ENGLISH 146C – Provisional Syllabus  
Hemingway, Hurston, Faulkner, and Fitzgerald  
Professor: Gavin Jones  
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Course Description

While Hemingway and Fitzgerald were flirting with the expatriate avant-garde in Europe, Hurston and Faulkner were performing anthropological field-work in the local cultures of the American South. This course will address the tremendous diversity of concerns and styles of four writers who marked America's coming-of-age as a literary nation with their multifarious experiments in representing the regional and the global, the racial and the cosmopolitan, the macho and the feminist, the decadent and the impoverished.

Discussion Sections

You will be placed in sections at the beginning of Week 2. Attendance is mandatory for all students.

Requirements

Mandatory attendance at lecture and section. Lecture attendance will be noted by your section leaders. Attendance and class participation (in section) represent 20% of final grade.

You will be required to write two papers: a 5-6 page (1500-1800 word) paper at midterm, and a final, longer paper of 8-10 pages (2400-3000 words). These papers represent 35% and 45% of your final grade, respectively. The papers should be delivered to your section leader.

Prompts will be available approximately two weeks before papers are due. These questions will encourage close analysis of our texts. Your papers must analyze at least two different writers. There is no end-quarter examination.

Books

We will be using the following books, which are available at the Stanford Bookstore: F. Scott Fitzgerald, *Babylon Revisited and Other Stories* (Scribner/Simon & Schuster) and *The Great Gatsby* (Scribner/Simon & Schuster); Ernest Hemingway, *The Short Stories* (Scribner/Simon and Schuster) and *The Sun Also Rises* (Scribner/Simon & Schuster); William Faulkner, *As I lay Dying* (Vintage) and *Absalom, Absalom!* (Vintage); Zora Neale Hurston, *The Complete Stories* (HarperCollins) and *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (HarperCollins).

SCHEDULE

*PLEASE NOTE* The reading for this course is reasonably light, with the exception of Week 7. Faulkner’s *Absalom, Absalom!* is an extremely rewarding but quite difficult book, so please give yourselves plenty of time to read it.

Week 1: Introduction

The Syllabus/Introduction  
The Culture of the 1920s  
F. Scott Fitzgerald, “The Ice Palace” (in *Babylon Revisited*)
Week 2: F. Scott Fitzgerald, selections from *Babylon Revisited and Other Stories*

“May Day”
“The Diamond as Big as the Ritz”
“Absolution”

Week 3: F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby* (1925)

Chapters 1-3
Chapters 4-6
The rest of the book

Week 4: Ernest Hemingway, selections from *The Short Stories*

“Hills Like White Elephants” (pp.273-78), “The Sea Change” (p.397-401)

*In Our Time* (the stories from “On the Quai at Smyrna” through “L’Envoi,” including all the mini-chapters: pp.87 to p.233)


Week 5: Ernest Hemingway, *The Sun Also Rises* (1926)

Chapters I-VII
Chapters VIII-XV
The rest of the book

Week 6: William Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying* (1930)

The Culture of the 1930s (begin reading *As I Lay Dying*)
Read to p.176
Finish the book


Chapters 1-3
Chapters 3-6
The final 3 chapters

Week 8: Zora Neale Hurston, selections from *The Complete Stories*

“Drenched in Light”
“Spunk,” “Sweat,” “The Gilded Six-Bits”
“Muttsy,” “Story in Harlem Slang,” “Black Death,” “Mother Catherine”

Week 9: Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (1937)

As preparation for reading Hurston’s novel, read “The Eatonville Anthology” (pp.59-72 in *The Complete Stories*). Begin reading *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
Read “High John De Conquer” (pp.139-48 in *The Complete Stories*), then focus on first 8 chapters of *Their Eyes Were Watching God*

Chapters 9-15

**Week 10: Recap on Hurston, and Course Wrap-Up**

Finish *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
Course conclusions