

ENGL 3712 - American Literature 1

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 40982,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Dr. Lucas Hardy

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Professor

Instructor Professional Qualifications: Ph.D., English, University at Albany (SUNY); M.A., English, University of Maine; B.A., English, University of Maine

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Course Description

3712. American Literature 1. Colonial period to 1865. Examine works from a range of American authors and genres drama, fiction, poetry, short stories, novels, and non-fiction essays within their cultural, historical, and literary contexts. Prereq.: ENGL 3700 or concurrent with ENGL 3700. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	The Norton Anthology of American Literature, 10th Edition, Vols. A & B	Levine	978039369670

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	John Smith: from The General History of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles America William Bradford: Of Plymouth Plantation (end with "The First Thanksgiving")	The Rhetoric of Colonial Settlement in America	Instructional Items in Learning Module 1
8/31	Smith & Bradford (Continued)	The Rhetoric of Colonial Settlement in America (Continued)	Reading Response 1
9/7	Anne Bradstreet: "The Prologue," "Contemplations," "The Flesh and the Spirit," "Verses upon the Burning of Our House," "To My Dear Children" Edward Taylor: "Prologue," "God's Determination," "Upon Wedlock, and Death of Children," "Upon a Wasp Chilled with Cold," "Huswifery"	Puritan Poetry	Instructional Items in Learning Module 2
9/14	Bradstreet & Taylor Continued	Puritan Poetry (Continued)	Reading Response 2
9/21	Mary Rowlandson: A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration John Marrant: from A Narrative of the Lord's Wonderful Dealings with John Marrant	Captivity Narratives	Instructional Items in Learning Module 3
9/28	Rowlandson & Marrant (Continued)	Captivity Narratives (Continued)	Microtheme Essay 1



10/5	Benjamin Franklin: The Autobiography - Part 1	New American Personality	Instructional Items in Learning Module 4 Reading Response 3
10/12	Author Unknown: Rosa, Or American Genius and Education (Blackboard PDF)	Literature & Culture in the Early Republic	Instructional Items in Learning Module 5
10/19	Rosa (Continued)	Literature & Culture in the Early Republic (continued)	Reading Response 4
10/26	Phillis Wheatley: all poems included in the Norton Anthology Harriet Jacobs: from Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl	Enslaved Women's Writing	Instructional Items in Learning Module 6
11/2	Wheatley and Jacobs (Continued)	Enslaved Women's Writing (Continued)	Reading Response 5
11/9	Herman Melville: Bartleby, the Scrivener	Fiction and Public Life	Instructional Items in Learning Module 7
11/16	Frederick Douglass: from Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass	The Rhetoric of Bondage & Freedom	Instructional Items in Learning Module 8
11/23	Douglass (Continued)	The Rhetoric of Bondage & Freedom (Continued)	Reading Response 6
11/30	Edgar Allan Poe: "The Fall of the House of Usher"	Early American Gothic	Instructional Items in Learning Module 9 Reading Response 7
12/7	Final Exam Week - No New Readings Assigned		Microtheme Essay 2

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