

COURSE: English 204 – 70, Survey of American Literature (fall semester, 2007)

CRN: 30098

TIME AND PLACE: B17, Tues & Thurs, 3:15 – 4:30

INSTRUCTOR: James Ralston, assistant professor of English  
B23  
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(304) 260- 4380 ex 2348

OFFICE HOURS: Tues: 11:30 – 12:30  
Weds: 12:00 – 2:00, 4:00 – 6:00  
Thurs: 10:30 – 12:30  
Fri: By appointment

TEXT: *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*, Shorter Sixth Edition

STUDENT LEARNER OUTCOMES: The students will become familiar with the flow of American literature, from the 1600's to the present. The students will become familiar with the breadth of cultural diversity in America's literature, as well as the depth that this diversity brings to us. The students will become better readers, in part, by learning to see more clearly the personal relevance literature that has stood the test of time has for their own lives. The students will hone their critical thinking and writing skills by writing a term paper on one of the many topics that are suggested along the way.

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT: The faculty members of CTC Shepherd are dedicated to assuring that each student meets the educational objectives of the program. The educational objectives have been developed and are planned to assure that the program is producing graduates who will be successful in obtaining and maintaining positions in the entry-level business field and who will be quality employees. To achieve this goal, the faculty is committed to a systematic and comprehensive process of assessment of student learning. As part of this program assessment, students will from time to time asked to participate in non-graded assessment activities which may include, but are not be limited to, participation in role-playing simulations and completion of standardized written or practical examinations or pre and post graduation surveys.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Students guilty of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating on visual work, will be penalized with a grade of F for the course, with written notification to the Dean of Academic Instruction.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Aug 21: Introduction to the course.

Aug 23: Rowlandson, "A Narrative ...," 135 - 152

- Aug 28: Edwards, "Personal Narrative," 182 – 184  
Occom, "A Short Narrative of My Life," 293 – 299
- Aug 30: Franklin, "Remarks Concerning the Savages ...," 227 – 231  
"Autobiography," 281 – 292
- Sept 4: Equiano, "... Life of Olaudah Equiano ...," 351 – 361
- Sept 6: Emerson, "Self-Reliance," 539 – 556
- Sept 11: Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown, 610 - 619  
"The Minister's Black Veil," 626 – 635
- Sept 13: Jacobs, "Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl," 813 – 834
- Sept 18: Thoreau: "Walden, or Life in the Woods," 895 – 920
- Sept 20: Douglass, "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass," 951 - 973
- Sept 25: Whitman, "Song of Myself," 1003 – 1010 (through section 11)  
"Once I pass'd through a Populous City," 1060  
"When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer," 1070 - 1071
- Sept 27: Melville, "Bartleby the Scrivener," 1086 – 1111
- Oct 2 & 4: (For this week, we will be participating in Blue Ridge CTC'S first Cultural event, the production of "The Lone Star League," at the Apollo Theater, downtown Martinsburg, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, & 6<sup>th</sup>.)
- Oct 9: Poe: "The Raven," 697 - 701  
"Ligeia," 704 – 714

Oct 12: Mid term-exam

Oct 16: Dickinson: "There's a certain Slant of light," 1174  
"Much Madness is divinest Sense—," 1178  
"I died for Beauty – but was scarce," 1179  
"I heard a Fly buzz – when I died," 1179  
"It was not Death, for I stood up," 1181  
"Tell all the Truth, but tell it slant --," 1186  
"Apparently with no surprise," 1187  
"My life closed twice before its close;" 1187

Oct 18: Mark Twain, "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," 1290 – 1324

Oct 23: Cochise, "I am alone," 1462  
Charlot, "He has filled graves with our bones," 1464  
Henry James, "The Real Thing," 1539 – 1556

Oct 25: Chopin, "The Storm," 1603 – 1607  
Gilman, "The Yellow Wall-paper," 1659 – 1671

Oct 30: Crane, "The Open Boat," 1721 – 1738

Nov 1: London, "To Build a Fire," 1762 – 1773  
Zitkala Sa, "Impressions of an Indian Childhood," 1794 – 1807

Nov 6: Cather, "Neighbor Rosicky," 1843 – 1863

Nov 8 Frost, "Desert Places," 1891  
Robinson, "Richard Cory," 1838  
Jeffers: "Shine, Perishing Republic," 1965  
Cummings: "I sing of Olaf glad and big," 2116

Nov 13: Fitzgerald, "Babylon Revisited," 2143 – 2157

Nov 15: Faulkner, "That Evening Sun," 2166 – 2178  
Wright, "The Man Who Was Almost a Man," 2257 – 2265

Nov 20 & 22 Thanksgiving break

Nov 27 Vonnegut, "Fates Worse than Death," 2407 – 2414  
Baldwin, "Going to Meet the Man," 2415 – 2427

Nov 29: O'Connor, "Good Country People," 2428 - 2442  
Updike, "Separating," 2472 – 2480

Dec 4: Carver, "Cathedral," 2533 – 2544  
Course essay due

Dec 6: Silko, "Lullaby," 2587 – 2584  
Cisneros, "My Lucy Friend who Smells Like Corn," 2594 – 2597  
Erdrich, "Fleur," 2597 - 2609

Finals week. Final exam .

The course grade will be broken down in the following way:

Mid-term	=	1/4 <sup>th</sup>
Final	=	1/4 <sup>th</sup>
Term Paper	=	1/4 <sup>th</sup>
Quizzes	=	1/4 <sup>th</sup>

- Attendance is required. Over four absences will result in a one grade penalty.
- The last day to withdraw from this course is Friday, November 9.
- Check BRCTC website for cancellations due to inclement weather.
- This syllabus may be altered at any time at the discretion of the instructor.

