

(Updated: Fall 2023)

**UK LEVEL: 5**  
**UK CREDITS: 15**

<b>PREREQUISITES:</b>	WP 1010 LE Introduction to Academic Writing WP 1111 LE Integrated Academic Writing and Ethics WP 1212 LE Academic Writing and Research							
<b>CATALOG DESCRIPTION:</b>	Exploration of a variety of texts representative of contemporary American literature. Exploration of current themes and motifs in the American literary landscape from the mid-20th century to the present. Various genres, discursive approaches, and contexts are examined.							
<b>RATIONALE:</b>	This course introduces students to dilemmas, questions and tensions that inform contemporary American literature, with emphasis on the ways in which texts engage with current issues in American society and culture. The course also focuses on the ways in which contemporary texts contest dominant American myths and/or construct new American identities and forms of literary expression.							
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</b>	<p><i>As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss representative themes in contemporary American literature;</li> <li>2. Examine experiments in style as they relate to genre and content in contemporary American literature;</li> <li>3. Explain how significant contexts shape contemporary American literary expression;</li> <li>4. Show critical awareness of the ways in which American identities are constructed and articulated.</li> </ol>							
<b>METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:</b>	<p>In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lectures and class discussions.</li> <li>• Homework assignments.</li> <li>• Office hours held by the instructor to provide further assistance to students.</li> <li>• Use of library facilities for further study and preparation for the exams</li> <li>• Use of the Blackboard course management platform to further support communication, by posting lecture notes, assignment instruction, timely announcements, formative quizzes and online submission of assignments.</li> </ul>							
<b>ASSESSMENT:</b>	<p>Summative:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>1<sup>st</sup> assessment: <b>Portfolio of Critical Responses (2200-2700 words)</b> At least two critical analyses of works developed through close reading: one response includes select secondary material.</td> <td><b>50%</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd Assessment: <b>Portfolio of Student Engagement</b> (minimum of 4 quizzes and/or 4 blog entries and/or equivalent)</td> <td><b>10%</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final assessment: <b>Examination</b> (2-hour) Two essays or one essay and explication of extracts; 1200-1600 words in total; choice of topics offered</td> <td><b>40%</b></td> </tr> </table>		1 <sup>st</sup> assessment: <b>Portfolio of Critical Responses (2200-2700 words)</b> At least two critical analyses of works developed through close reading: one response includes select secondary material.	<b>50%</b>	2nd Assessment: <b>Portfolio of Student Engagement</b> (minimum of 4 quizzes and/or 4 blog entries and/or equivalent)	<b>10%</b>	Final assessment: <b>Examination</b> (2-hour) Two essays or one essay and explication of extracts; 1200-1600 words in total; choice of topics offered	<b>40%</b>
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	<p><b>Formative:</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="639 219 1441 257"> <tr> <td data-bbox="639 219 1249 257">Active engagement</td> <td data-bbox="1249 219 1441 257">0</td> </tr> </table> <p>The formative coursework aims to prepare students for the summative assessments.</p> <p>The Portfolio of Critical Responses tests Learning Outcomes 2 and 3. The Portfolio of Student Engagement tests Learning Outcomes 1 and 3. The Final Examination tests Learning Outcomes 1 and 4.</p> <p>Students are required to resit failed assessments in this module.</p>	Active engagement	0
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<p><b>INDICATIVE READING:</b></p>	<p><b>REQUIRED READING:</b> Varies according to genre, topic, theme, or issue chosen.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED READING:</b> Varies according to genre, topic, theme, or issue chosen.</p>		
<p><b>INDICATIVE MATERIAL:</b> <i>(e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)</i></p>	<p><b>REQUIRED MATERIAL:</b> Supplementary material used to facilitate contextual understanding of the literary works (documentaries, films, music videos, etc.)</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED MATERIAL:</b> Click or tap here to enter text.</p>		
<p><b>COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:</b></p>	<p>With the exception of the in-class examination, all written work must be word-processed on Word and adhere to MLA guidelines for manuscript format and documentation.</p>		
<p><b>SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:</b></p>	<p>MS Office and Blackboard CMS Enter any additional s/w requirements.</p>		
<p><b>WWW RESOURCES:</b></p>	<p>Vary according to genre, topic, theme, or issue chosen.</p>		
<p><b>INDICATIVE CONTENT:</b></p>	<p>Vary according to genres, topic, theme, or issue chosen.</p> <p>Possible Topics / Themes/ Issues include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Post-9/11 American Literature</li> <li>· Self and Nation in the Contemporary American Memoir</li> <li>· Culture Wars in the American literary scene</li> <li>· New Migrations and Contemporary American Literature</li> <li>· Anxieties in the Contemporary American Novel</li> <li>· Experiments in Contemporary Poetry and Poetics</li> </ul>		