

ENGLISH 352:225:02
American Literature, Colonial to Civil War
M/W 7, HH B 2

Instructor:

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Required Texts:

Lauter, Paul, et al. *The Heath Anthology of American Literature, Volume I*.
Xerox packet to be given to class (items in **bold** on syllabus)

Course Requirements:

- One short paper, 3-4 pages, on a topic to be assigned
- One midterm
- One short, written report, 3-4 pages
- One longer paper, 8-10 pages, in lieu of a final exam, on a topic of your own choosing, but approved by me
- Occasional quizzes on reading
- Class participation and regular attendance. Each unexcused absence counts as the equivalent to failing a quiz, regardless of whether or not a quiz was given on the date of absence.
- One letter grade will be deducted *per class* for late written work

Schedule of Classes:

- Items in bold are found in the xerox packet
- Items in parentheses represent items previously read that will be rediscussed
- Items in brackets are secondary readings. These very brief selections will only serve to illustrate a point in class. Although you will not be responsible for these selections on the midterm, students are expected to be able to make connections between these readings and the primary readings during class discussion. Because they are so short, you may choose to read them right before class starts each day.
- Students are also responsible for the introductory material for each author provided in the Heath anthology

September 6 **Introductions**

September 11 *The American: What is an American?*

J. Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur, *Letters from an American Farmer*, Letter II and Letter III

- September 13 *The American: Archetypes*
John Smith, all Heath selections, **Smith's Letter to Queen Anne**, and
Powhatan's Coronation
William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation*, from Chapters IX, XI, and XIV
- September 18 *The American: Benjamin Franklin*
Benjamin Franklin, *The Autobiography*, Part One (Concentrate on pp.763-)
[**Thomas Jefferson, Notes on the State of Virginia, Queries 16 and 18**]
- September 20 *The American: Ralph Waldo Emerson*
Ralph Waldo Emerson, "The American Scholar" and "Self-Reliance"
- September 25 *The American Landscape: Part I*
Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Nature*, Introduction and "Nature"
Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*, "Where I Lived, and What I Lived For"
[**Thomas Jefferson, Notes on the State of Virginia, Queries 4 and 5**]
- September 27 *The American Landscape: Part II*
Christopher Columbus, all Heath selections and ***Digest of Columbus's Log-Book*, selection**
Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca, *Relation of Alvar Nuñez Cabeza de Vaca*
from Chapter VII
Samuel de Champlain, *The Voyages of Samuel de Champlain, 1604-1618*,
from "The Voyages of 1615: Champlain, Among the Huron, Lost in the Woods"
(William Bradford, Chapter IX)
- October 2 *American Literature: Answering the Call*
****PAPER ONE DUE****
Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass* (1855 edition), Preface
[**Charles Brockden Brown, Edgar Huntly, Preface**]
[**Royall Tyler, The Algerine Captive, Preface**]
- October 4 *American Literature: The Call Unanswered*
Sarah Margaret Fuller, "American Literature"
James Fenimore Cooper, Notions of the Americans, "The Literature and the Arts of the United States"
- October 9 *Race: Ethnography*
Mary White Rowlandson, *A Narrative of the Captivity*
[William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation*, from Chapter XXVIII]
[Philip Freneau, "The Indian Burying Ground"]
- October 11 *Race: Autoethnography*
Samsom Occom, "A Short Narrative of My Life" and "A Sermon Preached
by Samsom Occom"
William Apess, "An Indian's Looking-Glass for the White Man"
(John Smith, *The Generall Historie of Virginia*, from Chapter 8)

- October 16 *Race: Slave Narratives I*
Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life*, up to Chapter X
- October 18 *Race: Slave Narratives II*
Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life*, Chapter X to Appendix
Harriet Ann Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*
- October 23 *Race: Uncle Tom's Cabin*
Harriet Beecher Stowe, *from Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- October 25 **MIDTERM**
- October 30 *Class: Toward an American Understanding*
John Winthrop, "A Modell of Christian Charity"
James Madison, Federalist No. 10
Alexander Hamilton, Federalist No.6
[William Hill Brown, *The Power of Sympathy*, Letter 17]
[William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation*, Mayflower passenger list and Chapter XIV]
- November 1 *Class: Toward an Anglo-American Understanding*
Susanna Rowson, *Charlotte Temple*, Chapters I, II, III, IV, V, X, XII
[Daniel Defoe, *Moll Flanders*, selection]
[Samuel Richardson, *Pamela*, Letter I]
[Oliver Goldsmith, *The Vicar of Wakefield*, Chapter 1]
[Henry Fielding, *Joseph Andrews*, Chapter II]
- November 6 *Class: Charlotte Temple*
Susanna Rowson, *Charlotte Temple*, Chapters XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXIII, XXIX, XXX, XXXI, XXXII, XXXIII
- November 8 *Gender: The Coquette*
Hannah Webster Foster, *The Coquette*
- November 13 *Gender: Women of America*
Anne Bradstreet, "The Prologue [To Her Book]," "The Author to Her Book,"
"To Her Father with Some Verses," "Before the Birth of One of Her Children"
Emily Dickinson, #106, #328, #357, #443, #465, #712, #1129
["The Lady's Complaint"]
["The Maid's Soliloquy"]
- November 15 *Gender: Witches and Other Unconventional Women*
Cotton Mather, "The Trial of Martha Carrier"
Benjamin Franklin, "A Witch Trail at Mount Holly"
Sarah Kemble Knight, *The Journal of Madame Knight*

November 20 **CLASS CANCELLED**

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| **Happy Thanksgiving!!**
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November 22 **NO CLASS - FRIDAY CLASSES**

November 27 *Sexuality: Anxieties*

William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation*, Chapter XXXII
Herman Melville, *Moby-Dick*, Chapter 3 and Chapter 4, and "Hawthorne and His Mosses," selection

November 29 *Sexuality: Ambiguities*

****SHORT WRITTEN REPORT DUE****

Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*, "Song of Myself" to l.210, and
"Once I Passed Through a Populous City," "In Paths Untrodden," "Of the Terrible Doubt of Appearances," "When I Heard at the Close of Day," "Are You the New Person," "Not Heat Flames Up," "City of Orgies," "I Saw in Louisiana...," "To a Stranger," "We Two Boys Together Clinging," "A Glimpse"
Emily Dickinson, #14, #211, #249, #334, #461, #791, #815, #1377, and
[Letters to Susan Gilbert Dickinson, late April 1852, 27 June 1852, about 1884]

December 4 *Nation: Dreams*

Charles Brockden Brown, "Somnambulism"
[William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation*, Chapter XI]
[Preamble and First Article of the Constitution]

December 6 *Nation: Placement/Displacement*

Herman Melville, "Bartleby, the Scrivener"
[Thomas Jefferson, "A Declaration by the Representatives of the United States of America"]

December 11 *Nation: Pilgrim Myths*

Nathaniel Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown" and **"The Maypole of Merry Mount"**
[Thomas Morton, *New English Canaan*, Chapter XV and XVI]
[William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation*, Chapter XIX]

December 13 *Nation: Dark Visions*

Nathaniel Hawthorne, "The Minister's Black Veil"
Edgar Allan Poe, "The Masque of the Red Death," "The Tell-Tale Heart,"
"The Raven," "Annabel Lee"

FINAL PAPER DUE ON DAY OF FINAL EXAM