

Welcome to American Lit. We'll be studying SELECTIONS from the anthology ranging from the Puritan era to the end of the Civil War, with an emphasis on the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

Normally, your grade for the class will depend primarily on three "short-answer" style tests, administered at about the five week intervals of the course. Each test will ask you to identify and give informed comments about selected quotes from our readings that we've discussed in class, using the vocabulary that we present in the course. I urge you to take careful and thorough class notes on the points we make in class as the best preparation for these tests.

Attendance and participation are also factors in this class. I hope you'll be able to attend every session, but I'll grant you three absences during the semester. After the fourth absence, you can expect to be dropped from the course.

Participation means vocal participation in class, not just "answers" but also your questions, interpretations, ideas. Some people are shyer than others, but I hope everyone will feel comfortable enough to share in the conversations. As an extra incentive, those who contribute regularly and thoughtfully to the class discussions, in my judgment, will receive a half-grade improvement on their final grade for the class.

Getting in touch:

My office number is S212 in the Fine Arts Building. The office phone is 686-9155. Please leave a message if you don't catch me in. There are other faculty on this phone line, so be sure to identify yourself as my student when you call. Also bear in mind that I'm normally at Delta only on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so e-mail is an even better option. My e-mail address is [jfaugust@delta.edu](mailto:jfaugust@delta.edu).

There are two times you should definitely get in touch with me. If you miss class, you should call right away to get the information you need for the next class. Also, if you're confused on an assignment, you should contact me for clarification. In addition, I appreciate your letting me know if you'll be unable to attend class.