MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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| ENG 211: Survey of American Literature I, Spring 2014   Section HONORS: TTH 11::10—12:35, Parkhouse Hall 327 | mccc2cstack |

**DR. HAROLD WILLIAM HALBERT**

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| Office Phone: 215.641.6371 Website: http://www.halhalbert.com | Email: hhalbert@mc3.edu |
| Office: Parkhouse Hall 441  Office Hours:  Tuesday and Thursday: 8 AM to 9:30 AM  and by appointment | Writing Center Hours:  Monday: 10:15 AM to 11:45 AM  Tuesday: 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM  Wednesday and Friday: 10:15 AM to Noon  Call 215.641.6452  to schedule appointments |

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**:

This course is a chronological survey of American literature from the Colonial Period to the Civil War. Significant works of American writers are studied for their literary value and in their historical and philosophical contexts. This course meets General Education Core Goal 7: Aesthetic Sensibility and the Arts.  As an honors section, the course is designed to push your reading, writing, and presentation skills so that you will thrive in future college seminars.

**PREREQUISITE(S**):

C or better in ENG 101 or equivalent

**CO-REQUISITE(S):** None

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Discuss characteristics of literature that impact enjoyment of reading. (Core Goal 7.1)
2. Verbalize an increase in his/her self-awareness, through a development of their critical abilities. (Core Goal 7.2)
3. Discuss the relationship between the past and contemporary societal views in literature. (Core Goal 7.1)
4. Analyze examples of literature for excellence. (Core Goal 7.1 and 7.2)
5. Verbalize an appreciation for the aesthetic and philosophical achievements of the English literary tradition. (Core Goal 7.1)
6. Present chronologically the various movements and writers of American literature from the Colonial Period through the Civil War. (Core Goal 7.2)
7. Study various writers in terms of their relationship to the American tradition and to their own age, and in terms of their influence, both stylistic and thematic, on later artists. (Core Goal 7.1)

**COURSE CONTENT**

My courses are designed to deal with adult issues often centering on controversial cultural and historical conflicts. At times, the class readings, lectures, and discussions may question ideas or beliefs that individual students hold dear. In addition, the language used in the course may range from highly technical jargon to the vernacular, including profanity. Students who wish to avoid such a classroom environment should seek another section of the course.

**TEXTBOOK AND REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

* *The Heath Anthology of American Literature* (vols. A & B): 7th edition.
* Access to current MLA formatting guidelines.
* Pen and paper for each class

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

English 211 will be one of the most challenging courses of your academic career because it moves quickly, requires a wide range of academic skills, and demands more time than the average course. We will complete four major essay cycles consisting of content readings, skills readings, prewriting, drafting, peer revisions, and final drafts. A breakdown of the assignments and relative point values is as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| Final drafts of major papers | 200 points |
| MS Word Formatting Assignment for each paper | 21 |
| Annotated bibliographies | 50 points |
| Individual drafts of papers | 20 points (prorated for completeness) |
| Required emails and posts | 1 point if completed -5 if not |
| Submitting Final Drafts to Turnitin.com | Zero on final draft if not done |
| Reading checks | 5 points |
| Late to class | -2 points for each occurrence |
| Attendance | 1 point for each class attended -5 points for each absence or as otherwise noted on daily assignments; 5th absence means F in course |

Your grade is calculated by adding the total points earned and then dividing them by the total points possible. That average will then be plugged into the college's grading scale.

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| **Transcript/Entry Numerical Grade** | **Corresponding letter grade** | **Percent Equivalent** |
| 4.0 | A | 93.6-100% |
| 3.7 | A- | 89.5-93.5% |
| 3.3 | B+ | 87.5-89.4% |
| 3.0 | B | 83.5-87.5% |
| 2.7 | B- | 79.5-83.5% |
| 2.3 | C+ | 77.5-79.5% |
| 2.0 | C | 69.5-77.4% |
| 1.3 | D | 63.5-69.5% |
| 0.0 | F | 0-63.5% |

Be advised that **you must complete all major papers in order to pass the course.** Even if your paper is too late to be accepted under the late work policies, it must be completed by the end of the semester. If it is not, then you will automatically fail for the course, regardless of what your point total is.

**MAJOR PAPER REWRITE OPTION**

In order to allow students to benefit from the three-step writing process and to turn in the best possible work for evaluation, students will be permitted to revise the first graded major paper in the course for an entirely new grade provided the assignment/essay was handed in on time and without plagiarism. Late or plagiarized papers are ineligible for revision.

Note: Just turning in a revision does not guarantee a higher grade. In the event that the revised draft grade is actually lower than the original assignment, you will receive the higher of the two grades; however, a higher revision grade always replaces the original grade, so if you are prepared to work hard, your grade will most likely benefit. See the class web page for more information on the major paper rewrite. Please see the class web page's assignments section for more explicit details.

**COLLEGE POLICIES:**

All College policies must be followed and are a binding part of this syllabus. Details on the Student Code of Conduct can be found at [http://www.mc3.edu/policy/sa/conduct.htm](http://www.mc3.edu/policy/sa/conduct.htm" \t "_blank).

**PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Plagiarism constitutes a serious breach of academic honesty and will not be tolerated. Unless I deem an act of plagiarism or cheating an honest mistake, I routinely assign students an "F" in the course for any act of academic dishonesty without the option of withdrawing from the course. Especially egregious acts will receive an "FX" with an additional notation of academic misconduct on the student's transcript. Please note that submitting work from another class as original work for this course constitutes academic dishonesty. For a full discussion of the Academic Honesty policies, please see [http://www.mc3.edu/policy/aa/ethics.htm](http://www.mc3.edu/policy/aa/ethics.htm" \t "_blank).

All students in my English courses will submit their papers to TurnItIn.com, a tool that checks your papers against other sources. You will have a chance to see your report and revise it before the final draft is due, should you choose.

**SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Montgomery County Community College (MCCC) welcomes qualified students with disabilities and endorses the principles of nondiscrimination and reasonable accommodation as described in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). To see if you are eligible for services and reasonable accommodations in this course please review the policy on the Disabilities web site at [http://www.mc3.edu/policy/sa/disable.htm](http://www.mc3.edu/policy/sa/disable.htm" \t "_blank).

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Regular attendance and punctuality are expected. Students may miss four class meetings and remain in the course. The fifth absence will result in either a required withdrawal from the course (before the **March 11, 2014** deadline) or an automatic F in the course (after the **March 11, 2014** deadline for withdrawal without a signature). At the start of the semester, each student will receive 12 points of extra credit for attendance. Points lost for tardiness or absences will initially be taken from this pool of points, giving students the flexibility to miss two classes without injury to their grades. Each absence will subtract five points from a student's total points scored for the semester. Each late arrival will subtract two points from the total points scored. A point will be awarded for each class attended. If a student knows he or she will miss a class, that student should alert Dr. Halbert beforehand. Under special circumstances (usually involving a documented medical emergency or a death in the family), you may request permission to remain enrolled in the course if your absences have exceeded four, but such circumstances are rare. Attendance will be taken by sign-in sheet at the start of class: students arriving after the sign-in sheet will be marked tardy. If you arrive late, please wait until the end of class to sign the sheet. Failure to sign the sheet at all constitutes an absence. Students who leave class early must ask for permission prior to the start of class; if you leave without permission before I dismisses the class, you will be marked absent for the whole period. Good manners suggest that if you know you will miss a class meeting, you will contact me and let me know.

**CLASS CANCELLATION:**

In the event of inclement weather or other emergency, the MCCC School Closing Code is 320 for day classes and 2320 for evening classes. Announcements will be made on KYW (1060 AM) and other local stations. In the event that I have to cancel a class, I will email the class and post a message on Blackboard (assuming I have power at home to access the Internet).

**WITHDRAWAL POLICY, INCOMPLETES, AND AUDITS:**

Should you wish to withdraw from the course, the deadline to withdraw without my signature is March 11, 2014. If you do not formally withdrawal, you will receive an F for the course even if you stop attending. ***After March 11, 2014, I will not sign any withdrawal requests unless you have a documented emergency. If I have not returned the first paper by this date, I will extend the deadline until one week after that paper is returned.*** March 11, 2014, is also the last day to ask to audit.

Applications for an "Incomplete" will only be entertained in cases of documented medical emergencies, incarceration, or military call-ups. Audits will not be permitted unless you start the course as an audit student and can convince me that you are willing to do all that work for no grade.

**TURNING IN MAJOR PAPERS**

When the final draft of a major paper is due, you will need to do the following:

* Submit a copy to the appropriate Dropbox located in Blackboard as either an MS Word, Pages, or Rich Text Format file. When required, a works cited page should be included in the same file. ***This file is what will actually be graded.***
* Post a copy to the discussion board in the "Final Draft" forum.
* Submit the paper to Turnitin.com and get a receipt. Papers not submitted to Turnitin.com receive zeros. See handout for log-in information.

**LATE WORK**

All work is due at the beginning of class on the day listed for the syllabus unless otherwise noted. I hate late work from students: it complicates my ability to grade or simply keep track of your work. More importantly, it devalues the efforts of your classmates who work very hard to meet their deadlines. To discourage late work, I have the following policy:

* Final drafts of papers lose 25 points (out of the possible 200 points) for each 24-hour period they are late. This penalty includes Saturdays and Sundays.
* Other late assignments have a 24-hour period to be submitted. They will be graded, and that grade will be divided by 2 and entered into the grade spreadsheet.

Late work will kill your grade, so don't do it. If you know ahead of time that you will not be able to complete a task, contact me for an extension. I reserve the right to make an exception to the late policy in the case of an extreme (and documentable) emergency, but that almost never happens.

**TUTORIAL SERVICES:**

Tutorial Services: Free subject-area tutoring, academic workshops, and study skills specialists are available at Blue Bell Campus’s Tutorial Services in College Hall 180, across from the Cafeteria. Tutorial Services helps students develop learning strategies based on their unique learning styles with the goal of creating successful students and independent learners.  Contact them at 215-641-6452 or log into the portal and find us online at <https://mymccc.mc3.edu/allcampusresources/academicaffairs/lal/Pages/default.aspx>. Please note that Tutorial Services houses the Writing Center where faculty-tutors are more than happy to assist with revising papers.

**CLASSROOM POLICIES:**

As adults, students and the instructor should know to do the following in class:

* Be prepared for class with work completed and required materials available.
* Refrain from non-class related conversations once class has started.
* Keep cell phones and pagers in "silent" mode and refrain from answering them or using them to send text messages. Should a student expect an important call (because of family emergencies or issues of similar magnitude), please make the instructor aware of that possibility before class.
* Inform the professor if you will be recording the class.
* Treat each other with mutual respect: while we can challenge each other's ideas in class, personalized attacks or use of inappropriate language directed at another member of the class community is unacceptable.
* Ask for help if you need it.
* Make the most of this course. It will help in the future.

**FINAL WORD:**

I enjoy teaching Literature courses: I believe they can be the most empowering classes a person can take in college because the skills you learn can help you in virtually every part of your life. I took this job to help people discover their potential: as long as you are willing to do the work, I will do everything in my power to help you not only pass the course, but to be the best writer you can be.

Daily Assignments

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

* First Class.

Thursday, January 16, 2014

* Be prepared to have your photo taken.
* Read and mark and sign the class contract (see Handouts section of class web page)
* Email required contact information to Dr. Halbert at **hhalbert@mc3.com**. Download and use document template from Blackboard in the handouts section.
* Read and mark the following. Put tabs to mark each page:
  + "How to Really Mark This Book."—Halbert (handout)
  + "Cluster: America in the World/The World in America" (background essay; Heath 124-126)
    - from *Utopia* (Thomas More; Heath 127)
    - from *Of Cannibals* (Michel de Montaigne; Heath 127-128)
    - *America* (Painting, Heath 128)
    - from *New Atlantis* (Francis Bacon; Heath 130)
  + "Native American Oral Narrative" Essay
  + "The Origin of Stories" (Seneca)
  + "Creation of the Whites" (Yuchi myth; Heath Vol. A, 73)
  + "The Arrival of the Whites" (Lenape-Delaware oral tradition; Heath Vol. A, 74-79
  + "Iroquois or Confederacy of the Five Nations" (Iroquois)

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

* Read and mark the following Selections from the Heath Vol. A:
  + All of the selections by John Smith (Vol A. 273-287)
  + From *Richard Frethorne, to His Parents* (Virginia, 1623) (Vol A. 288-291)
* Read and mark "New England" (overview; Vol A. 314-318)
* Read at least 10 pages of William Bradford section (Vol A. 348--370)

Thursday, January 23, 2014

* Read and mark the entire \*William Bradford section (Vol A. 348--370)

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

* Read and mark the \*Mary White Rowlandson section (Vol. A480-514)
* We will discuss the in-class essay that will take place in one week

Thursday, January 30, 2014

* Read and mark the entire \*Thomas Morton section (Vol. A 319-331)
* Read and mark the following selections from \*Anne Bradstreet:
  + "Anne Bradstreet 1612?-1672" (Vol A. 418-419)
  + "The Prologue [To Her Book]" (Vol A. 420-421)
  + "The Author to Her Book" (Vol A. 426)
  + "The Flesh and the Spirit" (Vol A. 427-429)
  + "Before the Birth of One of Her Children" (Vol A. 430)
  + "To My Dear and Loving Husband" (Vol A 430-431)
  + "A Letter to Her Husband, Absent Upon Public Employment" (Vol A. 431)
  + "In Memory of My Dear Grandchild Elizabeth Bradstreet, Who Deceased August, 1665, Being a Year and Half Old" (Vol A. 432)
  + "On My Dear Grandchild Simon Bradstreet, Who Died on 16 November, 1669, being but a Month, and One Day Old" (Vol A. 432)
  + "Upon the Burning of Our House July 10th, 1666" (Vol A.433-434)
  + "To My Dear Children" (Vol A.434 - 437)

Tuesday, February 4, 2014

* Read and mark the following selections from Cotton Mather:
  + "Cotton Mather 1663-1728" (Vol A. 531-533)
  + from *The Wonders of the Invisible World* (Vol A. 533-538)
  + from *The Negro Christianized* (Vol A. 551-556)
  + from *Bonifacius . . . With Humble Proposals* . . . to Do Good in the World (Vol A. 556-557)
* There will be a test on *The Negro Christianized*: you will need to write an essay (with quotes) that discusses if the text is a pro-slavery message or a means of undermining the validity of slavery.  Everyone is required to take this exam.  See handout on exam card preparation.

Thursday, February 6, 2014

* Read and mark the following from \*Jonathan Edwards:
  + "Jonathan Edwards 1703-1758" (Vol. A 669-671)
  + from *Images of Divine Things* (Vol A. 672-673)
  + "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" (Vol A. 690-701)
* Paper #1 Prewriting Due. Post a copy in the "Paper #1: Prewriting" forum on the discussion board.
* Sign up for Turnitin.com and add our class.  See handout for details.

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

* Draft of Paper #1 Due.  Bring a copy to class and post a copy to the discussion board in the "Paper #1: Draft" forum.  (20 points)
* The draft will be assessed according to the following scale: 20 points for a full draft with works cited, 15 for 4 pages without a works cited, 10 for 3 pages, 5 for 2 pages, and 2 for 1 page.

Thursday, February 13, 2014

* Read all of the selections of \*William Byrd II (Vol A. 634-656)
* We will go over the midterm exam and the submission process for the final draft of Paper #1.

Tuesday, February 18, 2014

* NO CLASS: Final Draft Paper #1 Due by 1PM. See checklist for submission details.

Thursday, February 20, 2014

* Midterm Exam.

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

* Read and mark the essay on Thomas Paine (Vol. A 1045-47).
* Download a copy of *Common Sense* from Project Gutenburg at http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/147 | You may print out the HTML version or read a copy and take notes on a Kindle or Nook. This format is a bit of an experiment on my part: a good-faith attempt to take notes will not be punished if it's not quite right.
* Read and mark "A Paean to *Common Sense*" by Sy Skolnick (see handouts section)
* Read and mark *The American Crisis* (Vol. A. 1054-1060).
* Read and mark *The Age of Reason* (Vol. A. 1060-1065)
* Break this series of readings up over several days.

Thursday, February 27, 2014

* Read and mark *Notes on the State of Virginia* by \*Thomas Jefferson (Vol. A 1022-1042)

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

* Read and mark *The Autobiography of \*Benjamin Franklin* (Vol. A 837-840, 861-923)

Thursday, March 6, 2014

* Read and mark "Federalist and Anti-Federalist Contentions" (Vol. A 1059-1073)

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

* No Class: Spring Break.

Thursday, March 13, 2014

* No Class: Spring Break.
* Last day to withdraw without Dr. Halbert's signature.

Tuesday, March 18, 2014

* Read and mark Vol A, pages 1008-1016 on John and \*Abigail Adams
* Read and mark all the selections by Sarah Moore Grimke and by Angelina Grimke (VOL B. 2238-2248)
* Read and mark "Declaration of Sentiments" (Vol B. 2270-2272
* Read and mark the entire \*Fanny Fern Section (Vol B. 2256-2266)
* We will discuss the Frederick Douglass in-class exam that will take place in one week.

Thursday, March 20, 2014

* Read and mark the introduction to \*Frederick Douglass and Chapters 1-9 of *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave*, (Vol. B. 2035- 2070).

Tuesday, March 25, 2014

* Finish reading and marking *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave*, (Vol. B. 2035-2101)
* We will have our in-class essay exam on Frederick Douglass today.  Bring your exam card.

Thursday, March 27, 2014

* Read the following selections by \*Phillis Wheatley:
* "Phillis Wheatley 1753-1784 (Vol A 1297-1299)
* "To MÏcenas" (Vol A 1299-1301)
* "To the Right Honoruable William, Earl of Dartmouth, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for North-America, &c" (Vol A 1302-1303)
* "On Being Brought from Africa to America" (Vol A 1306)
* "To the University of Cambridge, in New England" (Vol A 1308-1309)
* "To His Excellency General Washington" (Vol A 1311-1312)
* "Liberty and Peace, A Poem by Phillis Peters" (Vol A 1313-1314)

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

* Read and mark the following selections from \*Washington Irving:
  + "Washington Irving" (Vol B. 2299-2301)
  + from *A History of New York*, Chapter 5 (Vol B. 2301--2309)
* Read the following selections from A Sheaf on Humor of the Old Southwest:
* Sheaf introduction (Vol B.2276-2279, including the ad)
* All of the selections by Davy Crockett (Vol B. 2279-2282)
* All of the selections by Mike Fink (Vol B. 2283-2287)

Thursday, April 3, 2014

* Read and mark the following selections by \*Ralph Waldo Emerson
  + "Ralph Waldo Emerson" (Vol B. 1704-1706)
  + "Nature" (Vol B. 1708-1710)
  + "Beauty" (Vol. B. 1711-1714)
  + "The American Scholar"
  + *Self-Reliance* (Vol B. 1746-1762)

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

* Read and mark the following the following by \*Henry David Thoreau:
  + "Henry David Thoreau" (Vol B. 1859-1862)
  + "Resistance to Civil Government" (Vol B. 1862-1876)

Thursday, April 10, 2014

* Read and mark selections from *Walden* by \*Henry David Thoreau (Vol. B 1877-1911)
* Prewriting for Paper #2 Due. Post a copy in the Paper 2: Prewriting Forum.

Tuesday, April 15, 2014

* Read and mark the following selections from \*Edgar Allen Poe:
  + "Edgar Allen Poe" (Vol B. 2484-2486)
  + "The Fall of the House of Usher" (Vol B. 2497-2510)
  + "The Tell-Tale Heart" (Vol B. 2517-2520)
  + "The Purloined Letter" (Vol B.  2527-2539)
  + "The Raven" (Vol B. 2564-2567)
  + "Annabel Lee" (Vol B. 2570-2571)
* Prewriting for Paper #2 Due. Post a copy in the Paper 2: Prewriting Forum.

Thursday, April 17, 2014

* Read and mark "Bartleby, the Scrivener" by \*Herman Melville (Vol. B 2647-2677)
* Read and mark "Young Goodman Brown" by \*Nathaniel Hawthorne (Vol. B 2398-2401

Tuesday, April 22, 2014

* Draft of Paper #2 Due. Bring a copy to class and post a copy to the discussion board in the "Paper #2: Draft" forum.  (20 points)
* The draft will be assessed according to the following scale: 20 points for a full draft with works cited, 15 for 4 pages without a works cited, 10 for 3 pages, 5 for 2 pages, and 2 for 1 page.

Thursday, April 24, 2014

* Last Class.
* Read and mark the following from \*Walt Whitman:
  + - "Walt Whitman 1819-1892" biography (Vol B. 2992-2995)
    - "Ethiopia Saluting the Colors" (Vol. B 3087-3088)
    - "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" (Vol. B 3089-3096)
    - "Prayer of Columbus" (Vol. B 3097-3099)
    - "To a Locomotive in Winter" (Vol. B 3100)

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

* NO CLASS.
* Paper #2 Due. See checklist for submission details.

Tuesday, May 6, 2014

* Final Exam: 12:20PM-2:20 PM in our normal classroom.

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

* NO CLASS.
* Major Paper Rewrite Due by 8AM. Email paper directly to Dr. Halbert. Use "Major Paper Rewrite" in email subject and attach an MS Word compatible file with the revised paper that follows this naming convention: LASTNAME\_FIRSTNAME\_ENG#\_P1REV.doc (or .docx or .rtf).