Prerequisites: Nine semester hours of coursework in English or rhetoric and writing.

Description: This course will trace the origins and development of realism as a literary movement and aesthetic strategy in the United States from the 1860s through the turn-of-the-century. Given the radical social changes during this period in gender, racial, and class terms, how did Realism emerge as both symptom and critique of these conditions? What were the features of this new literary aesthetic, and how did it influence the formation of realism in popular culture? Situating these texts within their social context will be a major feature of this course.

Texts:
Ed, Candace Ward
Kate Chopin
Stephen Crane
Henry James
Jack London

Great Short Stories by American Women
The Awakening
The Open Boat and Other Stories
Daisy Miller
The Call of the Wild

Note: Handouts and films are considered texts that may generate exam questions.

Requirements & Grading: The course grade will consist of: attendance and participation (20%), including in-class free writing exercises; four exams (20% each—80% total). Failure to complete all required coursework will result in a failing course grade. Plus/minus grading will be used for the final course grade.

Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction: From Romanticism to Realism

June 3- What is Realism?
June 4- Hawthorne, “Young Goodman Brown”

Week 2: Realism

June 7- Davis, “Life in the Iron Mills”
June 8- Davis, “Life in the Iron Mills”
June 9- Crane, Maggie, A Girl of the Streets
June 10- Crane, Maggie, A Girl of the Streets
*June 11- Exam 1

Week 3: Realism & Regionalism

June 14- James, Daisy Miller
June 15- James, Daisy Miller
June 16- Freeman, “A New England Nun”
June 17- Freeman, “A New England Nun”
*June 18- Exam 2

Week 4: Women & Realism

June 21- Chopin, The Awakening
June 22- Chopin, The Awakening
June 23- Gillman, “The Yellow Wall-Paper”
June 24- Gillman, “The Yellow Wall-Paper”
*June 25-Exam 3


Week 5: Naturalism

June 28-Crane, “The Open Boat”
June 29- Crane, “The Open Boat”
June 30- Blanton Museum Visit
July 1- London, The Call of the Wild
July 2- London, The Call of the Wild

Week 6: Conclusion: From Realism to Modernism

July 5-Film: Nanook of the North
July 6-Film: Man with the Movie Camera
July 7- Conclusion and Evaluations
*July 8-Exam 4

Policies:

Honor Code: The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

Academic Integrity: Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student’s own work. For additional information on Academic Integrity, see http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acadint.php

Documented Disability Statement: The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone) or http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd

Religious Holy Days: By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Syllabus: The instructor retains the right to vary the syllabus for this class.

Instructors: J.M. González
Office: PAR 321
Office hrs: and by appointment