

## THE AGE OF REALISM—ENGLISH 224/264

Spring 2018

Jerry Holt

This is a course that will consider the extremely important period in American Literature between 1865-1920 that is commonly referred to as the Age of Realism. In interdisciplinary fashion we will consider the aftermath of the American Civil War, the rise of industrialism and the cities, the influence of Charles Darwin, and the literary developments that occurred as a result. The course will devote significant time to Naturalism as an important by-product of this age.

### PRIMARY TEXTS

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn--Twain

The Turn of the Screw--James

The Jungle--Sinclair

Martin Eden--London

Jennie Gerhardt--Dreiser

The House of Mirth--Wharton

### SECONDARY TEXTS

The Origin of Species -An Overview—[www.allaboutscience.com](http://www.allaboutscience.com)

“The Open Boat”—Stephen Crane (Any edition)

“The Blue Hotel”—Stephen Crane (Any edition)

“The Will to Power” --[www.books.google.no](http://www.books.google.no)

“The Experimental Novel”--An Overview—[www.bachelorandmaster.com](http://www.bachelorandmaster.com)

“Murder of Grace Brown”—[www.newyorkupstate.com](http://www.newyorkupstate.com)

“Welcome to the 1913 Armory Show”—[xroads.virginia.edu](http://xroads.virginia.edu)

“Jacob Riis: How the Other Half Lives”—[www.mymodernnet.com](http://www.mymodernnet.com)



3/6            Stephen Crane and Naturalism  
                  Upton Sinclair

3/13           Realism in American Art  
                  Assignment: Martin Eden

3/20           Jack London  
                  Assignment: Jennie Gerhardt

4/3             Theodore Dreiser  
                  Assignment: The House of Mirth

4/10           Edith Wharton's America  
                  The First World War  
                  SPECIAL PRESENTATION by Fulbright Scholar Ruth Fairbanks on Horatio Alger

4/17           Wrap-up and Conclusions

FINAL: MAY 28, 2018

