Course Description
In this course, we will investigate the relationship between history and form in the development of the traditions of the twentieth-century American novel. Our analyses will consider the formal and thematic dimensions of these texts and the historical contexts in which they emerge and circulate. During the term students will learn to read novels critically and to write sophisticated analytical essays.

Required Readings:
The following texts are available at the University of Oregon bookstore:

- Willa Cather, *The Professor’s House*
- William Faulkner, *Absalom, Absalom!*
- Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
- Leslie Marmon Silko, *Ceremony*
- Helena Maria Viramontes, *Under the Feet of Jesus*
- Edith Wharton, *The Age of Innocence*

Available on Blackboard: Selections from Leslie Fiedler.

Grading

*Competent writing is expected in this course. Make sure that you have access to a MLA Handbook and that you are fluent in the mechanics of writing. The Class Schedule says of ENG 392: “No prerequisites are required, but students should be capable of advanced university-level work in literary studies.” If you do not feel prepared to do such work, please consider another course.*

- **Attendance and participation**
  Students must come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings. Punctual, regular attendance is required of all students.
  10% of the final grade

- **Two short analyses of assigned reading**
  Each two to three pages (around 700 words) in length
  40% of the final grade (20% each)

- **Quizzes**
  SIX quizzes will be given of which I will count your FIVE best scores. The quizzes will be composed of two questions and each question will be worth ten points.
  20% of the final grade

- **Final paper**
  Five to six pages (around 1500 words) in length.
  30% of the final grade
Other Policies and Requirements
- All papers must be submitted in hard copy only (absolutely no email attachments). Late papers will be dropped by one third of a letter (e.g., from B+ to B) for every day late.
- Students with special needs should notify both the Counselor for Students with Disabilities (Office of Academic Advising and Student Services) and the professor at the beginning of the term.
- The University policy regarding academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced in this class. The penalty for plagiarism is a failing grade in the course.

Schedule

Week One (3/28)
   Tues: Introduction   Thurs: No Class

Week Two (4/4)
   Tues: Fiedler; Cather to end of (TEO) Book 1   Thurs: Cather TEO Book 2

Week Three (4/11)
   Tues: Cather finish; Wharton TEO Book 1   Thurs: Wharton TEO Chap. 25

Week Four (4/18)
   Tues: Wharton finish   Thurs: Faulkner TEO Chap. 2

PAPER 1 DUE 4:30 PM FRIDAY (4/22) AT MY OFFICE

Week Five (4/25)
   Tues: Faulkner TEO Chap. 5   Thurs: Faulkner TEO Chap. 6

Week Six (5/2)
   Tues: Faulkner finish   Thurs: Hurston TEO Chap. 5

Week Seven (5/9)
   Tues: Hurston TEO Chap. 16   Thurs: Hurston finish

PAPER 1 DUE 4:30 PM FRIDAY (5/13) AT MY OFFICE

Week Eight (5/16)
   Tues: Viramontes TEO Chap. 3   Thurs: Viramontes finish

Week Nine (5/23)
   Tues: Silko to page 113   Thurs: Silko to page 160

Week Ten (5/30)
   Tues: Silko finish   Thurs: Final discussion

FINAL PAPER DUE AT MY OFFICE ON TUESDAY JUNE 7 AT NOON. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER WEDNESDAY JUNE 8 AT NOON.