## 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:	Course Title:	Date of Offering:
ENGL 3550	Modern United States Literature	W 2023

Course Instructor:	Course Format:
G. Campbell	Lecture/ intensive reading

## Brief Course Synopsis:

Brief Course Synopsis: 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 world where US global hegemony seems to be in decline?

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

First close reading 15%

Second close reading 20%

2 online discussion posts 20%

Argument paper 20%

Take home final exam 25%

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

Cather, My Antonia

Faulkner, The Sound and the Fury

Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God

Poetry

Lehman and Zapruder, eds. The Best American Poetry of 2022

Film

Coen Brothers, The Big Lebowski

Huston, The Big Sleep

Sturges, Sullivan's Travels

Essays

Lakshmi, The Best American Travel Writing 2021

This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who
registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018:

Information about mode of delivery (synchronous/asynchronous/other details):

<sup>\*</sup>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.