

Instructor: Kate Watts

Office: HUM 52

Phone: 638-3641 ext. 3406

E-Mail: kate.fourchy@reedleycollege.edu

Office Hours: M 2-3:30, W 2-4, F 9-10

Syllabus (Spring 2013)

Objective	Overview of American Literature from the Colonial period to the present; reading, discussing, and writing about the literature within its historical and philosophical context.
Texts/Supplies	<u>Concise Anthology of American Literature</u> , seventh edition (McMichael and Leonard); <i>Old School</i> (Tobias Wolff)
Necessary Programs	In order to do work from home, you should have the following programs (all of which are installed on computers on campus): Internet browser (such as Internet Explorer or Firefox); district e-mail account (my.scccd.edu); word processor (MS Word preferably, see Paper Format below); Adobe Acrobat Reader for research materials.
Attendance	Your attendance in this class is defined by your participation on the discussion board. If you should miss more than two weeks on the discussion board, I will drop you from the class.
Discussion Board	The discussion board is fairly self-explanatory. Click on the discussion tab on the left hand side of the screen; click on the forum. Once you have opened the forum, you will see my posted thread containing your assignments for the week. Click on the thread and post your response. DO NOT initiate your own thread. After my initial questions/assignments (posted every Monday), I expect you to take over. This is the place for you to discuss literature with your classmates. It has the added benefit of time to think before committing to an answer- a real luxury! Your answers need to be fully developed and in academic language. Posts that do not adhere to academic language will receive zero credit. I read over the week's discussion and then I comment both individually to each student and to the class as a whole through a posted lecture. If I see that the class is posting underdeveloped responses, I will assign required word counts for your posts. A well-developed post has on average 100- 250 words.
Late Papers/Missed Exams	I will accept no late papers unless you have contacted me PRIOR to the deadline posted for the assignment.

- Grades** Discussion board grades are based on my reading of the discussion. There are no wrong answers in this class as long as the discussion is thoughtful and developed. The use of text message language 'u' for 'you' or lower case i for "I" or any other kind of informal language will result in no credit for that posting. As English 1A is a prerequisite for this class, I expect that you will be familiar with MLA formatting. Essays that ignore MLA formatting will be docked the minimum of a letter grade and possibly more depending on the severity of the errors. I also expect that you will know how to incorporate quotation and how to identify and use a scholarly source. Essays that use sites like Wikipedia, Spark Notes or encyclopedias, even if cited correctly and properly punctuated, will not receive credit. Your essays are graded according to the standards of the [Reedley College Literature Rubric](#).
- Plagiarism** Use of another's work as though it were your own will not be tolerated. If I should discover that you have plagiarized either a discussion board post or *any* part of an essay, I will report you to the Dean of Students. You will be suspended from the class and required to meet with the Dean of Students before being allowed to resume the class. If there should be a second offence, you will be dropped from the class and subject to possible expulsion from the college. In the current Reedley College Catalogue, plagiarism is defined as follows:
- Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating: the use of another's words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights. Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in any of a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on the particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor and depending on the severity and frequency of the incidents.
- Extra Credit** Tobias Wolff (author of our novel *Old School*) March 14 Reedley College Forum Hall 7 pm
10 points
Required: Sign in with me the night of the lecture and then submit a one page analysis (NOT a summary) of the lecture due March 16. This lecture is free.
There will be no other extra credit opportunities regardless of any schedule conflicts you might have for the date of this lecture.
- Paper Format** All essays must be in MLA Format. As noted above, English 1A is a requirement for this class; all students should be familiar with MLA formatting. This is not an option, but a requirement of the course. Should you submit an essay that does not follow MLA formatting; your essay will be docked a minimum of one letter grade. The rules governing MLA formatting (and many other useful tips) can be found here: [MLA Format OWL at Purdue](#)
- Accommodation** If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

Schedule of

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Assignments

Discussion Board forums	15 forums at 20 points each 300 points total
Quizzes	100 points
Midterm	50 points
Final	100 points
Paper #1	100 points
Paper #2	150 points
Paper #3	200 points
Total	1000 points

Grading Scale

A	900-1000	90-100%
B	800-899	80-89%
C	700-799	70-79%
D	600-699	60-69%
F	000-599	00-59%