

American Literature

LAN-2000

2022 07/01/2022 to 06/30/2023 Modified 04/22/2022

Course Description

Throughout the course of American literature, students will encounter and experience the full span of America's rich literary history. Organized around various genres of literature, the course covers works from America's first settlers to modern writers. Overall, the course includes literature spanning from the 1500s to the current day and introduces students to some of the greatest authors and works in American literature. The class begins with a study of non-fiction literature, including essays, letters, and memoirs. From there the course covers drama, novels, poetry, and short stories. Together the material offers students a broad view of the most important genres in American literature while also giving the opportunity for closer examination of some of America's most important authors and works.

Rationale

American authors and poets present life through their perspective that is evidenced in their writing. The various modes used to present these thoughts allows students to better understand not only the perspective of the American author, but also the culture and beliefs of America at various stages of its history.

Prerequisite

None

Measurable Learning Outcomes

- A. The student will describe the major historical and cultural influences evident in primary works of literature.
- B. The student will analyze literature for historical, cultural, authorial, and literary value.
- C. The student will use certain genres of writing as models for their own writing.
- D. The student will discuss the presence of universal themes and make comparisons to today's world.
- E. The student will read for understanding and application.
- F. The student will write to meet the needs of a specific audience and purpose.

Course Resources

See LUOA's [Systems Requirements](#) for computer specifications necessary to operate LUOA curriculum. Also view [Digital Literacy Requirements](#) for LUOA's expectation of users' digital literacy.

Note: Embedded YouTube videos may be utilized to supplement LUOA curriculum. YouTube videos are the property of the respective content creator, licensed to YouTube for distribution and user access. As a non-profit educational institution, LUOA is able to use YouTube video content under the YouTube Terms of Service. For additional information on copyright, please contact the [Jerry Falwell Library](#).

Materials Required for Purchase

The following materials are required in this course:

- Physical, electronic, or online version of *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry
- Physical, electronic, or online version of *My Antonia* by Willa Cather

Scripture Attribution

- Grades 7-12: All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. May not copy or download more than 500 consecutive verses of the ESV Bible or more than one half of any book of the ESV Bible.

Policies

Students are accountable for all information in the [Student Handbook \(https://www.liberty.edu/online-academy/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/LUOA-Student-Handbook.pdf\)](https://www.liberty.edu/online-academy/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/LUOA-Student-Handbook.pdf). Below are a few policies that have been highlighted from the Student Handbook.

Course Grading Policies

The student's grades will be determined according to the following grading scale and assignment weights. The final letter grade for the course is determined by a 10-point scale. Assignments are weighted according to a tier system, which can be referenced on the Grades page in Canvas. Each tier is weighted according to the table below. Items that do not affect the student's grade are found in Tier 0.

Grading Scale		Assignment Weights	
A	90-100%	Tier 0	0%
B	80-89%	Tier 1	25%
C	70-79%	Tier 2	35%
D	60-69%	Tier 3	40%
F	0-59%		

In order for students to receive credit for a course, the following conditions have to be met:

- All semester exams and module tests have to be completed.
- All Tier 3 projects or papers have to be completed.
- Fewer than 10 zeros exist in the gradebook for blank submissions in a full credit course and 5 zeros for blank submissions in a semester course.

Types of Assessments

To simplify and clearly identify which policies apply to which assessment, each assessment has been categorized into one of four categories: Lesson, Assignment, Quiz, or Test. Each applicable item on the course Modules page has been designated with an identifier chosen from among these categories. Thus, a Quiz on the American Revolution may be designated by the title, "1.2.W - Quiz: The American Revolution." These identifiers were placed on the Modules page to help students understand which Resubmission and Honor Code policies apply to that assessment (see the Resubmission Policy and Honor Code Policy below for further details).

- **Lesson:** *Any item on the Modules page designated as a "Lesson"*

These include instructional content and sometimes an assessment of that content. Typically, a Lesson will be the day-to-day work that a student completes.

- **Assignment:** *Any item on the Modules page designated as an "Assignment"*

Typical examples of Assignments include, but are not limited to, papers, book reports, projects, labs, and speeches. Assignments are usually something that the student should do his or her best work on the first time.

- **Quiz:** *Any item on the Modules page designated as a "Quiz"*

This usually takes the form of a traditional assessment where the student will answer questions to demonstrate knowledge of the subject. Quizzes cover a smaller amount of material than Tests.

- **Test:** *Any item on the Modules page designated as a "Test"*

This usually takes the form of a traditional assessment where the student will answer questions to demonstrate knowledge of the subject. Tests cover a larger amount of material than Quizzes.

Resubmission Policy

Students are expected to submit their best work on the first submission for every Lesson, Assignment, Quiz, and Test. However, resubmissions may be permitted in the following circumstances:

- **Lesson:** Students are automatically permitted two attempts on a Lesson. Students may freely resubmit for their first two attempts without the need for teacher approval.
- **Assignment:** Students should do their best work the first time on all Assignments. However, any resubmissions must be completed before the student moves more than one module ahead of that Assignment. For example, a student may resubmit an Assignment from Module 3 while in Module 4, but not an Assignment from Modules 1 or 2. High School students may not resubmit an Assignment without expressed written permission from the teacher in a comment.
- **Quiz:** Students may NOT resubmit for an increased grade.
- **Test:** Students may NOT resubmit for an increased grade.

If a student feels that he or she deserves a resubmission on a Lesson, Assignment, Quiz, or Test due to a technical issue such as a computer malfunction, the student should message his or her teacher to make the request.

Honor Code Policy

Every time a student violates the Honor Code, the teacher will submit an Honor Code Incident Report. The Student Support Coordinator will review the incident and allocate the appropriate consequences. Consequences, which are determined by the number of student offenses, are outlined below:

- **Warning:** This ONLY applies to high school Lessons and elementary/middle school Assignments and Lessons. Students should view these actions as learning opportunities.
 - **Lessons:** A zero will be assigned for the question only.
 - **Elementary/Middle School Assignment:** The student must redo his or her work; however, the student may retain his or her original grade.
- **1st Offense:**
 - **Lesson, Quiz, or Test:** The student will receive a 0% on the entire assessment.
 - **Assignment:** The student will either:
 - Receive a 0% on the original assignment
 - Complete the Plagiarism Workshop
 - Retry the assignment for a maximum grade of 80%
- **2nd Offense:** The student will receive a 0% and be placed on academic probation.
- **3rd Offense:** The student will receive a 0% and the Director of Faculty will determine the consequences that should follow, possibly including withdrawal from the course or expulsion from the academy.

Materials Selection Policy

LUOA curates educational materials that are consistent with the school's philosophy; however, the fallen human condition depicted in literature (as in Scripture itself) is not always pleasant. Valuable works sometimes have objectionable or profane elements. Good books provide four (4) recognized values.

- They build godly attitudes and character traits.
- They deepen our social and cultural awareness.
- They strengthen our use of written language.
- They provide a lifelong source of enjoyment and relaxation.

In order to instill these values in students and fulfill the stated objectives of the school, all LUOA students are expected to read and study good books on a regular basis. Recognizing that materials designed for one level may not be appropriate for another, three (3) levels of criteria are applied:

- Elementary materials must contain no objectionable material,
- Objectionable elements in sixth through eighth-grade materials must be limited and must serve a specific educational purpose, and
- Objectionable content may be included in high school materials but must be outweighed by positive literary, curricular, and/or Christian values.

The curriculum department has approved required educational materials for students.

Schedule

Module 1: Non Fiction

Week 1: Introduction to Non-Fiction

Week 2: Non-Fiction: Letters

Week 3: Non-Fiction: Speeches

Week 4: Non-Fiction: Memoirs

Module 2: Drama

Week 5: *A Raisin in the Sun*

Week 6: *A Raisin in the Sun*

Week 7: *A Raisin in the Sun*

Module 3: Poetry

Week 8: Romantic Poets

Week 9: Robert Frost

Week 10: Contemporary Poetry

Module 4: Short Stories

Week 11: Short Stories

Week 12: Short Stories

Week 13: Short Stories

Module 5: The Novel

Week 14: *My Antonia*

Week 15: *My Antonia*

Week 16: *My Antonia*

Week 17: *My Antonia*

Week 18: *My Antonia*