

## Preliminary Web Course Description

\*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

### School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL 3550	Course Title: Modern United States Literatures	Date of Offering: Winter 2017
Course Instructor: C. Bold		
<p><b>Brief Course Synopsis:</b>                  This multigenre course explores powerful examples of U.S. literatures, predominantly since World War One. The selection includes traditional and experimental forms by Indigenous, African American, Mexican American, Asian American, Jewish American, and Euro-American writers. We will study the textual details, literary strategies, and cultural contexts of these works, paying particular attention to the relationships among voice, power, and representation. What versions of “America” do these writers offer and how might we understand them in a post-9/11 world?</p>		
Course Format: Lecture/Reading-intensive course	<p><b>Methods of Evaluation and Weights:</b>                  Two 500-word close reading exercises (the first for 20% of final grade, the second for 25%)                  Online test (20% of final grade)                  Online final exam (35% of final grade)</p>	
<p><b>Texts and/or Resources Required</b> (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)                  Louise Erdrich (Ojibwe), <i>Tracks</i> (1988)                  Ralph Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> (1952)                  William Faulkner, <i>The Sound and the Fury</i> (1929)                  Tony Kushner, <i>Homebody/Kabul</i> (2002)                  Suzan-Lori Parks, <i>The America Play</i> (1993)                  Sylvia Plath, <i>The Bell Jar</i> (1963)                  ENGL 3550 coursepack in Coop Bookstore (poetry by Sylvia Plath, Irena Klepfisz, and Gloria Anzaldúa; and short prose by Sui Sin Far)</p>		
<p>Other information that you wish share about the course (optional): Fulfills 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> century distribution requirement</p>		