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NEWS RELEASE

(for immediate release)

An overview of American Literature from the Puritans to the mid-20th century has been added this year to Cariboo College's list of university transfer courses in English.

David P. Reiter will be the instructor for the new course, designated as English 216/226. The class will meet Thursday evenings from 7 to 10 o'clock beginning September 13.

"Many Canadians are familiar with some of the major American authors," Reiter points out, "but very few readers are aware of how these writers reflect and shape the main currents of American thought and socio-political development over three and a half centuries. This course will introduce them to lesser-known but significant writers and put the major ones in a meaningful context."

In the fall semester the course takes up the Puritan writers, then those associated with the American Revolution, such as Franklin, Paine and Jefferson. The 19th-century list includes the poets Bryant, Longfellow, Whittier, Poe, Whitman and Dickinson, along with prose writers Hawthorne, Emerson, Thoreau, Stowe and Melville.

Beginning in January, the study of Mark Twain, Henry James and Stephen Crane will round out the 19th century. The rest of the course is devoted to a long list of 20th century poets and novelists, among them Frost, Pound, Eliot, Fitzgerald, Faulkner, Hemingway, Mansfield, Dos Passos, Steinbeck and Bellow.

Reiter has been an instructor at Cariboo since 1975. A native of Cleveland, Ohio, he graduated with honours from the University of Oregon and received his master's degree from the University of Alberta. William Faulkner was the subject of his thesis.

Since moving to Kamloops he has been active in community affairs, principally as past president of the Shuswap-Thompson River Research and Development Association. He is also president of the college faculty association.

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