

ENG2333 Multi Cultural American Literature

Assessment Guidelines

Spring 2025

Examination

The form of assessment is a portfolio consisting of 3 papers submitted over the course of the semester. All three papers must receive passing grades for the portfolio to pass. Paper #1 is worth 20% of the final grade; paper #2 is worth 30%; and paper #3 is worth 50% of the final grade.

Portfolio Paper #1 (20%)

Patterns in Morrison or Coates

The first portfolio paper is a consideration of the way the work of Morrison or Coates helps us think about the frames or patterns that give shape to our lives. Successful papers will work closely with language from either Morrison's *Jazz*, Coates' *Between the World and Me*, or "The Gigantic Dream".

Length: 2-3 pages. This paper must be at least two full pages long, and it should not be any longer than 3 and 1/3 pages long. Use Times New Roman 12 point with 1 and a half spacing and 2.5 cm. margins on all four sides.

Papers will be assessed in terms of their:

+ insight

- + command of the literary text in question
- + clarity
- + organization

Portfolio Paper #2 (30%):

Reflection on literature and shifting perspectives

The second portfolio paper is a personal reflection on the value of one of the assigned texts from the syllabus. The essay should discuss the way one of the assigned literary texts has shifted, altered, or changed the student's perspective of the world, even if only slightly.

Students must choose a different text than the one they wrote on for the first portfolio assignment.

Length: 4-5 pages. This paper must be at least four full pages long, and it should not be more than 5 and 1/4 pages long. Use Times New Roman 12 point with 1 and a half spacing and 2.5 cm. margins on all four sides.

Papers will be assessed in terms of their:

- + insight
- + command of the literary text in question
- + clarity
- + organization

Portfolio Paper #3 (50%):

Literary analysis

The third portfolio paper is a focused and sustained analysis of one literary work. Each paper must have two elements to be successful:

1. The paper must include a thorough engagement with some scholarly secondary source.
2. **The paper must have a well-defined, analytic thesis, and the paper must be organized so that every element of it is clearly connected to your thesis.** From beginning to end, the paper should be a sustained, cohesive investigation of the topic set out in the paper's thesis.

For this assignment, students must write on a text that they did not write on for papers #1 and #2.

The paper should have a clear thesis, 1 or 2 sentences in length. The thesis should be specific, arguable, and complex.

Paper Length: 6-7 pages. This paper must be at least six full pages long, and it should not be more than 7 and 1/4 pages long. Use Times New Roman 12 point with 1 and a half spacing and 2.5 cm. margins on all four sides.

Papers will be assessed in terms of their:

- + quality of engagement with a relevant secondary source
- + insight
- + command of the literary text in question
- + clarity
- + organization

