

**ENGL 4310: POE & HAWTHORNE**  
**Fall 2011 Course Syllabus**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

An in-depth seminar in a specific author. Topics may include Chaucer, Milton, Austen, Woolf, Dickens, Cather, Faulkner, Hemingway, Kafka, and Dostoevsky. May be repeated once with a different author. Prerequisites: ENGL 2200 or 2240, and ENGL 2600.

This section will feature canonical and representative texts from both Edgar Allan Poe and Nathaniel Hawthorne, including a variety of critical and scholarly secondary materials.

**MEETING TIMES AND LOCATION:**

MWF 10:00–10:50 a.m.

BC 302

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Dr. Kyle Bishop

Office:

BC 304-A

Office Hours:

MW 9:00–9:50 & 11:00–11:50, TR 1:00–1:50,  
or by appointment

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586-7804

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**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

This course will present students with representative texts from Poe and Hawthorne, providing coverage of the early American Gothic literary movement. Successful students will come to understand the themes and tropes present in these texts, as well as the characteristic styles of the two authors, ideally coming to appreciate the cultural and historical value of their literary contributions.

Each student will lead part of a seminar discussion of one critical essay or article. To facilitate in-depth study of the course topics, each student will produce a capstone seminar paper (requiring a variety of scholarly sources) on either of the featured authors or any of the texts discussed in class. The seminar paper will consist of a proposal abstract, a 6–8 page conference draft, and a 12–15 page formal revision. For the final exam, students will read polished versions of their conference papers.

**TEXTS:**

Hayes, Kevin J., ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Edgar Allan Poe*. New York: Cambridge UP, 2002. Print. ISBN: 978-0521797276

Levine, Robert S., ed. *The House of the Seven Gables*. Norton Critical Edition. New York: Norton, 2005. Print. ISBN: 978-0393924763

Person, Leland S., ed. *The Scarlet Letter and Other Writings*. Norton Critical Edition. New York: Norton, 2004. Print. ISBN: 978-0393979534

Thompson, G. R., ed. *The Selected Writings of Edgar Allan Poe*. Norton Critical Edition. New York: Norton, 2004. Print. ISBN: 978-0393972856

## SUPPLIES:

A three-ring binder with ruled paper for journaling, in-class writing, and note taking  
Printing and photocopying expenses for assignments, drafts, and essays  
A jump drive for backing up all course work, writing projects, and other materials

## COURSE STANDARDS AND POLICIES:

**Attendance:** Punctuality and regular attendance are expected at all class meetings. Roll will be taken daily, and assignment points will be awarded for completion of in-class assignments, seminar participation, various activities, and general discussion. Furthermore, vital information concerning the texts and the assignments will be covered in class, and this material will not be available otherwise.

**Class Decorum and Behavior:** Students are expected to be in class on time and to remain for the duration of the scheduled period. During class, students should listen attentively, engage respectfully in discussions, and **take notes**. They are also expected to come to class prepared (i.e., having read all of the assigned materials) and to participate in all in-class assignments and activities. Although water will be permitted, **food of any kind is not tolerated in the classroom, and cell phones must be turned off for the duration of class—this includes text messaging**. Students need to stay in their seats until class has been properly dismissed.

**MLA Manuscript Format:** All assignments must be word processed and comply with MLA formatting guidelines; that is, papers **must** have 1" margins; be typed in a 12-point, Times New Roman font; and be double spaced throughout. Students may **not** use cover pages; instead, the first page of all assignments must contain the student's name, the instructor's name, the course title, and the date (with the month spelled out) on separate lines against the left margin. All assignments must also have a descriptive title, centered and just below the date line. Each page must then have a page number, preceded by the student's last name, in the upper right corner ( $\frac{1}{2}$ " below the margin).

**Essay Length:** Writing assignments are given minimum page-length requirements, and these are references to **full pages**, not sheets. For example, a 6–8 page paper must be **at least** 6 full pages long, not just  $5\frac{1}{4}$  pages. Works cited pages do not count towards the minimum requirements.

**Late Work:** All homework is due at the beginning of class on the day indicated in the course schedule. **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**. Furthermore, assignments must be submitted as hard copies; **e-mails or other electronic submissions will not be accepted**. If students know they are going to miss class, assignments **must** be handed in early, not late. In extenuating circumstances, exceptions may be made **in advance** and at the instructor's discretion.

**Grades:** All students' grades are recorded, managed, and calculated on an Excel spreadsheet, which is updated regularly. For privacy issues, these grades are not available on the internet; however, students may ask via e-mail or in person about their grades and current class standing.

## ASSIGNMENTS:

**Assignments:** (20 percent of final grade)

Students will participate in various activities and complete many assignments in class, which may include class discussions, student group activities, in-class writing, and participation in seminar days. **Students must be in class to complete these activities and assignments.**

**Seminar Discussion Leadership:** (10 percent of final grade)

Each student will take a turn leading the class discussion (for 15 to 20 minutes) on one of the designated “seminar days.” Although all students will read the assigned articles for the given day, the assigned leader will take special care with one of the readings to prepare ideas, questions, and insights to guide the class discussion and to offer personal perspective into and practical application of the critical text. Students will sign up for specific works/days in class.

**Seminar Paper:** (60 percent of final grade)

Student will spend the duration of the semester composing formal, critical, seminar-style essays of 12–15 pages that make insightful literary arguments about any author, text, theme, or group of the same covered in this course. Students should select projects that play to their strengths and academic/scholarly interests. **Students must not delay selecting their paper topics!** Additional research will be necessary for this project (included primarily secondary source material and academic criticism), requiring proper 7<sup>th</sup>-edition MLA-style citations.

Each student will begin by submitting a 200-word abstract proposing a paper title, topic, scope, and thesis. Upon approval by the course instructor, students will proceed to compose 6–8 page conference-style drafts of their essays for instructor feedback, meet with the instructor for one-on-one conferences, and revise their papers into 12–15 page final drafts. (Student peer review workshops are highly encouraged but will not be formally facilitated by the course instructor.) The seminar paper will be discussed in more detail in class.

**Conference Presentation:** (10 percent of final grade)

During the scheduled final examination period, students will participate in a simulated academic conference experience. Students will be divided into presentation panels based on their seminar paper topics, and they will take turns reading revised and polished versions of their 6–8 page paper drafts. After all members of the panel have read their papers, those students in the audience will ask questions of the presenters before the groups change places to repeat the process.

**GRADING POLICY:**

In-class assignments, activities, the abstracts, the conference paper draft, and seminar leadership and participation will receive pass/fail grades; the seminar papers and conference presentations will be carefully assessed and assigned letter grades: work that exceeds expectations will receive an A grade; work that is competent and correct, a B; and work that barely meets the minimum requirements, a C or a D. Students’ final grades will be averaged and weighted according to the following grading scales (based on the University’s 4.0 grading system):

<b>Grading Weights</b>	<b>Grading Scale</b>		
Assignments .....x2 (20%)	3.8 – 4.0	A	1.8 – 2.0 C
Seminar Discussion .....x1 (10%)	3.4 – 3.7	A-	1.4 – 1.7 C-
Seminar Paper.....x6 (60%)	3.1 – 3.3	B+	1.1 – 1.3 D+
Conference Presentation.....x1 (10%)	2.8 – 3.0	B	0.8 – 1.0 D
	2.4 – 2.7	B-	0.4 – 0.7 D-
	2.1 – 2.3	C+	0.0 – 0.3 F

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:**

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. **Any student caught deliberately plagiarizing a paper will immediately fail that assignment and possibly the entire course.** Students are expected to have read and understood the current issue of the student handbook regarding student responsibilities and rights, and the intellectual property policy, for information about procedures and about what constitutes acceptable on-campus behavior.

### **ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Students with medical, psychological, learning, or other disabilities desiring academic adjustments, accommodations, or auxiliary aids will need to contact the Southern Utah University Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in Room 206F of the Sharwan Smith Center or phone (435) 865-8022. SSD determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

In case of emergency, the University's Emergency Notification System (ENS) will be activated. Students are encouraged to maintain updated contact information using the link on the homepage of the mySUU portal. In addition, students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Emergency Response Protocols posted in each classroom. Detailed information about the University's emergency management plan can be found at <<http://www.suu.edu/ad/em/>>.

### **HEOA COMPLIANCE:**

The sharing of copyrighted material through peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing, except as provided under U.S. copyright law, is prohibited by law. Detailed information can be found at <<http://www.suu.edu/it/p2p-student-notice.html>>.

### **DISCLAIMER:**

Information contained in this syllabus—other than the grading, late assignments, makeup work, and attendance policies—may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.