

FALL 2016
Department of English
4708A Studies in American Lit. 1:
AMERICAN WOMEN'S WRITINGS
Classes: Wednesdays 11:30 –2:30

Prerequisites(s): fourth-year standing in Honours English

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Priscilla L. Walton
Office: DT 1807
Telephone: 520-2600, ext. 2322
Percy_walton@carleton.ca

OUTLINE:

Topic: “Those Damn Scribbling Women” (N. Hawthorne)

This course will focus on 19th and 20th century American women’s writing. Beginning at the end of the 19th century, the course spans U.S. women’s fiction until the middle of the 20th century, concentrating on realist texts and their transition throughout the period.

Texts:

Wilkins Freeman, Mary, *Pembroke*.
Fenimore Woolson, Constance, *Castle Nowhere*.
Orne Jewett, Sarah, *The Country of the Pointed Firs*.
Chopin, Kate, *The Awakening*.
Wharton, Edith, *The House of Mirth*.
Cather, Willa, *O Pioneers*.
Perkins Gilman, Constance, *Herland*
Larson, Nella, *Passing*
Hurston, Zora Neale, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
Highsmith, Carol, *The Price of Salt*.

Note: These texts will be available online and at Octopus Books, 116 Third Avenue (Bank and Third); (613) 233-2589

REQUIREMENTS:

One Essay (2500-3000 words) -	50%
Seminars -	25%
Participation -	<u>25%</u>
	100%

ENGLISH 4708-A: American Women's Writings

PROPOSED SYLLABUS

September 7	Introduction
September 14	<i>Pembroke</i>
September 21	<i>Castle Nowhere</i>
September 28	<i>The Country of the Pointed Firs</i>
October 5	<i>The Awakening</i>
October 12	<i>The Awakening</i>
October 19	<i>O Pioneers</i>
October 26	Fall Break
November 2	<i>Herland</i>
November 9	Class Cancelled
November 16	<i>Passing</i> (ESSAYS DUE IN CLASS)
November 23	<i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>
November 30	<i>The Price of Salt</i>
December 7	TBA

ASSIGNMENTS

SEMINARS:

Class presentations will focus on an aspect of the text under study that week. Presentations will address questions raised by the narrative, explore problems in relation to it, and/or assess its social and cultural movements.

ESSAY TOPIC

Due Date: November 16, 2016

Length: 2500-3000 words (10-12 pp.)

Students will submit a critical assessment of one of the questions (or problems) that has arisen from the course material. Essays will comprise well-researched and scholarly analyses of the issue under study, after that issue has been approved by the professor.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated for this course. For an explanation, see the statement on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the [PMC website](#) for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

For Religious Observance:

Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious observance should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student.

Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton's Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance.

For Pregnancy:

Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.