

**Realisms, Modernisms, Postmodernisms**  
ENGL3328 – 01 // American Literature Since 1865 // Spring 2017

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Professor: Donal Harris  
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Class Information:  
T / Th, 9:40 – 11:05a

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This course surveys American Literature from 1865 to the present; or, more precisely, from Walt Whitman's *Song of Myself* to Claudia Rankine's *Citizen*. It is organized around three questions.

1. How does the relationship between "America" as a nation and "Literature" as a mode of expression change between the late-nineteenth and early-twenty first centuries?
2. How does the term "American Literature" come to mean different things in different periods?
3. How does literature register and respond to the changes in American nationhood (geographic borders, demographic makeup, access to political representation, international political influence, etc.)?

**Course requirements** will probably include: semi-regular discussion board posts, a midterm, a short (10min) presentation, and a final research project.

**Required Texts:**

Baym, Nina, Ed. *The Norton Anthology of American Literature, Volumes C, D, E*. Eighth Edition. New York: Norton, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-393-91310-1  
Fitzgerald, F. Scott. 1925. *The Great Gatsby*. New York: Scribner, 1991.  
ISBN: 0743273567  
McCarthy, Cormac. *The Road*. New York: Vintage, 2006. ISBN: 978-0307387899  
Rankine, Claudia. *Citizen: An American Lyric*. New York: Graywolf, 2014.  
ISBN: 978-1555976903