

FALL 2021
Department of English
4708A: Studies in American Lit 1
AMERICAN WOMEN'S WRITINGS

Prerequisite(s): fourth-year standing or permission of the department.

Classes: Wednesday 8:30 – 11:30

Format: Online Synchronous

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 middle 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 transitions throughout the period.

TEXTS:

Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women*

Chopin, Kate, *The Awakening*

Wharton, Edith, *The House of Mirth*

Willa Cather, *O Pioneers!*

Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper"

Nella Larsen, *Passing*

Jacqueline Susann, *The Valley of the Dolls*

Toni Morrison, *The Bluest Eye*

Ruth Ozick, *A Tale for the Time Being*

Julie Powell, *Julie and Julia: My Year of Cooking Dangerously*

REQUIREMENTS:

One Essay (2000-2500 words)	- 50%
Seminars	- 25%
Participation (Attendance, participation, consistent progress).	- 25%
	100%

Cameras must be on throughout class.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

ENGLISH 4708-A: American Women's Writings

PROPOSED SYLLABUS

September 8	Introduction
September 15	<i>Little Women</i>
September 22	<i>The Awakening</i>
September 29	<i>The House of Mirth</i>
October 6	"The Yellow Wallpaper"
October 13	<i>O Pioneers!</i>
October 20	<i>The Bluest Eye</i>
October 27	Fall Break
November 3	<i>Passing</i>
November 10	<i>Valley of the Dolls</i>
November 17	<i>A Tale for the Time Being</i>
	Essays Due in Class
November 24	<i>Brothers and Sisters</i>
December 1	<i>Julie and Julia</i>
December 8	To Be Announced

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 17, 2020

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

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

Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” According to the Department examples of plagiarism include the following:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a form of intellectual theft. It is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include failure of the assignment, failure of the entire course, or suspension from a program. For more information please go to: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

Special Information Regarding Fall 2021 Pandemic Measures

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) and [mandatory self-screening](#) prior to coming to campus daily.

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the mandatory [symptom reporting tool](#). For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be recorded in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the [COVID-19 website](#).

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food or drinks are permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the [University's COVID-19 webpage](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#). Failure to comply with Carleton's COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the [Pregnancy Accommodation Form](#).

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details [click here](#).

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).

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>