Moravian College

Fall 2005

English 101: American Literature

Reading & Assignment Schedule

Where page numbers are given, study historical headnotes. Always read the headnotes to
the authors. Read the works of the assigned author with special attention to those works
or sections of works which illustrate generalizations made in the headnotes. Specific
works to be discussed will be noted in advance by the instructor. Essays must be about
readings assigned for and discussed in class.

August 29 Introduction

August 31 Puritanism (55-57), poetry, Anne Bradstreet, Edward Taylor

September 2 Puritanism, sermons, John Winthrop, Jonathan Edwards

September 5 (Labor Day, No Classes)

September 7 Reason & Revolution (121-125), Benjamin Franklin, Phillis Wheatley

September 9 Romantic Temper (251-258), Washington Irving

September 12 Romantic Temper, Transcendentalism (329-330), Ralph Waldo Emerson

September 14 Romantic Temper, Henry David Thoreau

September 16 Romanticism (505-507), Edgar Allan Poe

September 19 Romanticism, Nathaniel Hawthorne

September 21 Romanticism, Herman Melville

September 23 Humanitarian Sensibility (733-748), Frederick Douglass

September 26 Age of Expansion (857-864), New Voices in Poetry, Walt Whitman

ESSAY #1 due

September 28 New Voices in Poetry, Emily Dickinson

September 30 Realists and Regionalists, Mark Twain
October 3 Realists and Regionalists, Henry James

October 5 Turn of the Century (1145-1150), Sarah Orne Jewett

October 7 Midterm Exam (covers readings discussed, not readings assigned)

October 10 Fall Break, No classes

October 12 Turn of the Century, Mary E. Wilkins Freeman

October 14 Turn of the Century, Charles W. Chesnutt

October 17 Turn of the Century, Edith Wharton

October 19 Literary Renaissance (1349-1355), New Directions, Robert Frost

October 21 Literary Renaissance, T. S. Eliot

October 24 Literary Renaissance, Amy Lowell; Wallace Stevens

October 26 Literature of Social and Cultural Change (1541-1548), Eugene O’Neill

October 28 Literature of Social and Cultural Change, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Langston Hughes

ESSAY #2 due

October 31 Literature of Social and Cultural Change, F. Scott Fitzgerald

November 2 Literature of Social and Cultural Change, William Faulkner

November 4 Literature of Social and Cultural Change, Ernest Hemingway

November 7 The Second World War and Its Aftermath (1697-1704) Gwendolyn Brooks

November 9 The Second World War and Its Aftermath, Robert Lowell

November 11 The Second World War and Its Aftermath, Ralph Ellison

November 14 The Second World War and Its Aftermath, Bernard Malamud

November 16 The Second World War and Its Aftermath, Flannery O’Connor

November 18 A Century Ends and a New Millennium Begins (1857-1865), A Century Ends, Poetry, Allen Ginsberg, James Wright,
November 21 A Century Ends, Poetry, Rita Dove, Cathy Song

November 23 Thanksgiving Recess (no classes)

November 25 Thanksgiving Recess (no classes)

November 28 A Century Ends, Fiction, John Barth

November 30 A Century Ends, Fiction, John Updike

December 2 A Century Ends, Fiction, Tim O’Brien

ESSAY #3 due

December 5 A Century Ends, Fiction, Amy Tan

December 7 A Century Ends, Fiction, Louise Erdrich

December 9 TBA (depending on need for extra discussion time)

December 12 TBA (depending on need for extra discussion time, review, etc.)

(last class)