English 250A
Introduction to American Literature

We’ll be reading four novels (The House of the Seven Gables, East of Eden, Go Tell It on the Mountain and A Patchwork Planet) and stories from two collections: Fifty Great American Stories, ed. Milton Crane, and Great American Short Stories, eds. Wallace and Mary Stegner

Oct. 1—Washington Irving, “The Adventures of the German Student”; Fitz-James O’Brien, “What Was It?” and Ambrose Bierce, “The Damned Thing”—all in the Crane anthology

Oct. 5, 6, 7, 8—Nathaniel Hawthorne, The House of the Seven Gables

Oct. 12—Hawthorne, “Young Goodman Brown,” and Herman Melville, “The Fiddler,” both in Crane

Oct. 13—Edgar Allan Poe, “The Fall of the House of Usher,” and Bierce, “The Boarded Window”—both in the Stegners anthology

Oct. 14—Sarah Orne Jewett, “The Courting of Sister Wisby” (Crane) and Hamlin Garland, “Mrs. Ripley’s Trip” (Stegners)

Oct. 15—Mary E. Wilkins Freeman, “A New England Nun” (Crane) and “A Village Singer” (Stegners)

Oct. 19—Henry James, “The Two Faces,” and Edith Wharton, “A Dilettante” (both in Crane)

Oct. 20—Wharton, “Roman Fever” (Stegners) and Charles Flandrau, “A Dead Issue” (Crane)

Oct. 21—Bret Harte, “The Outcasts of Poker Flat” (Crane) and “Tennessee’s Partner” (Stegners)

Oct. 22—Stephen Crane, “The Open Boat” (Stegners)

Oct. 26—Jack London, “To Build a Fire,” and Sherwood Anderson, “Death in the Woods” (both in Crane)

Oct. 27—Theodore Dreiser, “The Lost Phoebe” (Crane) and Walter Van Tilburg Clark, “The Wind and Snow of Winter” (Stegners)

Oct. 28—Crane, “The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky.” And Joseph Mitchell, “The Downfall of Fascism in Black Ankle County” (both in Crane)

Oct. 29—John Steinbeck, “The Harness” (Crane) and “The Snake” (Stegners)

Nov. 2, 3, 4, 5—Steinbeck, East of Eden

Nov. 9—Wilbur Daniel Steele, “The Man Who Saw through Heaven,” and Conrad Aiken, “Silent Snow, Secret Snow” (both in Stegners)

Nov. 10—William Faulkner, “The Old People,” and Oliver La Farge, “The Resting Place” (both in Crane)

Nov. 12---Eudora Welty, “Powerhouse,” and Faulkner, “Wash” (both in Stegners)

Nov. 16, 17, 18—James Baldwin, Go Tell It on the Mountain

Nov. 19—O. Henry, “Masters of Arts,” John Collier, “A Touch of Nutmeg Does It” and Erskine Caldwell, “The Rumor” (all in Crane)

Nov. 23—James Agee, “A Mother’s Tale,” and Stephen Vincent Benet, “By the Waters of Babylon” (both in Crane)

Nov. 24—Kay Boyle, “Friend of the Family,” and Seymour Freedgood, “Grandma and the Hindu Monk” (both in Crane)

Nov. 25—John Cheever, “The National Pastime,” and Wallace Stegner, “The Blue-Winged Teal” (both in Crane)

Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 2, 3—Anne Tyler—A Patchwork Planet

Dec. 7—Carson McCullers, “Madame Zilensky and the King of Finland,” and James Reid Parker, “The Archimandrite’s Niece” (both in Crane)

Dec. 8—Irwin Shaw, “The Girls in Their Summer Dresses” and Robert Oates, “The Darkness of the Night” (both in Crane)

Dec. 9—Ring Lardner, “Old Folks’ Christmas” (Crane) and John O’Hara, “Over the River and through the Woods” (Stegners)

Dec. 10—Mark Twain, “Baker’s Bluejay Yarn,” and James Thurber, “The Catbird Seat” (both in Stegners) and Thurber, “Mr. Preble Gets Rid of His Wife” (Crane)