**AML 3263Literature of the South (3 credits)**

Spring 2019

Tuesdays 4:00 pm - 6:50 pm CU 321

Dr. Ulin

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**Course Description/Objectives/Goals:**

In his famous 1920 essay, “The Sahara of the Bozart,” H. L. Mencken referred to the South as “an awe-inspiring blank,” a region “as sterile, artistically, intellectually, culturally, as the Sahara Desert.” In this course, we examine works that followed in the wake of this pronouncement. We will focus primarily on 4 novelists (William Faulkner, Carson McCullers, Flannery O’Connor and Cormac McCarthy), reading 2 novels by each author alongside criticism of these works and poetry of the period. As part of FAU's ongoing commitment to undergraduate research, this 4000-level course will involve a research component that will allow you to become familiar with the profession of literary studies and the production of literary criticism. In additional to annotated bibliographies, this will involve introduction to using online indexes and databases for literary study.Writing requirements include assigned weekly writing prompts (1/2 page single spaced), regular in class and short writing assignments in the service of the research component of the course, and 2 formal research papers (2 full pages, single spaced) on the novelists. Prior to submitting your first written assignment, carefully review the guide on Canvas for writing academic papers in English. There will be a cumulative final exam.

**Catalog Description:**Literature of the South (AML 3263). Writers of the U.S. South from pre-Civil War plantation cultures(and their hemispherical reach) through the Southern Literary Renaissance, Grit Lit and the contemporary: Douglass, Poe, Cable, Murfree, Caldwell, Hurston, Faulkner, O’Connor, Welty, Williams, Crews, Allison, Vernon, Howe, and Tretheway.

**Course Texts:**

**Note:** You are responsible to obtain all texts prior to the first class meeting. The textbooks are available for rent or purchase at the University Bookstore. Failure to bring course texts to class will result in a “0” participation grade for the day.

Faulkner, William. *The Sound and the Fury*.

Faulkner, William. *Absalom, Absalom!*

O’Connor, Flannery. *Three by Flannery O’Connor.*

McCullers, Carson, *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*.

McCullers, Carson, *Clock Without Hands*.

McCarthy, Cormac. *Child of God*.

McCarthy, Cormac. *The Road*.

**Schedule of Readings and Lectures**

1/7 – H.L. Mencken’s “The Sahara of the Bosart.”Faulkner’s “A Rose for Emily.” Introduction to *The Sound and the Fury*.

1/14 – Faulkner’s *The Sound and the Fury*(1929) (Benjy section - April 7, 1928); Summary of C. Vann Woodward’s “The Irony of Southern History”(Last name beginning with A-J)or Robert Penn Warren, “Faulkner: Past and Future”(Last name beginning with K-Z) due Monday by 11:59 pm via Canvas.

1/21 - *The Sound and the Fury* (Quentin section - June 2, 1910). Summary of Richard H. King’s “A Southern Renaissance” due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas.

1/28 - *The Sound and the Fury* (Jason section, April 6, 1928 and Dilsey section, April 8, 1928). Summary of Andre Bleikasten’s “The Quest for Eurydice” due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas.

2/4–*Absalom Absalom!*(Chapters 1, 2, 3)Summary of Carolyn Porter’s “Faulkner’s America” due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas. In class: introduction to the Southern Gothic.

2/11 - *Absalom, Absalom!*(Chapters 4, 5, 6). Summary of Irving Howe’s “Faulkner and the Negroes” due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas.

2/18 - *Absalom Absalom!*(Chapters 7, 8, 9). Summary of Myra Jehlen’s “Faulkner’s Fiction and Southern Society” or Ralph Ellison’s “Twentieth Century Fiction and the Black Mask of Humanity” due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas.

**2/23 – Faulkner Paper due by 11:59 pm via Canvas**

2/25 - Carson McCullers’s *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*(Part I)(1940). In class - poetry of Sterling Brown.

3/4 – Spring Break (Complete *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*)

3/11*The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* (Part II and III). Annotated Bibliography entry from MLA due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas. In class - poetry of Arna Bontemps and Margaret Walker.

3/18O’Connor, *Wise Blood* (1952).Annotated Bibliography entry from MLA due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas. In class - poetry of Melvin B. Tolson.

3/25*The Violent Bear it Away* (1960). Annotated Bibliography from MLA due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas.

**3/30 – O’Connor Paper due by 11:59 pm via Canvas**

4/1 – *Clock Without Hands* (1961). Annotated Bibliography from MLA due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas.

**4/6 – McCullers Paper due by 11:59 via Canvas**

4/8 – *Child of God* (1973). Annotated Bibliography from MLA due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas.

4/15 - *The Road* (2006). Annotated Bibliography from MLA due by Monday by 11:59 via Canvas.

**4/20 – McCarthy Paper due by 11:59 via Canvas**

4/22 –Last Class, Final Exam Review (4/23)

**4/29 – Cumulative Final Exam**

**Grade Distribution:**

**20%** - Attendance\* and Participation.

Attendance: Students with perfect attendance will receive an A in this category. Each absence will drop the score by one letter grade. **Note: As this course meets once per week, four absences is a missed month of class and will result in automatic failure of the course regardless of other grades.**

Participation: Regular and active and text-based contributions to class discussions which indicate a close reading of the materials will score an A in this category. Occasional contributions will earn a B, minimal or non-text based contributions will earn a C, rare/no class participation D, etc.

**20%** - Weekly Prompts / Short Assignments / In Class Assignments

**40%** - Two formal essays

**20%** - Cumulative Final Exam

**\*Attendance Policy Statement** Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in Universityapproved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student’s responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student’s final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

**Grading Scale:**

* 93-100 = A
* 90-92 = A-
* 87-89 = B+
* 83-86 = B
* 80-82 = B-
* 77-79 = C+
* 73-76 = C
* 70-72 = C-
* 67-69 = D+
* 63-66 = D
* 60-62 = D-
* 0 – 59 = F

**Disability policy statement** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU’s campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at [www.fau.edu/sas/](http://www.fau.edu/sas/)

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center** Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau,edu/counseling/>

**Code of Academic Integrity policy statement** Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001. <http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/Reg_4.001_5-26-10_FINAL.pdf>