THE AMERICAN NOVEL
HU3510.R01, FALL 2012
TR, 2:05-3:20pm, Fischer 131

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course examines the historical, cultural, and personal contexts within which American novelists have explored issues of class, gender, race, religion, sex, violence, and the nature of success and failure in America.

COURSE INFORMATION
- Professor: M. Bartley Seigel (Matt)
- Professor Email: mbseigel@mtu.edu or mbartleyseigel@gmail.com
- Office: 311 Walker Arts & Humanities Center
- Office Hours: TR 11-12:30 or by appointment.
- Required Texts (6):
- Composition notebook.

COURSE POLICIES
- Students must fulfill their responsibilities: Completing all assignments on deadline, reading all assigned readings on deadline, taking notes, studying, participating in course discussions, posing pertinent questions, engaging the materials, and being an engaging participant.
- Students who fail to attend or fully participate in the course can expect a course grade absolutely no higher than a C. Failure to make a deadline will result in an automatic F on that assignment. Late coursework will not be accepted and cannot be “made up.” Turning work in early is always acceptable,
though students are encouraged to stick close to their deadlines. Students should plan ahead and accordingly.

- Integrity and ethics are central. Something less than an engaged commitment to integrity and ethics undermines the efforts of the entire community. Breaking this social compact will result in an automatic F for the course.

- Michigan Tech encourages ALL qualified persons to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of special accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please contact Professor Seigel as soon as possible and/or visit the Office of Student Affairs (phone 487-2951).

- Grading Metrics:
  A (4) = Excellent. Student exceeded all course expectations.
  A/B (3.5) = Very good. Student exceeded most course expectations, but not all.
  B (3) = Good. Student met all course expectations, exceeding many.
  B/C (2.5) = Above average. Student met all course expectations, exceeding some.
  C (2) = Average. Student met all course expectations.
  C/D (1.5) = Below average. Student met some, but not all course expectations.
  D (1) = Inferior. Student met few course expectations.
  F (0) = Failure. Student met very few to none of the course expectations.

**COURSEWORK**

- Participation (25%): Completing all assignments on deadline, reading all assigned readings on deadline, taking notes, participating in course discussions, posing pertinent questions, engaging the course materials, and being an engaging course participant.

- Weekly Response Papers (25%): There will be a 1-page, single-spaced response paper based on each week’s assigned readings, course lectures and discussions, etc. Prompt questions will be provided in class and responses will be due on Tuesdays following the week covered by the response.
. Mid-term Examination (25%): There will be an in-class essay examination at mid-term based upon all course materials, lectures, and in-class discussions occurring during the first half of the course.

. Final Examination (25%): There will be an in-class essay examination at the culmination of the course based upon all course materials, lectures, and in-class discussions occurring during the term.

COURSE CALENDAR
9.4 Class Intro
9.6 Discuss House On Mango Street
9.11 Discuss House On Mango Street; Response 1 Due
9.13 Discuss House On Mango Street
9.18 Discuss Rabbit, Run; Response 2 Due
9.20 Discuss Rabbit, Run
9.25 Discuss Rabbit, Run; Response 3 Due
9.27 Discuss Rabbit, Run
10.2 Discuss The Color Purple; Response 4 Due
10.4 Film, The Color Purple
10.9 Film, The Color Purple
10.11 Mid-term In-Class Examination
10.16 Discuss The Color Purple
10.18 Discuss The Color Purple
10.23 Discuss Lolita; Response 5 Due
10.25 Discuss Lolita
10.30 Discuss Lolita; Response 6 Due
11.1 Discuss Lolita
11.6 Discuss Blood Meridian; Response 7 Due
11.8 Discuss Blood Meridian
11.13 Discuss Blood Meridian; Response 8 Due
11.15 Discuss Blood Meridian
11.27 Discuss Invisible Man
11.29 Discuss Invisible Man
12.4 Discuss Invisible Man; Response 9 Due
12.6 Discuss Invisible Man
12.11 Course Re-cap; Response 10 Due
12.13 Final In-class Examination