Course Description: We will read, analyze, and write about works of Southern American fiction written and published during the 20th century. Beginning with two novels that offer contrasting accounts of the antebellum, Civil War, and Reconstruction eras, we will continue to chart changes in the region via novels and short stories that provide a complex picture of the South's attempt to come to terms with its antebellum myths. The course will also explore the centrality of race in the Jim Crow period, as well as the brooding religious eschatology that has shaped the region's collective sense of destiny. Writing assignments will conduct close readings of individual texts. There will also be two exams focusing on the reading assignments.

Aug 22  Introduction
24  So Red the Rose, pp. 1-100
29  So Red the Rose, pp. 100-223
31  So Red the Rose, pp. 224-314
Sep 2  So Red the Rose, pp. 314-end
3  Labor Day
5  Jubilee, pp. 1-80
7  Jubilee, pp. 81-174
10  Jubilee, pp. 177-258
12  Jubilee, pp. 259-341
14  Jubilee, pp. 342-435
17  Jubilee, pp. 436-end
19  The Sound and the Fury, pp. 1-75
21  The Sound and the Fury, pp. 76-179
Oct 24  The Sound and the Fury, pp. 180-264
26  The Sound and the Fury, pp. 265-end
28  All the King's Men, chapter 1
Nov 3  All the King's Men, chapters 2-3
17  The Member of the Wedding, pp. 1-75
19  The Member of the Wedding, p. 75 end
22  Golden Apples, pp. 3-97
24  Golden Apples, pp. 98-156
26  Golden Apples, pp. 157-182
29  Golden Apples, pp. 182-end
31  Paper #2 Due
Dec 2  O'Connor: "A Good Man is Hard to Find," "The Life You Save May Be Your Own,"
5  O'Connor: "The Artificial Nigger," "Good Country People"
7  O'Connor: "Everything That Rises Must Converge," "Revelation"
9  The Last Gentleman, pp. 1-81
12  The Last Gentleman, pp. 81-160
14  The Last Gentleman, pp. 160-247
16  The Last Gentleman, pp. 247-326
19  Thanksgiving
21  Thanksgiving
23  A Lesson Before Dying, pp. 1-79
26  A Lesson Before Dying, pp. 80-159
28  A Lesson Before Dying, pp. 160-end
30  Review
5  Final Paper Due
ASSIGNMENTS: You will write three papers in this class. Each paper will conduct a close reading of some aspect of one of the assigned works, whether a novel, a short story, or a series of stories by the same author. The first two papers will be 4-5 pages in length and must represent your own interpretation; in other words, they cannot employ secondary critical sources (though they can employ other sorts of secondary sources, about which I will say more in class). The final paper, which should clock in at roughly 6-8 pages, must employ at least two pieces of secondary critical material from refereed journals or respected publishing houses. There will also be two exams—one at midterm and the other at the end of the semester—designed to test your knowledge of the assigned texts.

QUIZZES: I will give a number of pop quizzes throughout the semester. These will consist of 3 questions aimed at determining whether or not you have done the reading. A passing grade on a quiz will not affect your grade, whereas a failing grade will be counted as an absence. Hence you will never need to “make up” a quiz.

GRADING: All writing assignments are subject to the honor code. This means that, at the end of each assignment, you will write out the honor pledge in full and sign it. All work will be evaluated on the basis of the grading scale outlined in the current Rhodes College Catalogue. Your final grade for the course will be computed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper 3</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>15% x 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ATTENDANCE: You may miss three classes, excused or otherwise, totally free of charge. An F on a pop quiz will count as an absence, as will failure to bring your book to class. Absences after those initial three will cost your final course average two tenths of a point. I make no distinction between “excused” and “unexcused” absences. So if you can attend, you should. If you miss more than eight classes, you will fail the course.

LATE PAPERS: All papers are due on the day stipulated on the syllabus. Any unexcused late assignment will be penalized a tier reduction per day late; in other words, an A becomes an A-, a B+ becomes a B, and so on.

PROBLEMS? Anytime you have a problem about an assignment, PLEASE get in touch with me. You can send me a voice mail, an e-mail. You can even resort to the old-fashioned method of leaving a hand-written note in my box in Palmer Hall. Do not abuse the email system, however. In other words, do not email me to seek absolution for missing a class, or to find out what we discussed, or to seek information that you could reasonably get from a classmate.

PAPER REQUIREMENTS: All formal papers in this class are to be typed, double-spaced, and pledged in full. You will use the MLA documentation format, which we’ll discuss in class.