REQUIRED TEXTS and REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:
PURCHASE ALL AT BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER!
- E 316K LHS Course Packet, Berry (University Co-op)
- Ken Kesey, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* (1962; Penguin rpt. 1976)

We will see a film of a *Death of a Salesman* production in its entirety. All film footage shown in class will be subject to examinations the same as written texts (as will class discussions, handouts, and any other materials presented during the course).

**Course Prerequisites:** Completion of at least 27 semester hours of coursework, including Rhetoric and Composition 306 or the equivalent, and a passing score on the reading section of the Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA) test (or an appropriate assessment test).

**Course Objectives:** This course is designed to provide an overview of selected American literary voices in poems, short stories, two novels, and a play. We will examine author biographies and a close reading of the texts, including the contextual, historical, cultural and ideological background information that gave rise to such works.

**Course Materials Required:** All course textbooks and course packet listed above, a notebook reserved solely for notetaking for this course (any kind you prefer), a pen (tests must be taken in pen), 6 medium-sized bluebooks (blank exam books; 2 needed per test), and notepaper (for occasional use with quizzes which does not have a perforated edge).

Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodation from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259.

**Grade Percentages:**
- 25% EXAM 1 [March 8th & 10th]
- 25% EXAM 2 [April 21st & 23rd]
- 30% EXAM 3/FINAL EXAM [Saturday, May 15th, 2-5 pm]
- 20% Attendance, attendance, attendance! Participation, focus, enthusiasm!

**Quiz average.** (I’ll explain about quizzes in detail in class).

*All Exams must be taken to receive a passing final grade in the course.*

*No final plus-or-minus grades will be given in this course.*
Have your reading assignments completed by their corresponding date on the syllabus! The importance of completing these readings by their lecture date cannot be overemphasized. Otherwise you will get significantly less context and comprehension from the lectures, a key and stone-cold fact to consider if your goal is to score high on the course exams. Check several classes ahead to prepare for longer readings. Readings not specified on syllabus as * separate text * or * handout * are in your Co-op Course Packet.

* IT IS MANDATORY THAT EACH STUDENT BRING WITH HIM/HER THE TEXT(S) WE ARE WORKING ON AND A PEN AND NOTE TAKING MATERIAL TO EVERY CLASS. *

JANUARY
20 W: FIRST CLASS DAY. Intro to course and course aims; fill out bio cards; review course syllabus.
27 W: Finish de Crèvecoeur; Whitman’s epic poem, Song of Myself; analysis of famous drawing and book frontispiece of Leaves of Grass [famous poetry collection which contains SOM].
29 F: Whitman, Song of Myself.

FEBRUARY
1 M: Song of Myself.
3 W: Song of Myself.
5 F: Song of Myself.
8 M: Naturalism and Stephen Crane, bio and first third of “The Open Boat”; Crane poems “A Man Said to the Universe” & “A Man Adrift on a Slim Spar.”
10 W: 2nd third of “The Open Boat.”
12 F: The last third of “The Open Boat.”
17 W: Cont. “The Open Boat.”
19 F: Stephen Crane, Maggie, A Girl of the Streets, [*separate text*], pp. 3-49 (through Chapter XIII).
22 M: Maggie, pp. 49-69 (Chapters XIV to end). See Jacob Riis’ How the Other Half Lives slides in class.
24 W: Cont. Maggie.
26 F: Cont. Maggie.

MARCH
1 M: Cont. Maggie.
3 W: Cont. Maggie. First part of Exam 1 one week away.
5 F: Finish Maggie. Exam 1 next two classes.
8 M: First part of EXAM 1. [No alternate times or make-ups.] Second part of Exam 1 next class.
10 W: Second part of EXAM 1. [No alternate times or make-ups.]
Intro to Arthur Miller’s play *Death of a Salesman* [separate text*]. Have read first act of the play.

**SPRING BREAK.** Back after this brief break…. Come back safely!

**SPRING BREAK.** The fun continues.

**DOAS.** Begin film production of play viewing in class. **Cont. DOAS.**

**DOAS; film.**

Cont. **DOAS; film.**

Cont. **DOAS; film.**

APRIL

**Flannery O’Connor, bio and short story [packet] “A Good Man is Hard to Find.”**

**Cont. “A Good Man.”** and begin Ken Kesey, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*, pp. 3-53 [to middle-of-the-page break].

**Cuckoo’s Nest, pp. 53-110 [to break].** See film.

**Cuckoo’s Nest, pp. 110-203 [to break].** See film.

**Cuckoo’s Nest, pp. 203-245.** See film.

**Cuckoo’s Nest, pp. 249-311 [to end of novel].** See film.

Finish Cuckoo’s Nest. **Exam 2 next two classes.**

**First part of EXAM 2. [No alternate times or make-ups.] Second part of Exam 2 next class.**

**Second part of EXAM 2. [No alternate times or make-ups.]**

**Cormac McCarthy, The Road [separate text*], pp. 1-68 (to break).**

**Cont. The Road, pp. 68 (from break)-106.**

**Cont. The Road, pp. 107-174 (to break).**

MAY

**Cont. The Road, pp. 174 (after break)-238 (to break).**

**Cont. The Road, pp. 238 (after first break)-287 (end of novel).**

**LAST CLASS DAY.** Finish The Road and an in-class reading of my short story “Human Sexuality.” Review/Refresh for Exam 3/Final Exam.

**EXAM 3/FINAL EXAM — 2-5 pm; location tba** (location available online approximately 3 weeks before Spring 2010 finals exams begin.

**NO EARLY TAKERS OR MAKE-UPS. Final Exam times are scheduled by a university administrative mandate and allow no exceptions.** The Final Exam will be given to all students on this date and time only. **Be on time!** Arriving more than 20 minutes late may result in the forfeiture of your right to take this exam. No extra time will be given. **No exceptions to these university enforced mandates.** The exam location will be available and can be accessed online approximately 3 weeks before the end of the semester. *This exam will cover readings, lectures, class meetings, & handouts that come after Exam 2 but may refer to previous readings (only in a general way) for essay questions.*
- Attendance rolls will be taken at the beginning of each class.
- Consult Course Policy Statement for many further details about general class comportment and format.
- Please do your best to avoid late arrivals or early exits—a distraction to all concerned.
- All cell phones must be put away from lecture’s beginning to end; this includes sight checking messages or texting.
- Laptops are to be used for notetaking only. NO INTERNET USE OF ANY KIND IN CLASS!

* The instructor retains the right to vary readings on this syllabus as needed. *