

**Nashville State Community College**  
**Division of English, Humanities and Creative Technologies**  
**English Department**

**2023 Master Course Syllabus**

***ENGL 2120 Web—Modern American Literature***

The purpose of the syllabus is to tell you how the course is organized, what the expectations are, and how you will be graded. In addition, there is important information about how the college will operate during severe weather and how the college will communicate with you. The syllabus is not a contract. Instead, it is meant to help you succeed in this course. If any of the content changes during the semester, you will be notified.

**Course information:**

**Course Title:** ENGL 2120—Modern American Literature

**Credits:** 3 (Honors Option Available)

**Class Hours:** 3

**Course Description:**

A survey of American literature from the period of post-Civil War regionalism through the present. Topics include the works of significant writers of fiction, poetry, prose, and/or drama, taking into account events in history that influenced them. **Prerequisite(s):** ENGL 1010 and ENGL 1020. **Note:** ENGL 2120 meets the general education requirement for Humanities as a literature course or otherwise.

**Instructor Information:**

**Name:**

**Email:**

**Office Phone:**

**Office Location:**

**Office Hours:** Each instructor will share which hours they are available for on-campus meetings and which hours they can meet virtually. (Provide Zoom link and/or Google Voice #).

**Instructor Zoom Room link:**

**Required Textbook(s) & Other Materials:**

**Textbook(s):** *The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Packet 2, Volumes C, D, and E, 10<sup>th</sup> ed., 2022.*

**ISBN:** 978-0-393-69682-0

**Reference Materials:** MLA Handbook or *Writer's Reference* with 8th ed. MLA styleguide

**Supplies:** A computer with broadband internet access is required, as is a word-processing program. Papers must be submitted using .rtf (Rich Text Format), .doc (Word 1998 – 2003), or .docx (Word 2007 – 2010).

Once you have registered for your courses, you should make sure you have the correct textbook and materials for each course. Before courses begin, you can do this by looking up your courses on the [bookstore's website](https://www.bkstr.com/nscstore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials) ( <https://www.bkstr.com/nscstore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials> ) using your A# or by entering your course information. If you are registered with the Access Center and need an alternate format for the textbook and other course materials, please contact the Access Center at 615-353-3721, 615-353-3741, or [accesscenter@nsc.edu](mailto:accesscenter@nsc.edu).

**Digital Course Materials:** These ensure you pay less for your course materials and have easy access through D2L throughout the semester. When you registered for this course, the charge for these materials appeared on your account. If you decide you do not want to purchase the course materials embedded in NS Online, you can opt out of the program **until the end of the second week of classes**. If you opt out, you will be responsible for purchasing the required course materials on your own. For more information, please visit [www.nsc.edu/dcm](http://www.nsc.edu/dcm).

**Honors Option:** Honors credit is available in some classes. If you are interested in participating in the Honors Program, please see your instructor within the first four weeks of class.

**Course Outcomes:** At the end of the semester, this is what you should know and/or be able to do:

1. Analyze significant primary texts as forms of cultural and creative expression.
2. Explain the ways in which humanistic or artistic expression reflects the culture and values of its time and place.
3. Frame a comparative context to critically assess the ideas, forces, and values that shape the texts.
4. Develop an interpretation of a literary text, collect research from appropriate sources, support the interpretation with evidence, and cite the source material.

**Course Competencies:**

The following are general education competencies intended to support the course outcomes:

- Write clear, well-organized documents.
- Know how to locate, evaluate, and use information sources.
- Use critical thinking skills.

**Topics to Be Covered:**

- Romanticism
- Regionalism
- Realism
- Naturalism
- Modernism
- The Harlem Renaissance
- Poetry

- Postmodernism
- Creative Nonfiction
- Contemporary literature

**Course Assessments:** We will use the following assessments to demonstrate your understanding, knowledge, and skills:

Discussions (10 discussions at 15 points each; + up to 10 points extra credit for Introduction discussion)  
= 150 points

Quizzes (12 quizzes at 10 points each; 2 lowest quiz grades will be dropped): 200 points

Short Response Papers (2): 200 points

Research Paper (1): 150 points

Midterm Exam (1): 150 points

Final Exam (1): 150 points

### **Grading Policy:**

Overall Policies:

- Graded work will be returned within three weeks of the due date in most cases.
- **Failure to take a test or turn in the research essay will result in an F for the course.**
- Essays will be graded with the rubric used by all NSCC English instructors.
- **All writing assignments and essays require standard 2016 (8th edition) MLA documentation,** including a correct MLA heading and correctly formatted in-text citations and Works Cited page.
- The MLA assignment, writing assignments, and essays must be submitted in Word or Rich Text (.docx, .doc or .rtf) file formats. Please note that you have access to *Microsoft Office 365*, including *Microsoft Word*, through your MyNSCC email account. Submit these assignments through the Assignment Dropbox; emailed papers and physical copies will not be accepted.
- No proctors are needed for the quizzes. Quizzes are taken online.

### Assignments and Testing Procedures:

- Discussions: Discussion forums will encourage you to share your perspective with classmates. Discussions will be graded on quality and quantity of your responses. You should post your answer to one of the discussion questions after you have completed the corresponding readings. Grading criteria for discussion posts is located under Read Me First. To earn points for responding to other students, you should not just write "I agree" or "Good post." Instead, your responses should comment on the content of the answer, add points, ask questions, disagree with a point, or otherwise promote conversation.
- Quizzes: These will be used to ensure the student understands the material presented for each module (including online content and textbook readings). These quizzes will include multiple choice, multi-select, and short answer response questions. **Students may use the textbooks and notes for completing the quizzes, but no websites or any other outside sources are allowed, and students are not allowed to work together on quizzes.** The quizzes do not have a time

limit, but students will only be able to submit answers to the quizzes once. Quizzes are made available to you early in the course and must be completed by the specific deadline dates for each Module (see the Calendar for specific due dates). For any direct quotations from the textbook or class notes, you should include a signal phrase as well as quotation marks around the direct quote. (In-text citations and a Works Cited page are not required on quizzes.)

- Tests: Two tests will measure your ability to identify authors, works, and the importance of those works to the development of American Literature. These tests will include term identification, quote identification, multiple choice, short answer, and short essays. Though they are not required, the checklists under Course Tools should be used as study guides for these exams. The tests must be taken on D2L and have a limited availability window (see the Calendar). Tests also have a time limit of 2.5 hours from the time you begin the test until you will have to stop. **Students may use the textbooks and notes for completing the tests, but no websites or any other outside sources are allowed, and students are not allowed to work together on tests.** Students will only be able to submit answers to the tests once. For any direct quotations from the textbook or class notes, you should include a signal phrase as well as quotation marks around the direct quote. (In-text citations and a Works Cited page are not required on the test.)
- Writing Assignments: These short response papers will allow you to explore the significance of elements of American Literature as they apply to various works read in the course and to practice your essay writing skills. You must use Smart Thinking for your two response papers. Please see the Course Documents section for requirements, detailed instructions, and the grading rubric.
- Research Essay: One fully developed research essay will explore your interpretation of the class texts and place them in historical context. Please see the Course Documents section for requirements, detailed instructions, and the grading rubric.

#### Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Range
A	100-90
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 or below

#### FA

If you stop attending class or if you are in an online class and stop submitting assignments, but do not turn in a withdrawal form by the deadline, you are still enrolled in class. You will be given a grade of FA, which means you have failed due to not attending class and not completing your assignments. Please refer to the current academic calendar available on the Nashville State web site, looking for the date that indicates it is the “Last Day to Earn F for Attendance (FA).” If you stop attending your course after this date, you will receive an F.

**The FA date for Spring 2023 is March 24, 2023. If I do not receive any work from you after this date, you will receive a grade of FA in this class.**

#### FN

An FN is awarded if you have never attended your course or done any of the work in an online course.

### **Late Work Policy & Make-up Procedures for Missed Assignments and Work:**

As long as you complete the readings and assignments by the due dates, there are no specific days or times that you need to participate. You can work on this course at a time of day best suited to your needs. The detailed due dates for the tests and essays are listed in the calendar and should be met. Assignments and quizzes may be done early, but late work (completed after the due date noted in the calendar) will not be accepted, neither will late tests or essays.

I reserve the right to consider extenuating circumstances. Please contact me immediately if you have a serious medical situation, family emergency, or other crisis.

### **Attendance Policy**

#### **General Policy**

If you have been exposed to COVID-19 or have tested positive, you must email [virusinfo@nscc.edu](mailto:virusinfo@nscc.edu).

- *Absences in a course may affect your final grade.*
- *Tardiness may also affect your final grade.*
- *You are responsible for all work/tests that occur during any missed course session(s) regardless of reason(s) for absence.*
- *If you are not well enough to attend a course session (class), you must notify the instructor as soon as possible before the scheduled course time.*
  - *If you are unable to notify an instructor before the scheduled course time, you must contact the instructor as soon as reasonably possible.*
- *If you have an unavoidable conflict with a scheduled course session, you must notify the instructor before the course session.*
  - *If you are unable to notify an instructor before the scheduled course time, you must contact the instructor as soon as reasonably possible.*

#### **Instructor's Policy**

The attendance policy for this course is:

**I define "attendance" as participation in this class.** If you miss a class, you are responsible for completing any work you missed. I do not give makeup quizzes or exams, but all other work will be accepted when you return to school. If you miss on the date an essay is due, make other arrangements to turn it in (via email or dropbox as required by the assignment), or make sure to follow the late work policy above.

**For financial aid** purposes, **attendance** is measured by participation in the course. Instructors can determine your level of participation in several ways. Some of those ways are:

- continued attendance
- participation in on-ground or virtual class sessions
- participating in D2L as prompted
- responding to an instructor's email
- posting to a discussion board

- completing and submitting assignments

### **Technology Statement**

- All classes at the College are web enhanced. “Web enhanced” means that components of the course, such as assignments and online discussions, may be located online in the class D2L/NS Online course shell and used in the course, even if the course meets in a classroom on ground.
- You must have access to a computer and an internet connection to complete assignments, engage in online discussions, and access various course materials through D2L/NS Online course shells.
- You may also be required to use free video conferencing platforms (examples: Zoom, Teams, etc.) for course sessions and meetings.
- You will be responsible for appropriate dress while on video. This means that you are expected to dress as if you were in a classroom.
- You will be responsible for a distraction free environment while on video. This means that the professor and others in the course should not be able to hear noise in your home, such as cell phones, TVs, or barking dogs. The best way to do this is to keep yourself on “mute” until you need to speak.
- You will be responsible for making sure your background is neutral. Keep in mind that students and professors come from all around the world, and you are all a part of our community. Therefore, please avoid having images in your background that may be offensive to your classmates.
- Certain publisher materials, such as textbook figures, may not work on cellphones and may require a laptop or a tablet.
- If you have questions or concerns regarding access to a computer or internet resources, please contact your instructor. Additional information is available on the [access to internet and technology website](#).

### **Computer Labs**

Computers are available for all Nashville State students to use at each campus during open hours. Open computer lab availability may vary from campus to campus.

You should check the NSCC website for current hours of operation.

### **D2L/NS Online and myNSCC**

It is your responsibility to check your email in **both** D2L/NS Online course shells and your @my.nsc.edu (student email) on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and you. You are responsible for the information communicated through these email channels. D2L/NS Online emails contain specific course information and @my.nsc.edu emails contain important information from college offices, such as Financial Aid.

### **ADA Compliance Statement**

If you need accommodations due to a disability, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Access Center. Disabilities for which you can receive accommodations include documented physical, emotional, and/or learning conditions. Nashville State is committed to supporting your success, and we encourage you to get assistance if needed. If you require accommodations for any courses in which you are

enrolled, contact the Access Center at 615.353.3741 or 615.353.3721, or e-mail [accesscenter@nsc.edu](mailto:accesscenter@nsc.edu).

### **Classroom Misconduct**

Disruptive conduct is not allowed in the classroom. Disruptive conduct is any behavior that prevents students from learning and interferes with the ability of the instructor to teach. This may change from course to course; therefore, your individual instructors will give you guidance on what qualifies as “disruptive conduct” in their courses. Please review the [Nashville State Student Code of Conduct policy](#). Please be aware that children are not allowed in class or to be left unattended on campus.

### **Academic Misconduct**

You have started this academic journey to prepare for a future career. Because of this, it is important that you learn the materials being presented in your courses. For this reason, cheating, in any form, robs you of your opportunity to learn and master the material that will enable you to succeed in that future career. Nashville State has a clear [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) that you are expected to follow. In addition, your instructors will clarify what Academic Misconduct looks like and the consequences for violations in each course that you take. The instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “zero” for such violations or for the semester grade.

Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Some examples of academic dishonesty include:

- Submitting material you did not write
- Submitting essays written for another class
- Submitting essays drafted by you but revised or edited by another
- Failing to properly paraphrase, summarize, quote, or cite sources
- Copying and pasting from sources found on the Internet without properly acknowledging sources.

Any form of plagiarism or cheating may constitute failure of the course. Essays and other written work will be submitted to Turnitin.com to check for plagiarism and to make sure that sources are being used correctly. If an essay or other class assignment is found to contain plagiarism, the student will receive a zero for that assignment. All essays will be submitted through Turnitin.com which is a site designed to detect work plagiarized from the Internet. If an instructor suspects that an assignment has been plagiarized, that assignment will be submitted to Turnitin.com. Essays and assignments found to contain plagiarism will receive a grade of zero. A second incident of plagiarism will result in an “F” for the final grade in the course.

After a student has committed two acts of plagiarism, that student will receive an “F” for the course even if that student continues to attend class and submit other work. The “F” will remain as the final grade.

### **Course Content**

Course materials—including literature, supplementary materials, Internet content, and class discussions—may contain graphic content, mature content, and content that some might find difficult or offensive. The course content may be challenging and difficult, but advanced study requires grappling

with these topics. No material will be changed or any substitution allowed. By choosing to remain in this course, you have chosen to accept its requirements. Hearing the voices of writers and of fellow students is an important part of this process, so all of us must work to create an environment that is both respectful and academically rigorous.

### **Academic Early Alert System**

If you are not doing well in your course, your instructor may send you an Early Alert through your @my.nsc.edu email. This email will go to your academic advisor and Student Success advisor, as well. If you get an Early Alert, contact your instructor immediately. Instructors send these when they want to help you figure out how to get extra support to pass the course. An Early Alert does not mean that you have already failed the course. Rather, it means you are in danger of failing the course if you do not change your learning strategy. Please use an Early Alert to your advantage and as an opportunity to improve your grade.

### **RAVE Emergency Alert System**

You can log in to this free alert system to receive text messages about emergencies related to NSCC campuses: <https://www.getrave.com/login/nsc>. The instructions for this are listed below.

- Your RAVE Username is your NSCC email address.
- If you've never received an email from RAVE with your password, or if you need to reset your password, select "Forgot your password?" and a new password will be emailed to you.
- Should the RAVE system indicate "user not found", select Register and create your own RAVE account.

### **Student Wellness**

Your well-being is important to us. With this in mind, the college has several resources available to provide support when needed:

- [Free tutoring](#) provides assistance beyond the classroom to help you make the most of your college education.
- [These resources](#) include NSCC email, scheduling, online courses, textbooks, tech check out and support, computer labs on campuses, academic advising, financial advising, COVID-19 information and procedures on campuses.
- [Services](#) that help with bus passes, food, childcare, textbooks, housing, financial counseling, personal counseling, suicide prevention, health insurance.

### **Equity Statement**

Nashville State Community College strives to ensure that each student receives what that student needs to be successful, with goals of success beyond the classroom. We understand and practice ideals of equity and inclusion for our students by embracing a full spectrum of experiences, viewpoints, and intellectual approaches in order to overcome barriers to success.

### **Inclement Weather & Campus Closings**

You get notices about campus closings in these places: text messages from RAVE and [www.nsc.edu](http://www.nsc.edu).



Even when campuses are closed, you are still responsible for completing all assigned work. Check D2L/NS Online for a message from your instructor so you do not miss important assignments and due dates, which may change due to the campus closure.

### **Class Cancellation Policy**

Our instructors post messages about cancelling classes in the D2L/NSOnline course shells and/or on the classroom door on campus. These messages can be found in the News and Content section or the Email tab in the online shell. Please check these to be sure that you take advantage of opportunities for learning and points toward your grade.

