Casper College Course Syllabus
ENGL 2310-01 American Literature I

Semester/Year: Fall 2006

Credit Hours: 3       Lab Hours: 0       Lecture Hours: 3

Class Time: 1:00 -2:15 pm   Days: MW       Room: CE 102

Instructor: Evelyn Brummond   Office: 104 Center Building

Office Telephone: 268-2377 (ext. 2377 on campus)

E-mail Address: brummond@caspercollege.edu

Office Hours: 9:00-11:00 am MW
3:30-5:30 pm TuTh
9:00 - noon F
AND BY APPOINTMENT

A Handbook to Literature, Ed. Harmon and Holman, 10th ed.
A good dictionary

Description: American Literature I is a survey of American literature from the Colonial Period to the Civil War. It involves, reading, discussing, and writing about important works of America's literary heritage.

Goal: Successful completion of the course will provide students with a deeper understanding and appreciation of early American literature. It will also prepare students for upper division study of American writers and works.

Prerequisites: Students should have completed English Composition II or its equivalent or have the instructor's permission to enter the course. Also, since the course includes some reading assignments of considerable length and difficulty, it demands mature study habits. Written assignments require good composition and research skills.

Methodology: This is a "lecture" course, which means it involves reading and discussing assigned works. Unless otherwise indicated, the reading assignments are found in The American Tradition in Literature. A reference work, A Handbook to Literature, is a dictionary of literature which helps students understand the technical literary terminology used in discussion. Reading assignment sheets will be distributed in class, and students should listen for changes in and updating of assignments. Students should also carefully prepare the reading assignments by the dates given, and since a careful reading of some the material involves going through it several times, they should be sure to schedule appropriate study time to do the reading properly.

Outcomes: Students' progress in the course will be measured by three take-home exams (one each on the literature of the Colonial period, the American Revolutionary Period, and American Romanticism), a research paper on a topic related to the reading, and an oral report to the class on the research. In-class reading exams will be given as necessary. There is an "open" due date for the research paper; students may submit this assignment at any point in the semester up to the scheduled final testing period.
Evaluation: Each written exam is given a total point value of 100 possible points, and the oral report is worth a possible 50 points. The research paper is the most heavily weighted assignment and is worth a possible 250 points. Pass/fail reading quizzes are worth 10 points each. Semester grades are figured as follows:

- 90-100% of the possible points = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- 59% and below = F

Attendance: Missing a certain number of classes will not directly lower a final grade. However, since lecture, discussion and the oral report are "in-class" procedures, it is very difficult to have poor attendance and do well in the course. Making arrangements for make-up work as soon as possible after an absence is the student's responsibility, and graded work not made up within one week of a due date will be recorded as an F grade.

ADA Accommodations Policy: It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodation to any student with a documented disability. If students have need for such accommodation in this course, they should confer with the instructor as soon as possible.

Chain of Command: Students who encounter problems in the course should contact the instructor immediately. If solutions suggested by the instructor are not satisfactory, students must follow the appropriate chain of command (department head, division chair, and finally academic vice president) for resolution.

Student Conduct and Academic Dishonesty: Students should refer to the "Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code" (in the student handbook) for information about the general rights and responsibilities of Casper College students. Special attention should be paid to the sections on plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Proven cases of plagiarism or other academic dishonesty can result in failure in the course or, in the worst case, expulsion from the college.
Brummond  
Fall Semester, 2006  

COURSE CALENDAR  
Explorers and Colonial Writers  

Aug. 28  
Course introduction  
Excerpt form tape, "Chatsworth"  
Lecture: England before the Colonial Period  
Take-home writing diagnostic  

30  
"Exploration and the Colonies" pp. I-9  
Excerpt from the tape, "A Muse of Fire"  
Discussion: American Colonial Language and Literature  

Sept. 4  
Labor Day - no class  

6  
John Smith Introduction  
Excerpts from A General History of Virginia pp. 32-45  
John Winthrop Introduction  
"A Model of Christian Charity" pp. 69-77  

11  
William Bradford Introduction  
Excerpts from Of Plymouth Plantation pp. 46-61  
Anne Bradstreet Introduction  
Poetry selections pp. 84-107  

13  
Michael Wigglesworth Introduction  
From The Day of Doom pp. 112-124  
Mary Rowlandson Introduction  
From A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson pp. 125-149  

18  
Edward Taylor Introduction  
Poetry selections pp. 161-176  
Samuel Sewall Introduction  
Excerpts from The Diary of Samuel Sewall pp. 150-161  
Cotton Mather Introduction  
Excerpts from The Wonders of the Invisible World pp. 176  
Sarah Kemble Knight Introduction  
Excerpts from The Journal of Madam Knight pp. 207  
Colonial Period Test out  

19  
Finish Discussion of Colonial Writers  

26  
Colonial Writers Test due; Lecture: Rationalism and Reason
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Reading and Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 25</td>
<td>Colonial Writers Test Due</td>
<td>Introduction to the Revolutionary Period</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>&quot;Reason and Revolution&quot; pp. 285-289</td>
<td>Benjamin Franklin Introduction pp. 318-320</td>
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<td>Excerpts from <em>The Autobiography</em> pp.321-351</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>John and Abigail Smith Adams Introduction pp.395-397</td>
<td>Excerpts from <em>The Letters</em> pp.397-411 Discussion: Phillis Wheatley and Olaudah Equiano</td>
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<td>Reason and Revolution test out</td>
<td>Excerpts from <em>The Federalist</em> pp.43-451</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Complete Reason and Revolution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Reason and Revolution test due</td>
<td>Introduction to &quot;The Romantic Temper and the House Divided&quot;</td>
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October 16  **Reason and Revolution Test due**  
   Discussion: American Romanticism  
   18 Washington Irving Introduction  
      "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"  
   **23 Fall Break - no class**  
   25 James Fenimore Cooper Introduction  
      Excerpt from *The Pioneers*  
      William Cullen Bryant Introduction  
      Poetry selections:  
      Henry David Thoreau Introduction  
      Selections from *Walden*  
      Margaret Fuller Introduction  

November 1 Edgar Allan Poe Introduction  
   "The Purloined Letter"  
   6 Nathaniel Hawthorne Introduction  
      "The Minister's Black Veil"  
      "Rappaccini's Daughter"  
   8 Continue Hawthorne  
   13 Herman Melville Introduction  
      "Benito Cereno" Poetry selections:  
      Melville continued  
   20 "Human Sensibility"  
      Abraham Lincoln Introduction  
      "The Address at the Dedication of the Gettysburg ..."  
      Harriet Beecher Stowe Introduction  
      Excerpts from *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
November 22 Thanksgiving vacation - no class

27 Harriet Jacobs Introduction
   Excerpts from *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* Frederick Douglass Introduction
   Excerpts from *Narrative of the Life* ... 

Romanticism test out

29 Walt Whitman Introduction Poetry selections

December 4 Romanticism Test due
   Preview of late 19th and 20th century writers

6 Oral reports?

11 Oral reports?

13 Oral reports?