Objectives:
The course is required for undergraduate students concentrating on literature.
Through intensive library and on-line database investigations, students gain experience in advanced research technique specific to textual, critical, and theoretical literary study.
It will provide a comprehensive picture of how research papers are created: from choosing the topic to the formatting of the paper, to documenting the sources; and will help students become writers whose work deserve serious consideration.

Required Text:

References:

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
1. Proposal: The proposal is very important to get the approval on your research topic.
   Please contact your instructor before writing the proposal. (*to be submitted 22/4/1430*)
2. Research Paper file (*to be submitted 13/6/1430*)
3. Final Exam

Research Paper file should include the following:

a. Proposal 10%
b. Note-cards 5%
c. Research paper 30%
Research Paper should include the following:

d. Title Page
e. Acknowledgement
f. Table of content
g. Abstract
h. Introduction
i. Chapters 3-5
j. Conclusion
k. Works Cited
l. Bibliography

The Final exam will be on
1. MLA Book (Documentation) 35%
2. Writing skills 10%
3. Paper presentation 10%

General Guidelines

(Follow MLA Style)
Your papers should be typed double-spaced, on one side of a sheet, with margins of 1" on all sides. Justify the right margin only when you can use hyphenation. Number all pages consecutively; paginate the Appendices (if any), Works Cited, and Selected Bibliography (if any) pages as a continuation of your text. Indent the first word of each paragraph a half-inch (five or six spaces; be consistent).

Make a title or cover sheet with the following information: title of your paper (it should suggest the content of the paper; also use a subtitle), your name, course number and name, semester and year, and the name of the instructor.

Use italics or underline titles of books, magazines, newspapers, and shorter works published independently. Use quotation marks ("...") for titles of short stories, poems, magazine and newspaper articles. Proofread for errors. Write in an essay form.

Carefully cite and document your sources. Remember that your purpose is to make your ideas and judgments as persuasive as possible, so be sure to stick to your line of argument, to cite examples, and to explain terms.

Works Cited and Selected Bibliography

Double-space between successive lines of an entry and between entries; begin the first line of an entry flush left, and indent successive lines half an inch or six spaces (be consistent). List entries in alphabetical order according to the last name of the author and, in the absence of an author, alphabetize the title.
A Critical or Research Paper - A Guide:

A critical paper assumes a "problem" and suggests a "solution". It is usually a discussion and elaboration of a single theme or a controlling idea, supported by a close reading of the texts; the paper is developed with numerous and repeated references to the primary texts in support of your arguments. It requires library research and the inclusion of relevant scholarly commentary. A critical paper could be a study of a single work or a comparative study of two or more, or it could be a study of one author or a comparative study of two or more, or it could develop and discuss a single idea or theme through a discussion of selected works.

A research-based paper (15-20 pages). Papers submitted for course credit must adhere to these guidelines governing format and editorial matters: (1) all written work must be word-processed and double-spaced throughout with one-inch margins; (2) your name, class/section, date of submission, and assignment description should be positioned (also double-spaced) in the upper left corner of the first page of text; (3) an engaging and precise paper title should appear centered below this identifying data; (4) essays should be meticulously proofread. Please do not mummify your written work, or waste your money, by encasing it in binders or folders.

Proposal for a Critical Paper - Students should present a proposal and receive the instructor's approval before writing the critical paper. Format for the proposal (please type):

1. Title of the proposed paper - including a subtitle which narrows the focus of the title and refers to specific works that will be discussed.

2. Thesis statement or statement of purpose - defines and limits the scope of your discussion.

3. Tentative outline - identify application of your thesis to characters, or situations, or conflicts in the works under discussion.

4. Literature Review of critical books and articles. (6-12 items).

5. Methodology

The approved proposal becomes part of the final paper. A paper without the approved proposal will not be read.

Avoiding Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is academic cheating or using someone's words or ideas without giving proper credit - or without giving any credit at all - to the writer of the original. Whether plagiarism is intentional or unintentional, it is a serious offense that you can avoid by citing or documenting your sources. A plagiarized paper will receive a failing grade; flagrant cheating, in more than one paper, will result in failing the course.
List of Useful American Literature Website Links:

- Literary Resources on the Net. [www.andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch](http://www.andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch). Jack Lynch maintains this excellent site at Rutgers; the entries are current, searchable, and annotated.
- Akahito Ishikawa's [www.nagasaki_gaigo.ac.jp/ishikawa/amlit/index.htm](http://www.nagasaki_gaigo.ac.jp/ishikawa/amlit/index.htm). Site includes extensive links to American literature texts.
- American Authors on the Web [www.nagoya-u.ac.jp/~matsuoka/AmeLit.html](http://www.nagoya-u.ac.jp/~matsuoka/AmeLit.html). Mitsuharu Matsuoka (Manchester University) has arranged American authors by date of birth.
- American Studies Web at Georgetown University [www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/crossroads.html](http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/crossroads.html). Sponsored by the American Studies Association, this site includes links to many resources in literature and history; its SiteScene reviews are extensive and thorough.
- American Studies Links [www.myweb.uiowa.edu/rhorwitz/](http://www.myweb.uiowa.edu/rhorwitz/). Richard Horwitz, Professor of American Studies at the University of Iowa, has compiled this very useful cross-disciplinary list of recommended links in an easy-to-use tabbed format. (New URL)
- The Nineteenth-Century American Women Writers Web [www.lehigh.edu/~dek7/ssaww/](http://www.lehigh.edu/~dek7/ssaww/). This major site features links from the journal *Legacy*, pictures of American women writers, online texts, and other resources.
- Paul P. Reuben's *Perspectives in American Literature* Pages. [www.csustan.edu/english/reuben/pal/TABLE.HTML](http://www.csustan.edu/english/reuben/pal/TABLE.HTML). This major site includes extensive bibliographies of American authors as well as study questions about their major works.
- Cornell University's Making of America site. [www.cdl.library.cornell.edu/moa/](http://www.cdl.library.cornell.edu/moa/) is an extensive, searchable collection of major periodicals of the nineteenth century. The full collection lists 114 books and 24 periodicals, including *Harper's*, *The Atlantic*, *Scribner's*, and many other important journals. Files are now available in several formats: page images, .pdf (Adobe Acrobat), and uncorrected plain text.
- The Research Society for American Periodicals [www.home.earthlink.net/~ellengarvey/rsapresource1.html](http://www.home.earthlink.net/~ellengarvey/rsapresource1.html) (RSAP) maintains an excellent collection of links for study in the field.

List of Useful Writing Websites Links

- Resources for Writers. [www.writingcenters.org/writers](http://www.writingcenters.org/writers)
- [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/)