

Common Syllabus for English 213, Survey of American Literature

1. English 213, Survey of American Literature, 3 semester hours credit

2. Prerequisites: Credit for English 101 and 102

3. Course description: “A survey of major American literary figures and their works. Fulfills the core curriculum requirement.” (**MC General Bulletin**)

4. Rationale for English 213, Survey of American Literature

A. The course fulfills 3 of the 6 hours required in the core for literature credit at Mississippi College. As an acceptable segment of the core, it is designed to help students be “conversant with many aspects of his or her culture” (**MC General Bulletin** 33) since the writing of North American authors is an integral part of our culture.

B. The course supports the mission statement of the college by offering students within the liberal arts framework subject matter to stimulate the student’s intellectual development and to raise--through the reading--ideas related to the living of a balanced and meaningful life.

C. The course also satisfies part of the requirement for a major or a minor in English by introducing students to the works of major male and female writers and to the ideas which influenced them.

5. Learning Objectives:

A. The student will have knowledge of major male and female writers, important texts, and the ideas which influenced those texts.

B. The student will continue practice in critical reading and writing skills.

C. The student will continue practice in clear expression of ideas and support of those ideas through well-developed essays.

6. Academic Integrity in English 213: “Mississippi College students are expected to be scrupulously honest. Dishonesty, such as cheating or plagiarism or furnishing false information, including forgery, alteration or misuse of College documents, records or identification, will be regarded as a serious offense subject to severe penalty, including, but not limited to, loss of credit and possible dismissal” (*MC General Bulletin*, p. 49). See MC Policy 2.19 for official policy.

7. Outline of topics to be covered in the course:

Students will read texts from the major periods in American Literature, including:

1. Pre-Revolutionary Period

2. Revolution and 18th Century

3. 19th Century, including Romanticism, Realism, and Naturalism

4. 20th Century, including Modernism and post-Modernism

The course may be organized either historically or thematically.

8. Attendance: Your attendance is especially important in this class and your grade will suffer with more than a couple of absences! That is not a threat; it is an observation. See pp. 46 of the *2000-2001 General Bulletin* for details and for the appeals process; in this course, 12 absences result in an automatic “F” grade. Appeals of absences may be directed according to the guidelines in *2000-2001 General Bulletin*: “If a student misses more than the number of class periods specified in university policy and believes that there are reasonable explanations for the absences [sic], he/she may appeal the absences to the dean of the school in which the course is being taught. Students may obtain a Student Absence Appeal Form from the office of the appropriate dean” (p. 46).