REQUIRED READING
(read in the order listed below)

Philip Roth, *American Pastoral*

Toni Morrison, *Jazz*

Don DeLillo, *White Noise*

Louise Erdrich, *Love Medicine*

Paul Auster, *The Music of Chance*

Andrew X Pham, *Catfish and Mandala*

Rikki Ducornet, *Entering Fire*

Chuck Palahniuk, *Fight Club*

Carole Maso, *Eva*

Richard Powers, *Gain*

A. M. Homes, *Music for Torching*

Aimee Bender, *The Girl in the Flammable Skirt*

George Saunders, *In Persuasion Nation*
Requirements: Student is required to write a short paper (8-10 pages), which is due the seventh week of the semester. Student is also asked to write a long seminar paper (15-20 pages), due at the end of the semester. Each student is also required to make a short, twenty-minute oral presentation on one of the texts listed above. The presentation can be a general reading/interpretation of the text or it can focus on a particular section or theme within the text. The presentation and the two papers cannot focus on the same text. One of the papers can be a development of the oral presentation.

Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to demonstrate critical thinking skills in their writing. Students will be able to demonstrate their contextualized understanding of specific texts. Students will be able to implement appropriate methodologies for research and/or interpretation. Students will be able to conduct an independent research project. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of particular periods and/or genres. Students will have the professional skills to teach at 4-year colleges or universities.

General Reading.

N. Katherine Hayles, *How We Became Posthuman; Vitual Bodies in Cybernetics, Literature, and Informatics.*

Judith Halberstam and Ira Livingston, eds., *Posthuman Bodies*

Ella Shohat and Robert Stam, *Unthinking Eurocentrism*

Sally Robinson, *Marked Men: White Masculinity in Crisis*


Charles Taylor, *The Sources of The Self: The Making of the Modern Identity*

Seyla Benhabib, *Situating The Self: Gender, Community, and Postmodernism in Contemporary Ethics.*

Thomas McEvilley, *Art & Otherness: Crisis in Cultural Identity*

Edward Said, *Humanism and Democratic Criticism*

Fred Pfeil, *White Guys: Studies in Postmodern Domination and Difference*
New Americanists

Donald Pease,

Phil Fisher, Hard Facts

Jane Tompkins, Sensational Designs

Jonathan Arac, Critical Genealogies

Sacvan Bercovitch and Myhra Jehlens, Ideology of Classic American Literature

Laurence Buell, New England Renaissance, Postcolonial Theory and the United States: Race, Ethnicity and Literature


Priscilla Wald, Constituting Americans: Cultural Anxiety and Narrative Form

Walter Benn Michaels, Our America: Nativism, Modernism and Literature; The Trouble with Diversity