

LITT 2104:001
Spring 2009
MWF 9:55-11:10

Dr. Deborah Gussman
Office: F-137
Office Hours: MW 1:30-2:30, F 8:45-9:45 and by appointment.
Phone: 652-4657
Email: Deborah.Gussman@stockton.edu and through Blackboard
Webpage: <http://titania.stockton.edu/gussman>

Required Books:

Baym, Nina, Gen ed., et. al. The Norton Anthology of American Literature, 7th edition.
Vols. A & B • ISBN-10: 0-393-92993-0 • ISBN-13: 978-0-393-92993-5

Course Description and Objectives:

This course is an introduction to representative works and authors in American literature from the Colonial period through the Civil War. The course will explore the development of a national literature by examining the writings of both well-known and newly-recovered writers, including Bradford, Mather, Franklin, Rowson, Douglass, Emerson, Apess, Hawthorne, Dickinson, and Whitman. The objectives of this course include introducing you to the significant ideas, themes, movements, and styles of early American literature and culture. You will be reading, discussing, and interpreting works of literature, with an emphasis on the close reading and analysis of primary sources.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance: You are expected to attend class regularly having completed the assigned reading and/or writing and to be prepared to discuss the texts and your own work. Five absences will result in a lower grade; seven absences mean failure in the course. If you miss class or are late frequently, you will find it difficult to earn a satisfactory final grade.
2. Six short writing assignments (approx. 500 words each).
3. Midterm exam (identifications and short essay).
4. Final Exam (to be held during scheduled exam period). This exam is cumulative and will include short answer questions, identifications, and short essays.

Evaluation: In arriving at final grades, I will follow this approximate breakdown:

- 40% -- 6 short writing assignments
- 20% -- midterm exam
- 30% -- final exam
- 10% -- class preparation and participation (including quizzes, if given)

Other grading policies:

- Grades will be lowered for late papers unless prior arrangements have been made with me.
- In accordance with the College's policy, I do not give incomplete grades unless there are extremely serious circumstances, and then, only by prior arrangement.
- E-mail is the best way to contact me. (I check my mail regularly throughout the day, but never late at night, so trying to reach me at 2:00 am the day an assignment is due won't be effective. Plan ahead.)
- All writing should be error-free. You are expected to proofread for typographical, spelling, mechanical, and grammatical errors. I will mark down for mechanical and grammatical errors.
- I will not give incompletes at the end of the semester unless you have warned me well in advance and have appropriate reasons.
- I will not accept papers as email attachments unless previous arrangements are made. It is not my responsibility to make sure that you have handed in all assignments; it is yours. All assignments for the class must be completed in order to receive a passing grade.
- Lateness disrupts the learning experience of other students (and distracts me), so make every effort to arrive on time. Two instances of lateness (or leaving before the end of class) will count as one absence.
- For obvious reasons, please silence cell phones and do not text message, check email, listen to music, or surf the web during class.

Special Needs:

Students with disabilities who seek accommodations should contact the Learning Access Program located in West Quad 110 (609/652-4998). More information can be found at www2.stockton.edu/wellness/lap.html

Academic Honesty:

The Literature program expects students to maintain the highest standard of academic honesty. You should make yourself aware of Richard Stockton College's Academic Honesty Policy, which can be found in the Student Handbook (intraweb.stockton.edu/eyos/page.cfm?siteID=67&pageID=2#10). You should also make yourself familiar with the penalties for violations of the policy and your rights as a student.

Please be aware that plagiarism (one form of academic dishonesty) includes, but may not be limited to: using all or part of a source, either directly or in paraphrase, either intentionally or unintentionally, whether that source is published, or online, or taken from a fellow or former student, without properly acknowledging that source. If you are found to have represented the work or ideas of others as your own, intentionally, or unintentionally, you will face serious consequences, as follows:

1. If this is the first time the student has been found to have plagiarized, he/she will receive an "F" for that paper or assignment and/or the course.
2. For second offenses of plagiarism, the student will receive an F for the course.
3. Whenever possible, a student who is found to have plagiarized a paper or assignment, in full or in part, should meet with the professor of the class for which the paper is written in order to review and discuss the suspect work.

Additionally, in accordance with Stockton College policy, Literature faculty will report all instances of plagiarism to the Provost of Academic Affairs. Students may be subject to discipline by the college, such as being placed on academic probation or expelled. If you have a question specific to a paper you are working on, please bring it to my attention. I will be happy to discuss areas of ambiguity that may exist in your mind.

CLASS SCHEDULE

W 1/21

F 1/23 The Iroquois Creation Story (version by David Cusick) 17; Pima Stories of the Beginning of the World (versions by Thin Leather and J. W. Lloyd) 21; The Story of the Creation 22; The Story of the Flood 24

M 1/26

W 1/28

F 1/30

M 2/2

W 2/4

F 2/6

M 2/9

W 2/11

2/11-14 and 2/15 Out of Class event: Chastity & Destruction and Doors by Noah Houlihan

Feb. 11 - 14 @ 7:30 PM

Feb. 15 @ 3:00 PM, Experimental Theater

A world premiere of two one-act plays by a talented Stockton student!

TH 2/12 Out of Class event: Visiting Writers series presents poets Peter Murphy and Barbara Daniels reading from their work. 8 pm, F111

F 2/13

M 2/

W 2/

F 2/20

M 2/23

W 2/25

F 2/27

M 3/2

Out of Class event: Visiting Writers Series presents poet Stephen Dunn, 8:00 pm

W 3/4

F 3/6

M 3/9

W 3/11

F 3/13

3/15-22 Spring Break

M 3/23

W 3/25

F 3/27

M 3/30

T 3/31 Preceptorial Advising: No classes

W 4/1

F 4/3

M 4/6

W 4/8 No class—Preceptorial Advising

F 4/10 No class—working on rough drafts.

M 4/13 In-class rough draft workshop (side-shadowing).

W 4/15

Out of Class event: Measure for Measure by William Shakespeare

Wednesday, April 15 through Saturday, April 18 at 7:30pm.

Sunday, April 19 at 3:00pm

F 4/17

M 4/20 Rough drafts returned. Discussion of final papers.

W 4/22

F 4/24

M 4/27

W 4/29

F 5/1 Final exam: **8:30 am - 11:00 am**