

## 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

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|------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Course Code:<br>ENGL*3960*01 | Course Title:<br>Seminar: Literature in History | Date of Offering:<br>Fall 2019 |
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| Course Instructor: Pablo Ramirez | Course Format: Seminar |
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#### Brief Course Synopsis:

The Gilded Age and the Progressive Era (1865-1920) were periods of great change: the rise of urbanization, the creation of distinct high and low cultures, the formation of modern capitalism, the revision and reaffirmation of a racial caste system destabilized by emancipation, and the creation of an overseas American empire. This course will explore how American writers instigated, defended, criticized and/or interpreted these changes. Instead of presenting students with a monological approach to the period, the reading list exposes them to multiple perspectives, so they can begin to grasp how American fiction helped to give shape and coherence to multiple, often competing, meanings about race, gender, capitalism and modernity.

#### Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

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|-------------------------------|-----|
| Participation                 | 20% |
| Presentation                  | 10% |
| Short Paper (1500-1800 words) | 20% |
| Exam                          | 10% |
| Rough Draft (500-750 words)   | 10% |
| Research Paper (3000 words)   | 30% |

#### Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)

*Ragged Dick*, Horatio Alger  
*House of Mirth*, Edith Wharton  
*Tarzan of the Apes*, Edgar Rice Burroughs  
*Call of the Wild*, Jack London  
*Herland*, Charlotte Perkins Gilman  
*Conjure Woman and Other Conjure Tales*, Charles Chesnutt

This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018: **18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Century**

#### Other information about the course (optional):

\*Students who registered at the University of Guelph after Fall 2018 must fulfill the “new” major and minor requirements. Students who registered at the University of Guelph prior to Fall 2018 must fulfill the requirements of the Calendar in effect when they first enrolled unless they have filed a Schedule of Studies Change Request to change to the 2018-2019 calendar. For more information, please consult the major and minor checklists at <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/sets/undergraduate/english/current-student-information>.