Teaching Assistant
Robert Zandstra  zandstra@uoregon.edu

Mr. Zandstra will be available to students to consult about writing for this class. He will read and comment on first drafts of essays and arrange times to meet to go over these. This is why there is a deadline on the schedule for drafts to be sent to Mr. Zandstra. One such first draft consultation during the term is required for each student. Do not wait until late in the course to schedule consultations. He will also assist in grading written work.

Required Texts:
- Willa Cather, *O Pioneers!*
- James Joyce, *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*
- Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
- Thomas Mann, *Death in Venice*
- Ernest Hemingway, *The Sun Also Rises*
- John Steinbeck, *Tortilla Flat*
- Richard Wright, *Native Son*
- poetry posted on Blackboard
- and occasional in-class handouts

Requirements:

- Attendance and Participation
  including TA consultation  20%

- Cumulative Portfolio  20%
  - Weekly reading responses (9)
  - In class-writings
  - Final reflective essay

- Two formal essays  60%

Policies:

Weekly reading responses: One page of cogent, formal writing in which you reflect on the week’s reading. These must be written before class and handed in at the beginning of each Friday class meeting. This writing may include your reactions, thoughts, speculations, connections or comparisons, or questions directly related to the assigned works or to concepts discussed in class. The previous week’s reading responses will be returned (ungraded, but with brief comments) on Mondays, for your portfolio. Reading
responses reflect your thinking about the works we read and discuss. I am not interested in reading ideas you find in sources other than your own mind.

**In-class writings** will be about the work assigned for that day, based on prompts I will give in class. They will be collected and returned, ungraded, for your portfolio. They may be assigned spontaneously during any class meeting and may not be made up.

**Keep your reading responses and in-class writings in a file as they are handed back:** They must be included in your final portfolio, due at the end of the term, to be graded collectively, along with a final reflective essay.

**Formal Essays:** 4-5 pages of well-argued, formal prose in response to a critical question about one or more of the works we have read up to that point. Assignments will be made in class one week before the first draft deadline and two weeks before each revised essay is due.

**Writing counts.** English classes are writing intensive and expect you to write at your best and use writing assignments to demonstrate and improve your writing skills. Your writing will be assessed both on the quality of the content and the quality of the writing itself. Please consult Professor Gage or Mr. Zandstra for assistance at any point in writing your essays or responses.

**Attendance is mandatory.** Unexcused absences will affect your final grade. Disruptive, discourteous, or inattentive classroom behavior will likewise affect your final grade. Turn off telephones, laptops, and all other electronics during class. If you text, twitter, or email, etc., during class, you will be counted absent for that day.

**Preparation for class:** The first day a novel is scheduled to be discussed, you should have read a substantial portion, at least half the book. By the second day it is discussed you should have finished the novel. In some cases, this means you should begin reading novels well before we get to them.

**The writing you do for this class** will be a direct response to the literature we read and will not require you to read secondary sources. Consulting outside sources can be helpful in understanding words or in providing historical context. If you use outside sources of any kind in your writing, directly or indirectly, you must document those sources appropriately.

**All work** you do for credit in this class must be exclusively your own work and done exclusively for this class. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind will result in a failing grade in the course and a report to the Officer of Student Conduct. Your continued enrollment in this class signifies that you are familiar with the provisions of the code of student conduct, which are published at: [http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/StudentConductCode/tabid/69/Default.aspx](http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/StudentConductCode/tabid/69/Default.aspx)
Tentative schedule of assignments:
  *reading response due in class

Monday Jan. 3 - Introduction to the course – turn-of-the-century poems
Wednesday Jan 5 - Cather, *O Pioneers!*
  *Friday Jan 7 - Cather continued

Monday Jan 10 - Cather continued
Wednesday Jan 12 - Cather continued
  *Friday Jan14 - Mann, *Death in Venice*

Monday Jan 17 - No Class
Wednesday Jan 19 – Mann continued
  *Friday Jan 21 – Mann continued

Monday Jan 24 - Joyce, *Portrait of the Artist...* **Deadline for draft of Essay 1 to Mr. Zandstra.**
Wednesday Jan 26 – Joyce continued
  *Friday Jan 28 - Joyce continued

Monday Jan 31 - Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway* **Essay 1 Due**
Wednesday Feb 2 - Woolf continued
  *Friday Jan 4 - Woolf continued

Monday Feb 7 - WWI poetry (to be posted on Blackboard)
Wednesday Feb 9 - poetry continued
  *Friday Feb 11 - Hemingway, *The Sun Also Rises*

Monday Feb 14 - Hemingway continued
Wednesday Feb 16 - Hemingway continued
  *Friday Feb 18 - Steinbeck, *Tortilla Flat*

Monday Feb 21 - Steinbeck continued **Deadline for draft of Essay 1 to Mr. Zandstra.**
Wednesday Feb 23 - Steinbeck continued
  *Friday Feb 25 - poetry of protest and struggle (to be posted on Blackboard)

Monday Feb 28 - poetry continued **Essay #2 Due**
Wednesday Mar 2 - Wright, *Native Son*
  *Friday Mar 4 - Wright continued

Monday Mar 7 - Wright continued
Wednesday Mar 9 - Wright continued
Friday Mar 10 - **Portfolio Due**

No final exam.