

Submit original with signatures + 1 copy + electronic copy to UAF Governance.  
 See <http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty/cd> for a complete description of the rules governing curriculum & course changes.

**TRIAL COURSE OR NEW COURSE PROPOSAL**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Department	ENGL	College/School	CLA
Prepared by	James Ruppert	Phone	474-6605
Email Contact	jkruppert@alaska.edu	Faculty Contact	James Ruppert

1. ACTION DESIRED (CHECK ONE):  
 Trial Course  New Course

2. COURSE IDENTIFICATION:  
 Dept: ENGL Course #: 455 No. of Credits: 3

Justify upper/lower division status & number of credits:  
 Course will include intensive reading in literature, theory and criticism as well as research project or projects using the same. Credits appropriate for number of hours met during semester.

3. PROPOSED COURSE TITLE: Studies in 20<sup>th</sup> Century and 21<sup>st</sup> Century American Literature

4. To be CROSS LISTED? YES/NO: No  
 If yes, Dept: Course #:

(Requires approval of both departments and deans involved. Add lines at end of form for such signatures.)

5. To be STACKED? YES/NO: No  
 If yes, Dept: Course #:

6. FREQUENCY OF OFFERING: Every Third Spring  
 Fall, Spring, Summer (Every, or Even-numbered Years, or Odd-numbered Years) - or As Demand Warrants

7. SEMESTER & YEAR OF FIRST OFFERING (if approved): Spring 2014

8. COURSE FORMAT:  
 NOTE: Course hours may not be compressed into fewer than three days per credit. Any course compressed into fewer than six weeks must be approved by the college or school's curriculum council. Furthermore, any core course compressed to less than six weeks must be approved by the core review committee.

COURSE FORMAT: (check all that apply)  
 1  2  3  4  5  6 weeks to full semester

OTHER FORMAT (specify):  
 Mode of delivery (specify lecture, field trips, labs, etc): Lecture, discussion

9. CONTACT HOURS PER WEEK:  
 3 LECTURE hours/week LAB hours/week PRACTICUM hours/week

Note: # of credits are based on contact hours. 800 minutes of lecture=1 credit. 2400 minutes of lab in a science course=1 credit. 1500 minutes in non-science lab=1 credit. 2400-4800 minutes of practicum=1 credit. 2400-8000 minutes of internship=1 credit. This must match with the syllabus. See <http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty/cd/credits.html> for more information on number of credits.

OTHER HOURS (specify type):

10. COMPLETE CATALOG DESCRIPTION including dept., number, title and credits (50 words or less, if possible):

ENGL F455 W, O/2 Studies in 20<sup>th</sup> Century and 21<sup>st</sup> Century American Literature (h)

3 Credits Offered Every Third Spring

Intensive study of variable topics in American literature. May focus on themes such as Modernism or Postmodernism, Urban Experience, Alienation, Multiculturalism, Race or War; a specific period such as literature of the 1960s; particular genres such as the novel or poetry, an important author; or an aspect of contemporary literary theory. Intensive readings and research in contemporary literary theory and criticism will foster in-depth understanding of chosen topic. Course may be repeated once for credit when content varies. Prerequisites: COMM 131X or COMM 141X; ENGL F211X or ENGL F213X or permission of instructor. (3+0)

11. COURSE CLASSIFICATIONS: (undergraduate courses only. Use approved criteria found on Page 10 & 17 of the manual: If justification is needed, attach on separate sheet.)

H = Humanities  S = Social Sciences

Will this course be used to fulfill a requirement for the baccalaureate core? YES  NO

IF YES, check which core requirements it could be used to fulfill:

O = Oral Intensive, Format 6  W = Writing Intensive, Format 7  Natural Science, Format 8

12. COURSE REPEATABILITY:

Is this course repeatable for credit? YES  NO

Justification: Indicate why the course can be repeated (for example, the course follows a different theme each time).

This course covers substantially different subject matter in each iteration.

How many times may the course be repeated for credit? 1 TIMES

If the course can be repeated with variable credit, what is the maximum number of credit hours that may be earned for this course? CREDITS

13. GRADING SYSTEM: Specify only one.

LETTER:  PASS/FALL:

RESTRICTIONS ON ENROLLMENT (if any)

14. PREREQUISITES COMM 131X or COMM 141X; ENGL F211X or ENGL F213X or permission of instructor.

These will be required before the student is allowed to enroll in the course.

15. SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS, CONDITIONS none

16. PROPOSED COURSE FEES \$ none

Has a memo been submitted through your dean to the Provost & VCAS for fee approval? Yes/No

17. PREVIOUS HISTORY

Has the course been offered as special topics or trial course previously? Yes/No  No

If yes, give semester, year, course #, etc.:

18. **ESTIMATED IMPACT**

WHAT IMPACT, IF ANY, WILL THIS HAVE ON BUDGET, FACILITIES/SPACE, FACULTY, ETC.

This course is part of a major revision of the undergraduate curriculum and is being substituted for a prior course that is being deleted. Total number of 400 level course offerings will not change. Current facilities adequate.

19. **LIBRARY COLLECTIONS**

Have you contacted the library collection development officer (kljensen@alaska.edu, 474-6695) with regard to the adequacy of library/media collections, equipment, and services available for the proposed course? If so, give date of contact and resolution. If not, explain why not.

No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Contacted Karen Jensen on [insert date]. Received e-mail that materials needed would fit into library budget.

20. **IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPTS**

What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action? Include information on the Programs/Departments contacted (e.g., email, memo)

English

21. **POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS**

Please specify positive and negative impacts on other courses, programs and departments resulting from the proposed action.

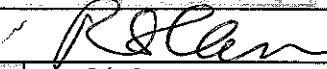
This course is designed to update the English major and minor so they are aligned with current national trends. This course will only impact the English department and will not duplicate offerings in other units.

**JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED**


The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize course change and new course applications to make sure that the quality of UAF education is not lowered as a result of the proposed change. Please address this in your response. This section needs to be self-explanatory. Use as much space as needed to fully justify the proposed course.

This course forms part of a major revision to the English undergraduate 400 level curriculum. It is designed to better utilize the expertise of English department faculty and to incorporate current disciplinary developments into the English Department curriculum. Both departmentally and institutionally, the quality of UAF education will increase with the addition of this course.

**APPROVALS:**

	Date	9-28-10
Signature, Chair, Program/Department of:	English	

	Date	10-13-10
Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum Council for:	College of Liberal Arts	

	Date	10-14-10
Signature, Dean, College/School of:	College of Liberal Arts	

<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>
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Signature of Provost (if applicable)

Offerings above the level of approved programs must be approved in advance by the Provost.

**ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNANCE OFFICE**

<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>
Signature, Chair, UAF Faculty Senate Curriculum Review Committee		

**ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES: (As needed for cross-listing and/or stacking)**

<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>
Signature, Chair, Program/Department of:	<input type="text"/>	

<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>
Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum Council for:	<input type="text"/>	

<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>
Signature, Dean, College/School of:	<input type="text"/>	

**ATTACH COMPLETE SYLLABUS (as part of this application).**

Note: The guidelines are online: <http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty/cd/syllabus.html>

The department and campus wide curriculum committees will review the syllabus to ensure that each of the items listed below are included. If items are missing or unclear, the proposed course change will be denied.

**SYLLABUS CHECKLIST FOR ALL UAF COURSES**

During the first week of class, instructors will distribute a course syllabus. Although modifications may be made throughout the semester, this document will contain the following information (as applicable to the discipline):

**1. Course information:**

Title,  number,  credits,  prerequisites,  location,  meeting time (make sure that contact hours are in line with credits).

**2. Instructor (and if applicable, Teaching Assistant) information:**

Name,  office location,  office hours,  telephone,  email address.

**3. Course readings/materials:**

Course textbook title,  author,  edition/publisher.  
 Supplementary readings (indicate whether  required or  recommended) and  
 any supplies required.

**4. Course description:**

Content of the course and how it fits into the broader curriculum;  
 Expected proficiencies required to undertake the course, if applicable.  
 Inclusion of catalog description is *strongly* recommended, and  
 Description in syllabus must be consistent with catalog course description.

**5.  Course Goals (general), and (see #6)**

**6.  Student Learning Outcomes (more specific)**

**7. Instructional methods:**

Describe the teaching techniques (eg: lecture, case study, small group discussion, private instruction, studio instruction, values clarification, games, journal writing, use of Blackboard, audio/video conferencing, etc.).

**8. Course calendar:**

A schedule of class topics and assignments must be included. Be specific so that it is clear that the instructor has thought this through and will not be making it up on the fly (e.g. it is not adequate to say "lab". Instead, give each lab a title that describes its content). You may call the outline Tentative or Work in Progress to allow for modifications during the semester.

**9. Course policies:**

Specify course rules, including your policies on attendance, tardiness, class participation, make-up exams, and plagiarism/academic integrity.

**10. Evaluation:**

Specify how students will be evaluated,  what factors will be included,  their relative value, and  
 how they will be tabulated into grades (on a curve, absolute scores, etc.)

**11. Support Services:**

Describe the student support services such as tutoring (local and/or regional) appropriate for the course.

**12. Disabilities Services:**

The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials.

State that you will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (208 WHIT, 474-5655) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities."

Dr. James Ruppert  
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E-mail: [jkruppert@alaska.edu](mailto:jkruppert@alaska.edu)  
Office phone: 6605  
Office Hours: TTR 2:00-3:00 and by appointment

**ENGL 455: Studies in 20<sup>th</sup> Century and 21<sup>st</sup> Century American Literature. (3 credits)**  
**Writing intensive O/2 Oral Intensive**

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE, COURSE GOALS AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

This course is intended to be an intensive study of modern and postmodern American literature as it emerges into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This semester we will explore some of the major works of the 20<sup>th</sup> century but focus on the theme of alienation and urban landscape. Through both careful analysis of the works themselves and reading into the contemporary literary theory and criticism, we will identify stylistic, narrative and thematic aspects of these works, but we will also look at broader topics of cultural studies. Postcolonial thought and border theory will be a starting point, but we will urban semiology and multiculturalism.

Course goals include familiarizing students with all the major works of this period while placing them in an interactive discourse with culture and the arts. Students will become acquainted with some of the most important currents of 20<sup>th</sup> century thought. By the end of the course, students should be able to identify and discuss stylistic, narrative and thematic aspects of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century American literature and be able to incorporate modern critical theory in their discussion and in a research essay.

Prerequisites are COMM 131 or COMM 141 and ENGL 211X or 213X; or permission of the instructor

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

- Ralph Ellison, *The Invisible Man*
- N. Scott Momaday, *House Made of Dawn*
- Short Stories by Hemmingway, Fitzgerald, Cheever, Anderson, Steinbeck and others as listed in the syllabus. *American Short Story Reader*. Ed. Kenneth Roper
- Poetry Selections by T.S. Elliot, Ezra Pound, William Carlos Williams, Allen Ginsberg, Robert Lowell, Elizabeth Bishop, Gertrude Stein, Ann Sexton, Adrienne Rich and others in the anthology. *American Poetry in Context*, Ed. Robert Dewey
- *A Street Car Named Desire*, Tennessee Williams

- *Semiology and the Urban*, Roland Barthes
- *Urban Landscape and American Literature*, Gloria Bainbridge
- Additional readings can be found on e-reserve

Required texts are available at the UAF bookstore.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Students will write a short (3-4 page) essay and a 12-15 page research paper. Other requirements include

- Passing a final examination
- Complete successful oral presentations
- Completing all assigned readings
- Vigorously participating in class discussions.

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All work must be completed to receive credit for the course. You will receive feedback from me on all written work for this course as well as the opportunity to revise. The research paper will be developed in stages in consultation with me, and there will be at least one personal conference during office hours devoted to your writing.

## **IMPORTANT MATTERS**

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Regular attendance is crucial. Every absence over 4 will cause your final grade to be lowered by 3 points. Your 4 non-penalized absences should be used for personal illness, family illness, travel, automobile problems, etc. Please do not use all your absences early in the semester, as I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences.

If you do miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact someone in the class to find out what you missed.

Students are expected to be in class on time. Tardiness of 10 minutes or more will be counted as half an absence. Please allow extra time for road delays and/or parking problems.

### **CLASS PRESENTATION**

There will be 2 presentation by each student. Presentation #1 must be at least 5 minutes. You will be responsible for introducing one of the writers we will be discussing. You are expected to review the writer's biography, list major work and identify any particular schools of literary thought that are identified with the writer. You should seek out interviews and have at least one quote from the writer. The second presentation is on critical reading to be assigned from e-reserve. It must be 8-10 minutes and include a question and answer session. You will receive feedback from me on both presentations.

## **CLASS RULES**

Students should not leave class except in the case of an emergency.

Any student found doing work for another class while class is in session will be asked to leave and will receive an absence for the day.

Also, cell phones should be turned off and put away before class begins.

## **GRADING:**

3-4 page essay	20%
Research essay	35%
Final examination	20%
Oral presentations	15%
Class participation	10%

## **GRADING SCALE**

100-98 A+ 97-93 A 92-90 A- 89-88 B+ 87-83 B 82-80 B-  
79-78 C+ 77-73 C 72-70 C- 69-60 D 59 and lower F

## **GRADING CRITERIA**

Grading for this class will follow UAF guidelines:

A = An honor grade, indicates originality, a thorough mastery of the subject, and the satisfactory completion of more work than is regularly required

B = Indicates outstanding ability above the average level of performance

C = Indicates a satisfactory or average level of performance

D = The lowest passing grade, indicates work of below average quality and performance

F = Indicates failure to meet lowest standards

## **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism means using someone else's words or ideas and attempting to pass them off as your own—this includes material taken from the Internet. Students should not utilize secondary sources in written assignments unless specifically instructed; moreover, not completely documenting secondary sources constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism is an extremely serious offense, and any student caught plagiarizing will automatically and irrevocably receive a failing grade in the course. Academic dishonesty is easily detected



and easy to avoid. If you have any questions or doubts, see me before turning in the paper in question, as misunderstanding does not constitute a valid excuse.

### **LATE PAPERS**

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date designated on the course schedule. Late papers are only allowed with 48 hours notice and under extraordinary circumstances; papers must be turned in no later than one week after they were due to receive credit on the assignment. The research essay, due the final day of class, will not be allowed an extension.

### **STUDY GUIDES AND EXTRA-CREDIT**

I do not give study guides nor offer extra-credit assignments.

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### **DISABILITY SERVICES**

The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. Students with a physical or learning disability who may need academic accommodations should contact Mary Matthews in the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474-7043, TTY 474-7045). You will need to provide documentation of your disability. I will work with the Office of Disability Services to make the appropriate accommodation.

### **COURSE SCHEDULE** (subject to revision as needed)

#### **WEEK ONE**

Readings from Elliot and Pound..

#### **WEEK TWO**

Readings from Anderson and Hemmingway

#### **WEEK THREE**

Readings from Steinbeck and Fitzgerald. Begin discussion of Barthes, additional readings on E-reserve

#### **WEEK FOUR**

Continue discussion of Barthes read *The Invisible Man*

#### **WEEK FIVE**

Bishop and Stein  
Continue discussion of *The Invisible Man*, poetry selections from

WEEK SIX

Discuss *A Streetcar Named Desire*    **Short essay due**

WEEK SEVEN

*Urban Landscape*  
Poetry selections from Ginsburg and Lowell. Begin to discuss

WEEK EIGHT

Continue discussion of *Urban Landscape*    Poetry by Rich and  
Sexton

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WEEK NINE

**SPRING BREAK. NO CLASSES**

WEEK TEN

Discussion of *House Made of Dawn*

WEEK ELEVEN

Fiction from Amy Tan and Sandra Cisneros

WEEK TWELVE

Fiction from Jhumpa Lahiri and Leslie Silko

WEEK THIRTEEN

Poetry selections from Robert Pinsky and Yusef Komunyakaa

WEEK FOURTEEN

Fiction by John Updike and Louise Erdrich

WEEK FIFTEEN

Review and conclusions    **Research Paper due**

WEEK SIXTEEN

**Final examination**