomplish ENGL 495, which is the capstone course of your English studies. The major portion of ENGL 495 is a portfolio that involves many of your writing assignments from your English courses.

Majors should keep copies of all of their writing assignments, drafts, peer reviews, instructor comments, syllabi, assignment descriptions, and projects from ANY English or Writing course—both from UMUC and any prior college or university, as far as it is possible to do so. CAUTION: Do NOT rely on your computer as your only storage device. Do not rely on gaining access to your past courses—this is likely not going to be an option.

Here are some suggested ways to backup and store the material that you will need in ENGL 495:

1. e-mail all of your assignments to yourself and then put them in a folder in your e-mail program;
2. back them up to a cloud product, such as Google Docs or Dropbox or other such programs / software;
3. use an external drive—save it to both your computer and the external drive;
4. designate a specific flash drive, load all of your assignments to that drive, and then keep it safe and secure;
5. though more difficult to work with later, it would even work for you to ensure you print out all of your papers and keep them in a folder in a file cabinet

You do not need to keep copies of discussion responses.

SUGGESTION: As much as possible, back up your papers from past classes NOW. Go back to those old courses where you still have access and download your work. Search your hard drive and save your work again in the cloud, on a flash drive, or to an external drive.

By thinking and working ahead, you will save yourself much time and frustration when ENGL 495 comes along at the end of your English major program.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

University of Maryland University College (UMUC) has adopted a Philosophy of Academic Integrity (https://www.umuc.edu/current-students/learning-resources/academic-integrity/philosophy.cfm) to guide the university's commitment to a culture of academic integrity and authentic education encompassing a set of dispositions and behaviors that are socially beneficial, educationally critical, and professionally necessary.

All members of the University community must maintain the highest level of integrity across the academic experience. For students, intellectually honest academic work represents independent analysis, acknowledges all sources of information that contribute to the ideas being explored, and ensures the ability to engage in life and work authentically. Your instructor is your primary resource for how to uphold the highest ethical standards in the context of this course's specific requirements.

Your instructor and other UMUC staff may use Turnitin or other technology resources to support the development and assessment of authentic student writing. To learn more about Turnitin, the feedback it provides, and your options regarding the inclusion of your work in the Turnitin database, visit University guides for Turnitin at umuc.edu/library/libresources/turnitin-students.cfm and http://sites.umuc.edu/library/libresources/turnitin.cfm#studentcopyright.

Additional resources to support you in authentic learning are available at umuc.edu/academicintegrity.

CLASSROOM CIVILITY

Students are expected to work together cooperatively, and treat fellow students and faculty with respect, showing professionalism and courtesy in all interactions. Please review the Code of Civility for more guidance on interacting in UMUC classrooms: https://www.umuc.edu/students/support/studentlife/conduct/code.cfm.

POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

UMUC is committed to ensuring that all individuals are treated equally according to Policy 040.30 Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity, and Sexual Harassment (https://www.umuc.edu/policies/adminpolicies/admin04030.cfm).

Students with disabilities who need accommodations in a course are encouraged to contact the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS) at accessibilityservices@umuc.edu, or call 800-888-UMUC (8682) or 240-684-2287.

The following academic policies and procedures apply to this course and your studies at UMUC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Number</th>
<th>Policy Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>150.25</td>
<td>Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism (<a href="https://www.umuc.edu/policies/academicpolicies/aa15025.cfm">https://www.umuc.edu/policies/academicpolicies/aa15025.cfm</a>) - The University expects all members of the university community—students, faculty, and staff—to share the responsibility and authority to report known acts of academic misconduct. Report suspected academic misconduct to your instructor. All cases of academic misconduct will be addressed in accordance with Policy 150.25. This policy also states that faculty may determine if the resubmission of coursework from previous classes (whether or not taken at UMUC), partially or in its entirety, is acceptable or unacceptable. Faculty communicate these expectations to students in writing. If you are unclear about the reuse of your prior work, consult with your instructor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151.00</td>
<td>Code of Student Conduct (<a href="https://www.umuc.edu/policies/studentpolicies/stud15100.cfm">https://www.umuc.edu/policies/studentpolicies/stud15100.cfm</a>)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following policies describe the requirements for the award of each degree:

170.41 Degree Completion Requirements for the Graduate School (https://www.umuc.edu/policies/academicpolicies/aa17040.cfm)

170.42 Degree Completion Requirements for a Bachelor's Degree (https://www.umuc.edu/policies/academicpolicies/aa17041.cfm)

170.42 Degree Completion Requirements for an Associate’s Degree (https://www.umuc.edu/policies/academicpolicies/aa17042.cfm)

170.71 Policy on Grade of Incomplete (https://www.umuc.edu/policies/academicpolicies/aa17071.cfm) - The mark of I is exceptional and considered only for certain courses. Students who have completed 60% of their coursework with a grade of B or better for graduate courses or C or better for undergraduate courses and request an I before the end of the term. The mark of I is not available for noncredit courses.

170.72 Course Withdrawal Policy (https://www.umuc.edu/policies/academicpolicies/aa17072.cfm) - Students must follow drop and withdrawal procedures and deadlines available at https://www.umuc.edu/ under Academic Calendar.

130.80 Procedures for Review of Alleged Arbitrary and Capricious Grading (https://www.umuc.edu/policies/academicpolicies/aa13080.cfm) – appeals may be made on final course grades as described herein.

190.00 Intellectual Property (https://www.umuc.edu/administration/policies-and-reporting/policies/research/intellectual-property.cfm) - All university faculty, staff, and students must comply with University guidelines on the use of copyrighted material. Uploading UMUC or faculty copyrighted material without authorization degrades and corrupts the integrity of the teaching and learning experience and is a potential violation of UMUC policy and copyright law. You must obtain permission to post UMUC or other's copyrighted material to third-party websites, including social learning network sites. UMUC reserves the right to take appropriate action to remove copyrighted material uploaded without authorization.

205.06 Calculation Of Grade-Point Average (GPA) for Inclusion on Transcripts and Transcript Requests (https://www.umuc.edu/policies/academicpolicies/aa20506.cfm) - Note: Undergraduate and Graduate Schools have different Grading Policies (i.e. The Graduate School does not award the grade of D). See Course Syllabus for Grading Policies.

270.00 Acceptable Use (https://www.umuc.edu/administration/policies-and-reporting/policies/fiscal-and-business-affairs/acceptable-use.cfm) - The security of the online classroom is critical to ensuring a strong culture of academic integrity and authentic education at the University. It is a violation of the University’s policies for anyone to share logon, password, and any other secure information about a UMUC online account, including credentials required to access the online learning environment.

**GRADING**

According to UMUC's grading policy, the following marks are used:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 or below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FN</td>
<td>Failure-Non attendance</td>
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<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Grade Pending</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
P  Passing  Passing
S  Satisfactory  Satisfactory
U  Unsatisfactory  Unsatisfactory
I  Incomplete  Incomplete
AU  Audit  Audit
W  Withdrew  Withdrew

* The grade of "B" represents the benchmark for The Graduate School. Students must maintain a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher. Classes where final grade of C or F places a student on Academic Probation must be repeated.

** The Graduate School does not award the grade of D.

COURSE EVALUATION SURVEY

UMUC values its students' feedback. You will be asked to complete an online evaluation toward the end of the term. The primary purpose of this evaluation process is to assess the effectiveness of classroom instruction in order to provide the best learning experience possible and make continuous improvements to every class. Responses are kept confidential. Please take full advantage of this opportunity to provide your feedback.

LIBRARY SUPPORT

Extensive library resources and services are available online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week at [https://www.umuc.edu/library/index.cfm](https://www.umuc.edu/library/index.cfm) to support you in your studies. The UMUC Library provides research assistance in creating search strategies, selecting relevant databases, and evaluating and citing resources in a variety of formats via its Ask a Librarian service at [https://www.umuc.edu/library/libask/index.cfm](https://www.umuc.edu/library/libask/index.cfm).

EXTERNAL LINK DISCLAIMER

This course may contain links to external sites neither owned nor maintained by UMUC. UMUC bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality, or content of external sites or for that of subsequent links. In addition, the terms of use, security policies, and privacy policies may differ from those of UMUC. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content, terms of use, and policies.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT

Those requiring technical assistance can access Help@UMUC Support directly in LEO under the Help menu. Additional technical support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week via self-help and live chat at [https://www.umuc.edu/help](https://www.umuc.edu/help) or by phone toll-free at 888-360-UMUC (8682).

SYLLABUS CHANGES

All items on this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Instructor and the Office of Academic Affairs.

Class & Assignment Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Dates</th>
<th>Weekly Topic(s)</th>
<th>Assignment(s)</th>
<th>Due Date(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>The American Dream</td>
<td>Academic Integrity Tutorial</td>
<td>Sunday, mm/dd/yy at 11:30PM ET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Project</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>War</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Anxiety, Fear, Paranoia, and Despair</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Rebellion and Counter Culture</td>
<td>Project Part 1: Topic Proposal</td>
<td>Sunday, mm/dd/yy at 11:30PM ET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Social Movements</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Experiments in Postmodernist Style</td>
<td>Project Part 2: Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>Sunday, mm/dd/yy at 11:30PM ET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Multiculturalism</td>
<td>Project Part 3: PowerPoint Outline</td>
<td>Sunday, mm/dd/yy at 11:30PM ET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Course Wrap Up</td>
<td>Project Part 4: Paper and Self-Reflection Memo</td>
<td>Sunday, mm/dd/yy at 11:30PM ET</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Every week discussion participation within the classroom takes place and is required. Due dates and required postings/responses vary for each discussion. Please follow the instructions in each individual discussion for its due date and required number of responses.