

# South Plains College

## Course Syllabus: ENGL 2341

### Forms of Literature

*American Voices in Fiction*

**Instructor:** Mollie Moore

**Email Address:** mmoore@southplainscollege.edu

**Office Phone:** 806-716-2444

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 AM – 12 Noon.

All others can be arranged by appointment that works best for you! Please email.

**Course Number:** English 2341-151

**Course Title:** Forms of Literature: *American Voices in Fiction*

**Course Description:** This course presents the study of one or more literary genres including, but not limited to, poetry, fiction, drama, and/or film. Forms of Literature: American Voices will explore the development of diversity in America reflected in short stories, novels, and film from 1945 to present day. Contemporary fiction contains voices of the marginalized not often recorded before: voices of women, African Americans and civil rights leaders, Native Americans, immigrants from around the world including Asian American Pacific Islanders, Mexican Americans, and Indian Americans. The course will also cover various voices echoing through the aftermath of world wars and terrorism to diverse voices of hope and change as America confronts its past to improve its future.

**Prerequisite:** ENGL 1302    **Credit:** 3    **Lecture:** 3    **Lab:** 0

#### **Textbook:**

Avilez, Robert S Levine, Michael A Elliott, Lisa Siraganian, Amy Hungerford, G. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature (Package 2: Volumes C, D, E)*. Available from: South Plains College Bookshelf, (10th Edition). W. W. Norton, 2022.

- This course has been placed in the TexBook program, the ebook is included in the cost of the course and available to you through Blackboard the first day of class. You have already paid a course fee for this textbook and should be able to access it through the link under "Course Content" in Blackboard. **Do not purchase any additional books unless you would like to buy the print version.**
- You actually have access to 3 volumes of this anthology, but our course will only be focusing on **Volume E: 1945 to the Present**

**TexBook Program:** This course is in the SPC TexBook program, so you do not need to purchase a textbook or access code for this course.

- **What is TexBook?** The required textbook/digital content for this course is available to you in Blackboard from the first day of class. The charge for the textbook/digital content

is the lowest price available from the publisher and bookstore and is included in your tuition.

- **How do I access my TexBook?** Your course material is in your Blackboard course from the first day of class. Access to your course material is provided either by VitalSource or other links inside your Blackboard course. VitalSource (and many publisher's) eBook features include the ability to hear the text read aloud, highlight, take notes, create flash cards, see word definitions, build study guides, print select pages, and download 100% of the book for offline access.
- **Help with TexBook issues and support: check with your professor or visit:** <https://support.vitalsource.com/hc/en-us/requests/new> (available 24/7 via chat, email, phone, and text)
- **Opting out of TexBook:** Participating in TexBook is not mandatory, and you can choose to opt out. However, by opting out you will lose access to the course textbook/digital content and competitive pricing, and you will need to purchase the required course material on your own. If you drop the class or opt-out before the opt-out deadline, the TexBook fee will be automatically refunded to your SPC account. The opt-out deadline for Fall and Spring is the twelfth class day. The opt-out deadline for shorter terms varies between the second and third class day.

***\*Please consult with your professor before deciding to opt-out.*** If you still feel that you should purchase the course textbook/materials on your own, send an opt-out email to [pwells@texasbook.com](mailto:pwells@texasbook.com). Include your first name, last name, student ID number, and the course you are opting out of. Once you have been opted-out, you will receive a confirmation email. If you need assistance with the process, contact the SPC Bookstore:

**Email: [pwells@texasbook.com](mailto:pwells@texasbook.com) / Phone: 806-716-2097**

**Email: [agamble@texasbook.com](mailto:agamble@texasbook.com) / Phone: 806-716-4610**

#### **Technology Requirements:**

1. **SPC username and password:** email [helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu) or call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600 for help with your username/password
2. **SPC student email access:**
  - **SPC Student Email Account:** If you haven't already, you must go ahead and activate your SPC student email account. Not only will you need access to your SPC email account to receive TURNITIN digital paper submission receipts for our class, but you must use it to communicate with me.
    - Your SPC Email address is: **yourSPCusername@southplainscollege.edu** (ex. [jsmith1234@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:jsmith1234@southplainscollege.edu)).
    - Your student email password is the same as your Blackboard password. If you need help, call the SPC Help Desk at 806-716-2600.
    - To access your SPC email account, log in to [MySPC here](#)
    - You can also set up access to your SPC email account through mobile phone mail apps, such as default smartphone Mail app or the Outlook app.
    - Check with the SPC Help Desk for assistance: 806-716-2600.
3. **Regular access to a computer and reliable internet service:**
  - Open computer labs are available free to students with an SPC I.D. on all SPC campuses (Levelland, Reese, Lubbock, Plainview).

- Computer or internet connection problems may occur for you at some point this semester. **Understand that it is your responsibility to find alternate computers you may use to submit your work on time.** Find your alternate resources **now**; do not wait until you suddenly need them! Line up three friends TODAY who would be willing to loan you a laptop if yours suddenly crashes.
  - Free WiFi is available in all SPC campus buildings, some SPC parking lots, most coffee shops, etc.
4. **Blackboard:** grades, assignments, quizzes, videos, and many other resources for this class are accessed through the Blackboard learning management system. Use your SPC credentials to log in here: <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>
  5. **Office 365: Word and PowerPoint:** You are required to use Microsoft Word to create papers for this course. As a member of the SPC community, you have free access to Office 365. Office 365 provides free online access to Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, and 1TB of free online storage with Microsoft OneDrive. You can use Office 365 online or download for free and install to your PC, Mac, or mobile device.
    - To access Office 365 for free as an SPC student, go to <https://www.office.com> and sign in with the following credentials:  
SPCusername@southplainscollege.edu and your SPC password.
    - You can then click the link for the individual application you want to use online, or click the install office link towards the top right to install the application to your computer.
    - I highly suggest using Microsoft Word to type and turn in your papers in this class. **PLEASE BE AWARE that there are oftentimes restrictions on GOOGLEDPCS that makes it impossible for me or anyone else to read your paper.** Be sure you are downloading Googledocs and saving them as a Word or PDF file before turning them in for my class.
  6. **Adobe Reader:** Available to download free from this website:  
<http://www.adobe.com/products/reader.html>

**Computer Help:** need help with your computer, laptop, email address, username/password?

- [helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:helpdesk@southplainscollege.edu)
- 806-716-2600

**Ebook Help:**

- **Norton Help:** <https://www.norton.com/help>
- **TexBook Information (Inclusive Access):**  
<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/texbook.php>
- **TexBook Help:**  
<https://support.vitalsource.com/hc/en-us/requests/new>  
(available 24/7 via chat, email, phone, and text)
- **SPC Bookstore:** [pwells@texasbook.com](mailto:pwells@texasbook.com)  
or [agamble@texasbook.com](mailto:agamble@texasbook.com)



**Blackboard Help:**

1. **Get Help by Email:** [blackboard@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:blackboard@southplainscollege.edu)
  - Be sure to include your full name, your instructor's name, the course and section you are enrolled in, and a detailed description of the problem.
  - The blackboard@southplainscollege.edu account is monitored from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., Monday – Sunday.

- You can expect a response within 24 hours by email; however, the average response time is less than one hour.
- 2. **Get Help by Phone:** 806-716-2180 (available between 8 AM and 4 PM Monday through Friday, except on holidays)
- 3. **Get Help Online:** click on the Help link listed in the Blackboard course menu.

**Course Syllabus and Organization:**

- This syllabus is available on the **Syllabus** page in our Blackboard course.
- The course is organized into sixteen weeks. Each week has its own folder on the **Course Content** page in our Blackboard course.
- Each course week runs from 9:00 AM Tuesday to 9:00 AM of the following Tuesday.

**Assignment Deadlines:** The weekly assignment deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.

**Supplies:** Access to computer with printer and RELIABLE Internet access

**FREE TUTORING:**

- Visit the Tutoring Information link to view the drop-in tutoring schedule or to learn how to book an appointment:  
<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/exploreprograms/artsandsciences/teacheredtutoring.php>
- Tutor.com is also FREE to you when SPC tutors are not available. You have three hours per week for free to utilize these after-hours tutors.
  - To access Tutor.com, log into Blackboard and click on **Course Resources**. Use the Tutor.com link provided on that page.

**This course satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement:** Language, Philosophy, and Culture Foundational Component Area

**Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:**

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Social Responsibility**—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the course, the student will show competence in the course objectives listed below:

1. Critically evaluate works of fiction in terms of the elements of fiction (plot, setting, characterization, symbolism, tone, point of view, figurative language, etc.)
2. Understand the biographical, cultural, and historical contexts of fictional works written during particular time periods

3. Evaluate the distinguishing characteristics of works of fiction, especially in order to analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods
4. Show an understanding and refinement of the skills of expository and argumentative writing already developed in English 1301 and 1302
5. Apply critical thinking to the study of drama and to the writing of analytical papers
6. Use a library and relevant internet sources for research purposes
7. Research and write an accurately documented paper, using MLA style or other assigned documentation style
8. Participate in class discussions or group work over the literature in the course

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment:** A pre- and post-test or writing assignment rubric may be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

**Course Evaluation:**

Discussion Boards: Initial Posts [4] = **20%**

Discussion Boards: Replies [12] = **12%**

Daily Work = **18%**

(includes but not limited to:

- Blackboard Quizzes,
- InQuizitive Activities,
- Close Reading Activities)

Responses [4] = **20%**

(in the form of:

- papers,
- videos,
- audio recordings, etc.)

Midterm Paper (Multiple source) = **15%**

Final Commonplace Project = **15%**

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**Total:** **100%**



**Essay/Paper Assessment Guidelines:**

Essays may earn grades ranging from A to F based on the instructor's grading scale. Depending on the assignment, certain criteria may be weighted more than others, and the instructor's assignment may establish additional, more specific criteria. The quality of each of the criteria determines the letter grade. Not every essay will fit a single grade's description completely. Instructors may also include process assignments and drafts in their assessment of the final grade.

**“A” Essay (Superior)**

To earn an “A,” a paper meets all of the criteria below:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The paper states a clear thesis, all topic sentences strongly support the thesis, and body paragraphs are unified around their topic sentences. The essay conveys a clear purpose and is tailored to a distinctive audience.

3. **Support:** Body paragraphs contain abundant, fresh details and examples that provide specific, concrete, logical evidence. If sources are required, the paper accurately integrates and correctly documents credible source material to add insight, sophistication, and complexity to the paper's ideas.
4. **Coherence:** The organization of the paper is excellent and logical (emphatic order, chronological order, etc.), transitions are sophisticated, and the paper exhibits mastery of basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form) and is virtually free of other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors. Word choice and sentence variety (simple, compound, complex) are effective and powerful.

### **"B" Essay (Strong)**

To earn a "B," a paper meets all of the criteria below:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The paper states a clear thesis, all topic sentences directly support the thesis, and body paragraphs display unity. The essay conveys good awareness of purpose and audience.
3. **Support:** Body paragraphs are well-developed with specific details, examples, and sound logic. If sources are required, the paper accurately uses and correctly documents credible source material to supplement its ideas.
4. **Coherence:** The organization of the paper is clear and helpful, transitions are helpful, and the paper exhibits strong basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no more than two major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form) and very few other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors. Word choice and sentence variety are strong.

### **"C" Paper (Acceptable)**

To earn a "C," a paper meets all of the criteria below:

1. The paper fulfills all the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** A thesis is stated but may lack a strong claim or be obvious or predictable; topic sentences adequately support the thesis. One error in paragraph unity may occur. The essay's purpose and audience are adequately conveyed.
3. **Support:** Body paragraphs contain relevant details or logical reasons but need more specific examples/evidence. If sources are required, credible outside sources are usually integrated and cited correctly.
4. **Coherence:** Organization of ideas is satisfactory, transitions are logical, and the paper indicates competence in basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no more than four major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form). Some other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors are present but not distracting. Word choice and sentence variety are strong.

### **“D” Paper (Developing)**

To earn a “D,” a paper will exhibit *one or more* of the weaknesses below:

1. The paper only partially fulfills one or more of the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The thesis may announce the topic but no claim, contain more than one idea, or be too vague, too broad, or too narrow. Topic sentences are not tied to the thesis. Two errors in paragraph unity may occur. Essay conveys little awareness of audience or purpose.
3. **Support:** Details are sparse or vague and consist of generalizations, clichés, or repetition. If applicable, sources are insufficient and/or not always integrated or cited correctly.
4. **Coherence:** Organization is attempted but disjointed or confusing; transitions are sparse. The paper indicates awareness of but not competence in basic components (introduction, conclusion, and body paragraph structure).
5. **Sentence Skills:** The paper contains no more than six major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form). Several other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors distract from the content. Informal word choices occur with little or no variety in sentence type and length.

### **“F” Paper (Unacceptable)**

To earn an “F,” a paper will exhibit *one or more* of the weaknesses below:

1. The paper fails to fulfill one or more of the basic requirements of the assignment (for example, topic, purpose, length, format).
2. **Unity:** The thesis is illogical, incomplete, or missing, so the essay lacks focus on one central idea. Topic sentences are missing, so body paragraphs lack unity. The essay ignores the purpose and audience.
3. **Support:** Details are illogical, irrelevant, or missing from body paragraphs. If sources are required, the paper fails to use sources, does not meet the minimum source requirements, uses source material inaccurately, uses sources that are not credible, fails to document fully or correctly, and/or includes plagiarism.
4. **Coherence:** Organization is incoherent, transitions are missing or illogical, or the paper indicates lack of competence in basic paper components (for example, lack of introduction and/or conclusion, lack of paragraphing).
5. **Sentence Skills:** Seven or more major errors (fragment, fused sentence, comma splice, subject-verb agreement, pronoun reference or agreement, verb form) occur with numerous other grammar, spelling, wrong word, punctuation, mechanical, or point of view errors. Word choice is often inaccurate, immature, or inappropriate. Multiple sentence structure/syntax errors make the paper difficult or almost impossible to read. If one type or a combination of types of errors, regardless of whether they are major or minor, seriously affects the readability of a paper, it will receive an “F.”

**Student Responsibilities:** Students are expected to

1. Be on time and regularly attend class by logging into the course weekly and completing all assignments on time
2. Be responsible for the learning process, including preparation for class, such as reading and homework; participation in class discussions, including asking relevant questions; getting assignments and/or notes if absent; and accepting responsibility for not understanding an assignment or failing an assignment

3. Be responsible for having an appropriate attitude and using appropriate language in academic environments; not use condescending, inflammatory, threatening, or profane rhetoric, whether verbally or in written form, in academic environments
4. Have respectful behavior toward instructor and classmates in order to contribute to the atmosphere necessary for learning
5. Be responsible for courteous actions to others, especially by putting away cell phones and other distractions while in class
6. Be responsible for writing down all grades and applying them to the grading scale used for the class, which is shown in the course's policy statement/syllabus
7. Submit all assignments in accordance with due dates, formats, and requirements
8. Avoid all forms of cheating and plagiarism on all assignments, including improper collaboration
9. Ask questions when something is unclear.

#### **FREE TUTORING:**

- Visit the Tutoring Information link to view the drop-in tutoring schedule or to learn how to book an appointment:  
<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/exploreprograms/artsandsciences/teacheredtutoring.php>
- Tutor.com is also FREE to you when SPC tutors are not available. You have three hours per week for free to utilize these after-hours tutors.
  - To access Tutor.com, log into Blackboard and click on **Course Resources**. Use the Tutor.com link provided on that page.
  - Tutor.com hours:
    - Monday-Thursday 8:00 PM-8:00 AM
    - Friday 6:00 PM-8:00 AM
    - Saturday-Sunday 24/7
  - Tutoring Questions:
    - Email: [tutoring@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:tutoring@southplainscollege.edu)
    - Phone: 806-716-2538

#### **Attendance Policy:**

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus. For this course, that means logging in and completing course work each week. **If a student accrues more than 4 ZEROS on any assignments, the instructor can and may drop the student with an "X" in the course.**

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the



financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

**Dropping our class:** Before you withdraw from our class, please contact me or talk to your advisor/counselor. There may be a way for you to get back on track.

- Check the SPC Academic Calendar here to find out the last day to drop a course for this semester: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/academiccalendar/index.php>
- To drop this class, fill out and submit this form online: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZrGRbWrP6UWeIqAmJdCCqViMnZs6h15Nrs0pqCo\\_sEIUODEXTUFXS0JOODhJOTIYM0NEV1kzRk9GMSQIQCN0PWcu](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZrGRbWrP6UWeIqAmJdCCqViMnZs6h15Nrs0pqCo_sEIUODEXTUFXS0JOODhJOTIYM0NEV1kzRk9GMSQIQCN0PWcu)
- You are not required to obtain an instructor signature to drop. There will be no charge for drops for the fall or spring semesters.
- For additional information regarding schedule changes, drops and withdrawals, [click here](#).

**WITHDRAWAL POLICY:** The last day to withdraw/drop with a grade of "W" is April 27<sup>th</sup>. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from this course. Otherwise, students will be assigned their earned letter grade at the end of the course. Course averages will be updated twice each week, and guidance will be provided throughout the term to help students decide whether they need to drop the class or not. For more information regarding drops/withdrawals, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/apply/schedulechanges.php>.

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy may result in an F for the assignment and/or an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps to generate all or part of a paper or other assignment;
2. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another writer or from an online site;
3. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
4. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
5. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, texting, internet, Quizlet, etc.) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;

9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

**COVID-19:** For information and resources about COVID-19, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/covid19-faq.php>.

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about diversity, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.