

**A Course Syllabus for Literary Movements**

**Spring-Summer Semester**

**Class Time: Fridays, 15:00-17:00**

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**Part 1: Course Overview**

The purpose of this course is to investigate major literary movements in the American and British traditions. The course intends to provide a limited yet sufficient understanding of the literary movements, their shared traits and origins, and their connections with one another and other schools of thought/fine arts. However, it must be noted that a single semester could not provide enough capacity for the most comprehensive of investigations regarding this subject matter.

Prominent figures and masterpieces of each school will be introduced. Moreover, selected literary works and films will be scrutinized. The main focus of this course will be on major works and influential figures. Therefore, social, historical, and political contexts are not going to be of primary concern in our readings throughout the course.

**Part 2: Course Objectives/Outcomes**

* Analyzing literary works and address prominent features of each literary movement.
* Promoting students’ awareness of the texts and their relationships with the movements and the shared characteristics of movements.
* Increasing class’ understating of concepts such as school, movement, and aesthetics.
* Addressing the influence of the movements on other forms of arts, and of course, how these literary movement could have possibly been influenced by other fine arts.
* Addressing the connections between the movements and the field of literary criticism.

**Part 3: Required Texts**

**Primary:**

Abrams, Meyer Howard, and Geoffrey Galt Harpham. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2012.

**Secondary:**

Cuddon, John A., and Rafey Habib. *The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*. Penguin Books, 2014.

Galens, David. *Literary Movements for Students Presenting Analysis, Context and Criticism on Literary Movements*. Gale, 2002.

\*Literary works’ PDFs will be sent to students.

**Part 4: Students’ Responsibilities**

* **Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and to have completed the assigned reading before arriving in class. Two absences will be permitted. Each additional absence will result in a reduction of the final course grade. **And remember, take notes during the sessions.**
* **Participation:** Students are expected to take part in class discussions and raise questions, if they have any, regarding the subject matter and content of each session. Moreover, they will be asked to give their opinion on certain matters during the class time.
* **Forget about your mobiles/tablets/laptops. Bring printed copies or books.**

**Part 5: Classroom Rules and Standards of Online Behavior**

* All electronic gadgets must be off or set to silent mode.
* Punctuality is a non-negotiable must.
* 3 sessions of absence mean reducing your chance of passing the course greatly not to mention increasing the possibility of being dropped out of the course. Don’t try it, ever!
* Class activities are expected of the students.
* Last but not least, respect the class. Do not leave the class in groups during the breaks. You absolutely must not extend breaks’ duration on your own authority. For each session, a 10 minute break is already scheduled.
* Should the students have any questions, concerns, or requests for meeting and materials, they will contact me **only and solely** via **my email address**. Other forms of communications are absolutely not recommended.

You all have my thanks and appreciation since you have always observed these rules and regulations. Bringing them here again is only a matter of formality and academic regulations.

**Part 6: Grading Policy and Final Exam Structure**

| **Points**  | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
|  3+2 | Class Participation and Attendance |
| 15 | Final exam\*.  |
| 20 | Total points |

**\*** Your final exam will be composed of 30 multiple choice questions +5 multiple choice questions with extra points and 3 essay questions. On your exam, you will answer questions that are structured around the issues discussed in the class. You must respond to essay questions properly and to the point in a reasonable length with maximum awareness of the subject matters. And there will be at least 5 bonus questions in multiple choice questions part which are much more difficult than the regular questions and need a great deal of critical insight and mastery over the sources. Don’t forget: **everything I say will be on the exam!**

**Part 7: Schedule**

**Week 1:**

* Key concepts: Literary movements and schools of thought.
* Classicism and Medieval Mystics.

**Week 2:**

* Renaissance, Humanism, Metaphysical School of Poetry.
* Text(s): George Herbert’s ‘The Collar’. Milton’s ‘On His Blindness’.

**Week 3:**

* Neoclassicism and Enlightenment.
* Text(s): A. Pope’s ‘An Essay on Criticism’ Part One.

**Week 4:**

* Romanticism (Gothic Literature) and Transcendentalism.
* Text(s): Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s ‘Kubla Khan’ and Edgar Allen Poe’s ‘Annabel Lee’.

**Week 5:**

* Symbolism, Aestheticism and Decadent Movement.
* Text(s): Dante Gabriel Rossetti

**Week 6:**

* Bildungsroman, Colonialism, Naturalism and Realism.
* Motion Picture(s): *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen* (2003) directed by Stephen Norrington.

**Week 7:**

* Modernism and Imagism.
* Motion Picture(s): *Mrs Dalloway* (1998) directed by Marleen Gorris.

**Week 8:**

* Expressionism and Impressionism.
* Motion Picture(s): *Pollock* (2000) directed by Ed Harris.

**Week 9:**

* Dadaism, Surrealism. With An Introduction to Magic Realism.
* Paintings created by figures of these movements.

**Week 10:**

* Beat Movement and Harlem Renaissance.
* Motion Picture(s): *The Cotton Club* (1984) directed by Francis Ford Coppola.

**Week 11:**

* Absurdism and Postmodernism.
* Motion Picture(s): *Slaughterhouse-Five* (1972) directed by George Roy Hill.
* Text(s): John Barth’s ‘Autobiography: A Self-Recorded Fiction’.

**Week 12:**

* Postcolonialism and Smaller Movements. What is ‘after theory’?
* Science Fiction and Fantasy.

**Week 13:**

* Review.

**\*Content and form of this syllabus may change.**