Aug. 24: Introduction
   26: Bishop’s “In the Waiting Room” (2479) and Jarrell’s “90 North” (2502) and
   “The Death of the Ball Turret Gunner” (2503)

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Sept. 31: Roethke’s “The Far Field” (2455) and Lowell’s “Skunk Hour” (2536)
   2: Lowell’s “For the Union Dead” (2538) and Plath’s “Lady Lazarus” (2744)

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    7: Plath’s “Daddy” (2748) and Sexton’s “The Truth the Dead Know” (2704)
   9: Creeley’s “The Door” (2626) and Rich’s “Diving into the Wreck” (2719)

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14: Bellow’s Seize the Day
16: Seize the Day

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21: Ginsberg’s “A Supermarket in California” (2641) and Snyder’s “Milton by Firelight” (2733)
23: Vonnegut’s Slaughterhouse-Five. (ESSAYS DUE.)

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28: Slaughterhouse-Five
30: Hayden’s “Those Winter Sundays” (2493) and Cervantes’ “Uncle’s First Rabbit” (2831) and “For Virginia Chavez” (2833)

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Oct. 5: Song’s “Lost Sister” (2841) and “Heaven” (2845)
   7: Kesey’s One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest. (TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM ISSUED; DUE 10/16.)

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12: One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest
14: Morrison’s Sula. (TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM DUE.)

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19: Sula
21: Cheever’s “The Swimmer” (1862)

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26: Updike’s “Separating” (2096)
28: Walker’s “Everyday Use” (2274)

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Nov. 2: Miller’s Death of a Salesman
4: Death of a Salesman

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9: Baraka’s Dutchman
11: Williams’ Streetcar Named Desire

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16: Streetcar Named Desire
18: Carver’s “Cathedral” (2197)
22--26: Thanksgiving Recess

30: Beattie's "Weekend" (2302)
Dec. 2: Silko's "Lullaby" (2349). (ESSAYS DUE.)

7: Erdrich's "Fleur" (2385)
9: Review/Catch-up

I'll announce in class date/time of our final exam.

We are going to read a lot of literature in this course, as you can see by the assignments listed on this and the preceding page, and I'll expect each student to read every novel, play, poem and short story assigned—and to be prepared to discuss each one in class—by the date a given work is scheduled for discussion.

Each student will be required to write two (2) essays (3-5 pages, typed and double-spaced), one midterm exam and a final exam. I will not accept any late essays or exams, and students' essays/exams are to be their own work.

I don't like absences—my own or my students'—and this partially explains why I will lower a student's grade for the semester by one letter if he/she has more than three unexcused absences from this class; and if a student has more than four unexcused absences I will fail that student for the semester.

With all the above cautionary words said, then, what needs saying is that the success of this course depends upon how disciplined each of us is, how generously and thoughtfully verbal in class discussions each of us is, and how open to learning about our nation and our selves—from American literature and each other—each of us is.