ENG 391
19th Century American Novel

Course Description: Students in ENG 391 will read five of the most important American novels of the nineteenth century. Our analyses will consider the formal, thematic, historical and theoretical dimensions of these texts. The course is also designed to improve skills for the study of literature. Students will be challenged to read critically and to write sophisticated analytical essays.

Papers, Exams, Grading: There will be two assigned papers in the course, a 5-7 page paper due on Tuesday, October 23, and 5-7 page paper due on Tuesday, November 20. There will also be a final exam. The first paper and the final exam will each be worth 25% of the final grade. The second paper will be worth 40%. Class participation will be worth another 10% (which means that students who make no effort to participate in class discussion or during office hours can earn no more than an A- for the term). All written material must be typed, double-spaced, thoroughly proofread, and printed.

Plagiarism: Students who hand in written material that is not their own will receive an F for the course, and a report will be submitted to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards to determine if additional sanctions should be imposed.

Attendance: Up to two unexcused absences are permitted. Each absence after the second will result in a 1/3 reduction of the final grade.

Required Readings: Books are available at the University Bookstore. Editions other than the ones ordered for the course are acceptable.

James Fenimore Cooper, The Last of the Mohicans (1826)
Nathaniel Hawthorne, The House of the Seven Gables (1851)
Mark Twain, The Prince and the Pauper (1882)
William Dean Howells, A Hazard of New Fortunes (1890)
Stephen Crane, Maggie, A Girl of the Streets (1893)

Schedule of Assigned Readings

Week 1
Tues., Sept. 25: Introduction to the Course
Thurs., Sept. 27: Cooper, ch. 1-10

Week 2
Tues., Oct. 2: Cooper, ch. 11-20
Thurs., Oct. 4: Cooper, ch. 21-33

**Week 3**
Tues., Oct. 9: Hawthorne, Preface-ch. 4
Thurs., Oct. 11: Hawthorne, ch. 5-10

**Week 4**
Tues., Oct. 16: Hawthorne, ch. 11-16
Thurs., Oct. 18: Hawthorne, ch. 17-21

**Week 5**
Tues., Oct. 23: Twain, ch. 1-7

*Paper Due in Class (5-7 pages)*
Thurs., Oct. 25: Twain, ch. 8-18

**Week 6**
Tues., Oct. 30: Twain, ch. 19-25
Thurs., Nov. 1: Twain, ch. 26-conclusion

**Week 7**
Tues., Nov. 6: Howells, Part 1
Thurs., Nov. 8: Howells, Part 2

**Week 8**
Tues., Nov. 13: Howells, Part 3
Thurs., Nov. 15: Howells, Part 4

**Week 9**
Tues., Nov. 20: Howells, Part 5

*Paper Due in Class (5-7 pages)*
Thurs., Nov. 22: Thanksgiving

**Week 10**
Tues., Nov. 27: Crane, ch. 1-9
Thurs., Nov. 29: Crane, ch. 10-19

**FINAL EXAM:** 8:00 AM, Friday, December 7