ENGL 108F (02): The Rebel
Fall 1999

Class Times: Wednesdays, 6-9 pm
Place: AL 207
Instructor: Julie Stewart
Office Hours: PAS 2222 (x3841), Wednesday 3-5 pm
Mailbox: HH 229

Course Objectives: Rebellion is a significant theme in American literature, perhaps because the USA was founded on revolution and dissent. ENGL 108F will consider the figure of the rebel in American literature through a series of representative texts. We will discuss issues such as how and why certain figures rebel against dominant norms, social structures, and institutions, for what purposes, and the end results of their rebellion. We will also consider how the texts themselves might constitute subversive acts within American society. This course is designed to assist you in thinking, discussing and writing about literature in the university setting. It will focus on close readings of the assigned texts and since much of the class will depend on discussion, you will be expected to have read the designated texts before you come to each class.

Required Texts:


Recommended Texts:


**Please Note: All royalties from the sale of this text will be donated to the Dept of English scholarship fund.
Assignments
1. **Summary Sheets:** 20%
   **You will hand in on the assigned days:** (a) a plot summary of the text at hand (no more than 2 pages, double spaced) and, more importantly,
(b) a thoughtful, well-considered question (or questions, if you like) about the text which goes beyond plot to consider form, important issues or themes, etc. The question should be designed to provoke discussion in class, and both the question and the summary should be your own.

**You will hand in a summary sheet for FIVE of the seven texts, and they will each be marked out of ten. If you wish, you may do six or seven summary sheets and take the best five marks.

**Please note that these summary sheets will form a considerable percentage of your grade and that I will not accept late summary sheets.** It is your responsibility to ensure that your summaries arrive on time to the correct mailbox. They will be due by noon in my mailbox in HH 229 on designated Wednesdays.

2. **Short Essay (4-5 typed pages):** 20%  Due: October 20, 1999  More details to follow.

3. **Long Essay (6-7 typed pages):** 30%  Due: December 1, 1999  More details to follow.

4. **Final Exam:** 30%  TBA by the University

**Essay Policies:** Essays will be handed in to me at the beginning of the class on the day they are due. Essays which are not handed to me directly must be signed and dated by a department secretary and placed in my mailbox in HH 229.

Late essays will be docked 2% a day starting the day the assignment is due, including weekends. Extensions at my discretion for serious medical and/or family emergencies only. **Budget your time and plan on handing your assignments in on time.**

**Please Note:** Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and will be dealt with according to the University of Waterloo Disciplinary Code (see Policy 71 in Undergraduate Calendar, 1:10). All quotations, paraphrased material and ideas which are not your own MUST be properly cited and referenced. We will discuss this in class, but if you have any questions, please come and see me.

Class Schedule

September 15: Introduction to ENGL 108F and the Rebel in American Literature

22: **The Scarlet Letter**  
*Choice of handing in summary of Custom House Essay - end of Chapter 8
29: *The Scarlet Letter* + intro to *The Awakening*
   OR: Chapter 9- end (you may hand in only one summary on SL)

   October 6: *The Awakening*
   *Summary Due

   13: No class:
   * *Catcher in the Rye* summary due: Please have this one signed and dated

   20: *The Catcher in the Rye*
     Short Essay due

   27: *The Catcher in the Rye* (cont’d) + intro to Kerouac

   November 3: *On the Road*
   *Summary Due

   10: *The Crying of Lot 49*
   *Summary Due

   17: *Sula*
   *Summary Due

   24: *Foxfire*
   *Summary Due

   December 1: *Foxfire* (cont’d)
   Exam Preparation, Course Wrap up
   Long Essay Due.