

Spring 1-15-1997

## ENG 5010-001: Fictions of the Twenties

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Spring 1997  
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**English 5010:  
Fictions of the Twenties**

**TEXTS**

- 1920: Age of Innocence, Edith Wharton  
This Side of Paradise, F. Scott Fitzgerald
- 1922: Babbitt Sinclair Lewis
- 1923: A Lost Lady, Willa Cather
- 1925: Manhattan Transfer, John Dos Passos  
short fiction in The New Negro, ed. Alain Locke  
Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, Anita Loos
- 1926: The Sun Also Rises, Ernest Hemingway
- 1928: Quicksand, Nella Larsen  
Home to Harlem, Claude McKay
- 1929: The Sound and the Fury, William Faulkner (not yet available from TRS)

**ASSIGNMENTS**

*Reading:* We will typically read one book each week. We will read them in chronological order. Additionally, each member of the class will read one novel or short story collection not on the syllabus.

*Writing:* A two-page typed response to the reading is due each week. You will also turn in an annotated bibliography relating to one of the works on the syllabus. (You will not have to turn in a response to the book that week.) A critical essay on a topic of your devising will be due late in the semester. There will also be a final exam.

*Presenting:* You will present copies of your annotated bibliography to the class on the night that we read the work in question and briefly talk us through it. Some time after mid-term, you will also report to the class on a book you selected to supplement our reading list. This presentation should include a handout with full bibliographic information, quotations from the book, and any other relevant material. You will also be asked to make a brief presentation on the results of the research you did for your paper. \*If you get a copy of your handouts to me by noon of the day of any of your presentations, I will be responsible for having enough copies made. Otherwise, I will assume that you have taken care of it.

*Objectives:* Our goal is to familiarize ourselves with fiction written by Americans during the 1920s so that we have a basis for understanding and assessing the validity and usefulness of the various paradigms that have been used to describe the era ("Jazz Age," "Harlem Renaissance"), the fiction ("modernist"), the writers and their characters ("a lost generation").

**GRADES**

- 40% Responses (20% at mid-term + 20% at end of term)
- 10% Participation, including attendance + presentations
- 10% Annotated Bibliography
- 25% Paper
- 15% Final Exam

Grades are not curved: 91%+ = A; 81-90% = B; 71-80% = C; 61-70% = D; -60% = F.