Miyazaki International College

Course Syllabus

(Fall SEMESTER, 2021)

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| Course Title (Credits) | ASN3651-1 Topics in American Literature (3 CREDITS) |
| Course Designation for TC | Teacher Certification-related course, Discipline –related course, Required by Article 66.6 |
| Content Teacher |
| Instructor | Dr. Hironori Hayase |
| E-mail address | hhayase@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp |
| Office/Ext | MIC: 1-208/Ext: 3716 |
| Office hours | Wednesday 1:00-3:00, Friday 1:00-3:00; and by appointment |

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| Course Description: |
| This course will focus upon major literary topics in American Literature in their historical andcultural contexts. For that purpose, we will analyze and interpret some important texts that represent those literary topics which is rooted in, and composed of American Literature. Those themes are: Transcendentalism, Nature & Civilization, Lost Generation, Modernism, Ethnicity, Feminism, Industrialization and Urbanization, and Local Colorism. Through reading and interpret the texts essential for American literature, and discussing the themes in the texts in a group, and present their ideas and opinions, students will be able to understand the themes in concrete forms and grasp the essence of American Literature.  |
| Course Objectives: |
| **Overall Objectives:** Students will be able to obtain a deep understanding of major literary topics in American Literature through reading and discussing the texts in English, and to learn about some literary perspectives through which to analyze and interpret literary texts. By reading major texts and understanding the major topics, students will be able to have a clear specific image of American Literature as a whole. All activities are done all in English, so students will also be able to acquire a high level of English communication skill and critical thinking. **Learning Content:**(1) Literary topics (2) Literary themes and criticism (3) English literary texts(4) Social and cultural contexts in America**Attainment Objectives:**(1) To interpret the literary text written in English(2) To understand the literary themes in American Literature(3)To approach the texts from literary perspective(4) To discuss literary themes in a logical way in English in a group and in a class(5) To write literary essays in an evidence-based way in English**Additional Objectives:**• Broaden and deepen students’ understanding and appreciate of American literature, as well as their understanding of the historical and cultural forces at play within that literature.• Develop and refine students’ proficiency in English: reading skills, writing skills, listeningskills, critical thinking (analytic) skills, and speaking skills, especially in relation to discussion.• Introduce the elements of literature and textual analysis as a means of interpretation.• Help students enjoy the reading of literature in English and understand literature’s relevance in their lives |
| Course Schedule: |
| Day | Topic | Content/Activities |
| 1 | Introduction to the Class Goals:  | Class Orientation (Syllabus)***Attainment Objectives***(1) To interpret the literary text written in English(2) To understand the literary themes in American Literature(3)To approach the texts from literary perspective(4) To discuss literary themes in a logical way in English in a group and in a class(5) To write literary essays in an evidence-based way in English |
| 2 | **UNIT 1:**Transcendentalism | Introduction to the topic and the authors and their texts:Transcendentalism:Waldo Emerson, *The Nature*Henry David Thoreau, *The Walden*Walt Whitman, “The Song of Myself” |
| 3 | Group Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *1,2, 3, 4)* |
| 4 | Class Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives1,2,*** *3,4)* |
| 5 | Essay Writing about the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *5)* |
| 6 | **UNIT 2:**Nature & Civilization | Introduction to the topic and the authors and their texts:Nature & Civilization Mark Twain, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* Ernest Hemingway, *The Old Man and the Sea* William Faulkner, “The Bear” |
| 7 | Group Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *1,2, 3, 4)* |
| 8 | Class Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives1,2,*** *3,4)* |
| 9 | Essay Writing about the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *5)* |
| 10 | **Unit 3:**Lost Generation | Introduction to the topic and the authors and their texts:Lost Generation T.S. Eliot, *The Waste Land*Ernest Hemingway, *The Sun Also Rises* John Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*  |
| 11 | Group Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *1,2, 3, 4)* |
| 12 | Class Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives1,2,*** *3,4)* |
| 13 | Essay Writing about the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *5)* |
| 14 | **Unit 4:**Modernism | Introduction to the topic and the authors and their texts:Modernism William Faulkner, *The Sound and the Fury,* *As I Lay Dying* Ernest Hemingway, *The Sun Also Rises.* John Doss Passos, *The U.S.A* e.e. cummings’ poems |
| 15 | Group Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *1,2, 3, 4)* |
| 16 | Class Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives1,2,*** *3,4)* |
| 17 | Essay Writing about the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *5)* |
| 18 | *Mid-term examination* |  |
| 19 | **Unit 5:**Ethnicity | Introduction to the topic and the authors and their texts:Ethnicity Toni Morrison, *The Bluest Eye* Alice Walker, *The Color Purple* Adventures of Augie March Malman Silko, *Ceremony* Hisaye Yamamoto, “The Seventeen Syllables” |
| 20 | Group Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *1,2, 3, 4)* |
| 21 | Class Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives1,2,*** *3,4)* |
| 22 | Essay Writing about the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *5)* |
| 23 | **Unit 6:**Feminism | Introduction to the topic and the authors and their texts:Feminism Kate Chopin, *The Awakening* Charlotte Gilman, “The Yellow Wallpaper” |
| 24 | Group Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *1,2, 3, 4)* |
| 25 | Class Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives1,2,*** *3,4)* |
| 26 | Essay Writing about the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *5)* |
| 27 | **Unit 7:**Industrialization & Urbanization | Introduction to the topic and the authors and their texts:Industrialization & Urbanization Dreiser, *The American Tragedy* Stephen Crane, *Maggie*  John Cheever’s short stories |
| 28 | Group Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *1,2, 3, 4)* |
| 29 | Class Discussion about the texts and the topic***(Attainment Objectives1,2,*** *3,4)* |
| 30 | Essay Writing about the topic***(Attainment Objectives*** *5)* |
|  | Final Exam |  |
| Required Materials: |
| Textbook: *Let’s Learn English through American Literature 1,* edited by Hironori Hayase. Eihosha, 2010. (Recommended Reference: *A New History of American Literature*, edited by Hayase. Eihosha, 2018) |
| Course Policies (Attendance, etc.): |
| Attendance, as such, is not part of the final grade – BUT participation is!Since the work we do in this course is cumulative, your attendance is important. Regular classattendance is required. Students with more than 5 unexcused absences will be asked to withdrawfrom the class. Excused absences are those that are defined as a confining illness, death in thefamily, or school-sanctioned event. For an absence to be excused, you need to have writtendocumentation from a doctor or campus-organization sponsor.Please come to class on time. Repeated lateness will be considered an unexcused absence andnot only affect participation points and final grade but also your status in the class.3 Times late = 1 absence> 30 minutes late = 1 absence |
| Class Preparation and Review: |
| Students are expected to spend at least one hour reviewing and doing homework and one hour preparing for every hour of lesson time. |
| Grades and Grading Standards: |
| Grades will be determined as follows: Written Assignments 20 % Homework 10 % Group Discussion 15 % Participation 10 % Quizzes 15 % Presentations 10 % Exams (Midterm and Final) 20 % Total 100 % |
| Methods of Feedback: |
| In principle, graded work will be returned within one week of submission with appropriate feedback i.e., grade, comments, etc. Some written work will be graded and commented upon Electronically. |
| Diploma Policy Objectives: |
| Work completed in this course helps students achieve the following Diploma Policy Objective(s): 1. Advanced thinking sills (comparison, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation)based on critical thinking (critical and analytic thought).1. The ability to understand and accept different cultures developed through acquisition knowledge and comparison of the cultures of Japan and other nations.3. The ability to identify and solve problems.4. Advanced communicative proficiency in both Japanese and English. |
| Notes:  |
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