ENG 3703-001: American Literature: 1900 to 1950

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English 3703  Modern American Literature 1900-1950

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Books for the course:
Norton Anthology of American Literature, ed. Nina Baym
Death Comes for the Archbishop, Willa Cather
The Sun Also Rises, Ernest Hemingway
Their Eyes Were Watching God, Zora Neale Hurston
Spoon River Anthology, Edgar Lee Masters
The Age of Innocence, Edith Wharton

In ways this class will explore, American literature seriously came into its own in the first half of the twentieth century, just as the United States itself did as a complicated multicultural society with worldwide interests and influence it remains to this day. Part of the course will look at how American writers saw this society and role developing before their eyes and what artistic strategies they created to best represent this.

Rules for the class are as follows: I expect and insist on regular, consistent attendance; I expect and insist on professional reading habits; and I expect and insist on active participation in discussion. Written work for the class will consist primarily of a long take home final at the end of the semester.