Spring 1-15-2003

ENG 3703-002: Modern American Literature

Carpenter

Eastern Illinois University

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_spring2003

Part of the English Language and Literature Commons

Recommended Citation
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_spring2003/111

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 2003 at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Spring 2003 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.
English 3703, Modern American Literature
Carpenter (Office: CH3745; phone ext.: 6122)

Jan. 14: Introduction
16: Chopin’s The Awakening

21: The Awakening
23: Cather’s My Antonia, as well as Stafford’s “Judgements, “One Home,” and “The Farm on the Great Plains”

28: My Antonia

Feb. 4: Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby

11: Hemingway’s The Sun Also Rises
13: The Sun Also Rises

18: Faulkner’s The Sound and the Fury
20: The Sound and the Fury

25: O’Neill’s Long Day’s Journey into Night, as well as Frost’s “Home Burial.”
Take-home midterm exam issued, due March 6.
27: Long Day’s Journey into Night

March 4: Miller’s Death of a Salesman
6: Death of a Salesman. Midterm exam due today.

3/10—3/14: Spring Recess

18: Williams’ A Streetcar Named Desire
20: A Streetcar Named Desire

25: Stevens’ “The Idea of Order at Key West” and “Anecdote of the Jar”
27: Williams’ “The Ivy Crown” and “Tract,” as well as Lowell’s “After the Surprising Conversions”

April 1 & 3: Gilman’s “The Yellow Wallpaper” and Wright’s “A Five Dollar Fight”


15 & 17: Porter’s “The Jilting of Granny Weatherall,” as well as Hughes’ “Trumpet Player” and “Feet Live Their Own Life”
22 & 24: Ellison’s “Invisible Man” and Baldwin’s “Sonny’s Blues”

29 & May 1: Moore’s “Poetry,” as well as review and/or catch-up.

Date and time of final exam to be announced.

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 will 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 (e.g., by 4 February each student will be expected to have read for class discussion Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby). (Please note that titles of short stories, like those of poems, are placed within quotation marks; titles of novels and plays are underlined.) While we’ll begin the semester by studying novels, move next to plays and then to short stories, we will be reading and discussing poems throughout the semester.

Each student will be required to write two (2) essays (3-5 pages, typed and double-spaced), one midterm-exam essay and a final-exam essay. I will not accept any late essays, and students’ essays 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.