MARYMOUNT
U N I V E R S I T Y

School of Arts and Sciences
2017-2018

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Number	Course Title		
EN 350 B	The American Dream		
Fall Semester 2017	**Spring Semester**	**Summer Semester**	**Credit Hours** 3
Name of Instructor Dr. Kate Koppy			
Meeting Day, Time, and Room Number Tuesday and Friday, 3:30-4:45 PM, Rowley Hall, Room G211			
Final Exam Day, Time, and Room Number TBA			
Office Hours, Location, Phone Monday and Thursday 1:15-3:00PM, and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday by appointment only Butler, G108			
E-mail and Web Site kkoppy@marymount.edu			
Course Description An exploration of the American dream of success and its manifestation in various genres of American literature. Prerequisite: EN 102 or permission of instructor. Liberal Arts Core/University Requirements Designation: LT-2, WI. (3)			

UNIVERSITY STATEMENTS

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

By accepting this syllabus, you pledge to uphold the principles of Academic Integrity expressed by the Marymount University Community. You agree to observe these principles yourself and to defend them against abuse by others. Items submitted for this course may be submitted to TurnItIn.com for analysis.

STUDENT COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

For the benefit of current and future students, work in this course may be used for educational critique, demonstrations, samples, presentations, and verification. Outside of these uses, work shall not be sold, copied, broadcast, or distributed for profit without student consent.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND ACCESSIBILITY CONCERNS

Please address any special challenges or needs with the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Students seeking accommodations for a disability must complete the required steps for obtaining a Faculty Contact Sheet from the Office of Student Access Services (SAS). Students are then responsible for meeting with their instructors at the beginning of the semester to review and sign the Faculty Contact Sheet and develop a specific plan for providing the accommodations listed. **Accommodations cannot be granted to students who fail to follow this process.** Appointments with the SAS director can be scheduled through the Starfish "Success Network" tab in Canvas. For more information, check the SAS website, e-mail access@marymount.edu, or call **703-284-1538** to reach the SAS director or an academic support coordinator.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION POLICY

When students are absent due to a crisis situation or unexpected, serious illness and unable to contact their individual instructors directly, the Division of Student Affairs can send out an Emergency Notification. To initiate an Emergency Notification, students should contact the **Division of Student Affairs 703-284-1615** or studentaffairs@marymount.edu. Emergency Notifications are **NOT** appropriate for non-emergency situations (e.g. car problems, planned absences, minor illnesses, or a past absence); are **NOT** a request or mandate to excuse an absence, which is at the sole discretion of the instructor; and are **NOT** a requirement for student absences. If a student contacts instructors about an emergency situation directly, it is not necessary to involve the Division of Student Affairs as arrangements are made to resolve the absence.

For non-emergency absences, students should inform their instructors directly.

ACCESS TO STUDENT WORK

Copies of your work in this course including copies of any submitted papers and your portfolios may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes. All work used for these purposes will be submitted anonymously.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON WEATHER AND EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

Weather and Emergency closings are announced on Marymount's web site: **www.marymount.edu**, through **MUAlerts**, area radio stations, and TV stations. You may also call the **Weather and Emergency Hotline at (703) 526-6888** for current status. Unless otherwise advised by local media or by official bulletins listed above, students are expected to report for class as near normal time as possible on days when weather conditions are adverse. Decisions as to inclement closing or delayed opening are not generally made before 6:00 AM and by 3:00 PM for evening classes of the working day. Emergency closing could occur at any time making **MUAlerts** the most timely announcement mechanism. **Students are expected to attend class if the University is not officially closed.** If the University is closed, course content and assignments will still be covered as directed by the course instructor. Please look for communication from course instructor (e.g., Canvas) for information on course work during periods in which the University is closed.

E-mail: You are required to have access to Canvas and are responsible for checking your Marymount e-mail address daily for class updates.

1. **BROAD PURPOSE OF COURSE**
   - This course provides an exploration of the American dream of success and its manifestation in various genres of American literature.
   - EN 350 will examine a wide range of expressions of the American dream – personal, social, and material – and will explore the uniquely American characteristics of the dream. Students will explore a variety of genres including argumentative essays, narrative fiction, autobiography, and drama.
   - Prerequisite: EN 102 or permission of instructor
   - Liberal Arts Core/University Requirements Designation: LT-2, WI

2. **COURSE OBJECTIVES**
   Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CORE GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOMES: ATTITUDES
   a. examine the aesthetic principles that inform American literary production and apply them to the study and analysis of American Dream texts;

CORE GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOMES: SKILLS
   b. practice analytical discourse, critical reasoning, and problem-solving through close textual analysis and interpretation of American Dream literary texts;
   c. apply knowledge and experience in literary analysis to new texts by writing thoughtful literary essays;

CORE GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOMES: ADVANCED LITERATURE
   d. demonstrate an understanding of the conventions and evolution of the literature of the American dream;
   e. examine the aesthetic and ideological contexts that inform American Dream literature;
   f. examine an American Dream text from a variety of critical and theoretical perspectives;
   g. conduct appropriate research and synthesize their own original ideas with those advanced by literary critics and other scholars.

UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENT OUTCOMES (WRITING-INTENSIVE)
   Students will:
   a. produce written work appropriate to the discipline through a process that involves drafting and revision based on feedback;
   b. produce focused and coherent essays that address specific audiences, move effectively between generalizations and details, make honest use of sources, and engage complex ideas without distortion;
   c. produce essays that show careful attention to fluent sentence structure, grammatical correctness, and proper documentation;
   d. identify a suitable subject for scholarly inquiry in the discipline, analyze appropriate primary and secondary source materials, and support a focused thesis or argument in a clear and coherent product.

3. **TEACHING METHOD**
     Lecture, discussion, and workshop
- This class is highly interactive; students are expected to come to class having read the literature and prepared to discuss it.
- A good discussion class depends on a respectful community attitude. At some points, we may discuss sensitive subjects including race, violence, sexuality, and rape. You should feel free to share your own thoughts about the books we are reading and films we are watching. At the same time, please respect the opinions of your classmates and remember that no two readers are alike; every person will have a different response to a text.
- Assignments will be considered late if they are submitted after the deadline on the day they are due. Late work will result in the final grade for that assignment being penalized one letter grade for every class day they are late. If you become ill or the victim of an emergency situation, contact me as soon as possible to make alternate arrangements. Absence is no excuse for failing to turn in an assignment on time or failing to get instructions for a new assignment. Late assignments will not be accepted more than two weeks after the due date.

4. **GRADING POLICY**
     Quizzes (lowest score will be dropped)   100 pts.
     Analysis Essays (3 x 100 points each)   300 pts.
     Essay II: Literary Research Paper
          Annotated Bibliography   100 pts
          Final Essay   200 pts
     Book presentation   100 pts
     Exams (2 x 75 points each)   150 pts
     Total   950 points

A+ = 97-100*   B+ = 87-89.999   C+ = 77-79.999   D+ = 67-69.999   F = 0-59.999
A   = 94-96.999   B   = 84-86.999   C   = 74-76.999   D   = 64-66.999
A- = 90-93.999   B- = 80-83.999   C- = 70-73.999   D- = 60-63.999
*Marymount does not allow A+ as a final grade.
September 29th is the last day to withdraw from a class without academic record.
November 3rd is the last day to withdraw from a class with a grade of W.

Analysis Essays (3):
     You will write three analysis essays, one for each of the three main texts that we read as a class. Individual topics for these essays will grow out of our class discussions. You must properly cite the words and ideas you copy from out texts and our supplemental readings. Dictionary definitions, if you choose to use them, must also be cited properly.
     Each response essay should be 5-6 pages long in MLA format. A page of academic text is 12pt Times New Roman or Arial font, double spaced, with one-inch margins all around.
     Late essay assignments will be penalized one letter grade for every class day they are late. Late response analysis assignments will not be accepted more than two weeks after the due date.

Literary Research Paper (1):

You will write one paper in which you synthesize scholarly research about your chosen text with your own ideas. You may analyze the text in terms of form, genre, symbols, or theme. You may choose to focus on specific characters, plot events, or ideas.

The literary research paper should be 5-6 pages long in MLA format. A page of academic text is 12pt Times New Roman or Arial font, double spaced, with one-inch margins all around. Late essay assignments will be penalized one letter grade for every class day they are late. Late literary research paper assignments will not be accepted after the final exam date.

Quizzes:

Throughout the semester, quizzes will be given at in the first 5-10 mintues of class. These **quizzes can not be made up** if missed, even if the absence is excused, but the lowest quiz score will be dropped. These quizzes prepare the class for the day's discussion topics and allow you to practice the the sorts of questions that will appear on the exams.

Book Presentation:

Each of you will choose one book in consultation with the professor. Read the book and prepare a 3-5 minute presentation and a one page front and back flier about the text. You may envision this flier as a blog post, as a book review, as an advertisement. Your audience is your classmates, and they want to know what the text is about, why it is important, what you liked about it, and whether you think they should read it. A sample flier will be available on Canvas. Books presentations must be given in class during the final week of the semester. No make ups are available.

Extra Credit (up to 5):

Two ways to earn extra credit:
1. Revise an essay and post it to the course blog. Revisions must be posted within one week of receiving feedback. (up to 3, 10 points each)
2. Write a post for the course blog profiling one of the translators of our course texts. This should be a properly cited research paper of 500-700 words and should include in-text citations and works cited entries. A sample will be posted. (up to 2, 20 points each)

6. **REQUIRED TEXTS**
- *The American Drem: A Short History of An Idea that Shaped a Nation*, Jim Cullen
- *Ragged Dick and Risen from the Ranks,* Horatio Alger, Jr., Ed. by Gary Scharnhorst
- *A Little Piece of Sky,* Nicole Bailey-Williams
- *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, Mohsin Hamid
- All other readings available on Canvas

5. **CLASS SCHEDULE** (Note: the following class schedule is tentative and subject to change based on the pace of our discussions).

T 8/29	Intro, Syllabus
F 9/1	Reading Due: Cullen "Introduction" pp. 3-10
T 9/5	Reading Due: Alger *Ragged Dick* pp. 51-115 Last day to drop with full tuition refund
F 9/8	Reading Due: Alger *Ragged Dick* pp. 115-181
T 9/12	Watching together: *An American Tale*
F 9/15	Watching together: *An American Tale*, contd.
T 9/19	Reading Due: Cullen pp. 11-34
F 9/22	Writing Due: Essay 1, draft on paper for in class peer review AND on Canvas.
T 9/26	Reading Due: Declaration of Independence, Cullen pp. 35-58
F 9/29	Reading Due: Bailey Williams *A Little Piece of Sky* pp. 1-86 Last day to drop without academic record.
T 10/3	Reading Due: Bailey Williams *A Little Piece of Sky* pp. 87-155, Cullen pp. 103-132
F 10/6	Class does not meet in the classroom. Sign up for a draft conference. Writing Due: Essay 1, revised on Canvas by 11:59 PM.
T 10/10	This class does not meet. Monday Classes Meet
F 10/13	Midterm Exam
T 10/17	Reading Due: Article TBD
F 10/20	Writing Due: Essay 2, draft on paper for in class peer review AND on Canvas.
T 10/24	Reading Due: Hamid *Reluctant Fundamentalist* pp. 1-61
F 10/27	Reading Due: Hamid *Reluctant Fundamentalist* pp. 62-122 Writing Due: Essay 2, revised on Canvas
T 10/31	Reading Due: Hamid *Reluctant Fundamentalist* pp. 123-184
F 11/3	Reading Due: Article TBD Last day to withdraw with a grade of "W"
T 11/7	Reading Due: Article TBD
F 11/10	Writing Due: Essay 3, draft on paper for in class peer review AND on Canvas
T 11/14	In class source workshop for Literary Research Paper
F 11/17	In class drafting workshop for Literary Research Paper
T 11/21	Class does not meet: sign up for individual conferences via Starfish. Writing Due: Essay 3, revised on Canvas
F 11/24	Thanksgiving Break
T 11/28	Writing Due: Literary Research Paper, draft on paper for in class peer review AND on Canvas.
F 12/1	Reading Due: Cullen pp. 185-190
T 12/5	Book presentations
F 12/8	Book presentations Writing Due: Literary Research Paper 12/11-16/17 Final Exams