ENGL 360-01, American Modernism, Fall 2010

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Office Hours: MWF 11:00-12:30
and by appointment

English 360: American Modernism
Buckman 325
MWF 10.00-10.50

Required Texts

The Waste Land, Prufrock, and Other Poems, T.S. Eliot
The Emperor of Ice Cream and Other Poems, Wallace Stevens
Manhattan Transfer, John Dos Passos
Their Eyes Were Watching God, Zora Neale Hurston
Four Plays by Eugene O'Neill, Eugene O'Neill
The Professor's House, Willa Cather
A Farewell to Arms, Ernest Hemingway
Tender is the Night, F. Scott Fitzgerald
Light In August, William Faulkner

Reading Assignments

Aug	25	Introduction
	27	Eliot, *Prufrock and Other Poems*
	30	Eliot, *Poems 1920*
Sept	1	Eliot, *The Waste Land*
	3	Eliot, *The Waste Land* **[1]**
	6	**Labor Day**
	8	Eugene O'Neill, *The Emperor Jones*
	10	Eugene O'Neill, *The Emperor Jones*
	13	Eugene O'Neill, *The Hairy Ape* **[2]**
	15	Jean Toomer, *Cane* pp. 1-35
	17	Jean Toomer, *Cane*, pp. 39-78**[3]**
	20	Jean Tooomer, *Cane*, pp. 81-end **[4]**
	22	*Eyes Were Watching God*, Chps. 1-9
	24	*Eyes Were Watching God*, 10-17**[5]**
	27	*Eyes Were Watching God*, 18-end **[1]**
	29	*Manhattan Transfer*, pp. 1-64
Oct	1	**NO CLASS**
	4	*Manhattan Transfer*, pp. 65-142 **[2]**
	6	*Manhattan Transfer*, pp. 143-215 **[3]**
	8	*Manhattan Transfer*, pp. 216-259 **[4]**
	11	*Manhattan Transfer*, pp. 260-end **[5]**
	13	Wallace Stevens
	15	Wallace Stevens
		FIRST PAPER DUE
	18	**Fall Break**
	20	Hemingway, Selected Stories
	22	Hemingway, Selected Stories
	25	*A Farewell to Arms*, Book I
	27	*A Farewell to Arms*, Book II **[1]**
	29	*A Farewell to Arms*, Book III **[2]**
Nov	1	*A Farewell to Arms*, Book IV
	3	*The Professor's House*, pp. 3-93 **[3]**
	5	*The Professor's House*, pp.94-184 **[4]**
	8	*The Professor's House*, pp. 185-end
	10	*Light in August*, pp. 1-101
	12	*Light in August*, pp. 102-184 **[5]**
	15	*Light in August,* pp.256-339 **[1]**
	17	*Light in August*, pp. 184-255 **[2]**
	19	*Light in August*, pp. 340-426
	22	*Light in August*, pp. 426-end
	24	**Thanksgiving Break**
	26	**Thanksgiving Break**
	29	*Tender is the Night*, pp. 1-79
Dec	1	*Tender is the Night*, pp.80-150 **[3]**
	3	*Tender is the Night*, pp. 150-235 **[4]**
	6	*Tender is the Night, pp. 239-end* **[5]**
	8	**FINAL PAPER DUE**

POLICIES FOR 362

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this course we will read and analyze selected works of American prose fiction published during the first half of the 20th Century (roughly 1890-1945). We will first explore the transition from 19th century realism to 20th century modernism, and then move on to consider the literary conventions and historical conditions that constitute the modernist dominant. In terms of literay form, this shift involves a move away from realistic representation, objectivity, and humanistic representation in favor of aesthetic self-consciousness, subjectivity, and spatial form. In analyzing these literary devices, we will also examine the material historical forces that inspired them.

ASSIGNMENTS: You will write two papers in this class. The first paper is a 6-8 page analysis of some aspect of any of the texts you have read up to this point. The second is a 10-12 page research paper on any *other* text from the semester. This paper will engage with the critical dialogue and must include *at least three* secondary sources.

You will also write four (4) three-to-four page page brief close readings of some aspect of the reading assignment corresponding to the due-date of the paper. You will do these four assignments on a rotating basis according to a group system. The groups are noted in brackets beside the corresponding day's reading. Submit these papers **electronically** via an email attachment to my address no later than **9 p.m.** on the due date.

Finally, I will frequently give brief "pop quizzes" on the assigned reading. A failed grade on one of these quizzes will result in an unexcused absence *on top of any other absences, excused or otherwise, you might already have accrued*.

GRADING: All assignments—papers, responses, reviews—are subject to the honor code. All work will be evaluated on the basis of the grading scale outlined on page 76 of the current Rhodes College Catalogue. Your final grade for the course will be computed as follows:

Close Readings	10% (40% total)
Short Paper	25%
Long Paper	35%

ABSENCES: Failure to bring your book to class will result in an unexcused absence. Failure to pass the day's pop quiz will also result in an unexcused absence. Absences for illness or emergency and religious holidays are excused as long as they are verified and all work is promptly made up. You are allowed three (3) absences free-of-charge; any absences beyond those two will cost your *final course* average two tenths of a point. 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 a A-, a B+ becomes a B, and so on. Any assignment turned in a week after the due day will receive a grade of F and can result in failure of the course itself. (See departmental policies at the end of the this syllabus.)

PROBLEMS? You can send me a voice mail, an e-mail, or even an old-fashioned hand-written a note. **NOTE: Do not abuse the email system**. Don't email to ask me a question about something that is on your syllabus or which a fellow student in the class can answer. Don't email me to ask what you missed in class that day. And don't email me to set up an office visit *unless you have classes scheduled during my office hours*. Otherwise, email is the way to go.

Close Reading Groups

Group 1

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Group 2

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Group 3

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Group 4

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Group 5

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