I. Objectives of the Course

A. To understand and appreciate representative works of poetry, fiction, and drama from American war literature.

B. To define the essential characteristics and concerns of that literature.

C. To become familiar with the historical-cultural milieu within which American war literature appears.

D. To speculate regarding the nature of war literature and war itself.

II. Student Requirements for Completing the Course

A. Brief quizzes which will precede the discussion of assigned literary works. There are no make-ups for missed quizzes.

B. Several in-class writing assignments and presentations. There are no make-ups for these assignments.

C. Two critical essays (5 printed pages) to be assigned later. One letter grade will be deducted for each day a paper is late.

D. A midterm examination composed of factual and essay questions devoted to literature covered in the first half of the course.

E. A comprehensive final examination composed of factual and essay questions.

F. Satisfactory participation in class discussion, which can only be accomplished if the attendance policy is rigorously observed.

III. Attendance Policy

A. After three (3) absences, one point will be deducted from the final grade for each additional absence. The student will be held responsible for any assignments made when s/he is absent.

B. Students who are late must assume personal responsibility to see that the record is altered at the end of class. The record will not be changed at a later date.
IV. **Grading Practices**

Grading will generally adhere to the following:

- Class participation: 5%
- Quizzes and in-class writing: 20%
- Two critical essays: 40%
- Midterm exam: 15%
- Final exam: 20%

V. **Texts**

*The Red Badge of Courage*, by Stephen Crane  
*A Farewell to Arms*, by Ernest Hemingway  
*The Enormous Room*, by E.E. Cummings  
*The Naked and the Dead*, by Norman Mailer  
*Catch-22*, by Joseph Heller  
*The Things They Carried*, by Tim O’Brien  
*Meditations in Green*, by Stephen Wright  
*Jarhead*, by Anthony Swofford  
*American War Poetry: An Anthology*, by Lorrie Goldensohn

VI. **Weekly Outline of Topics to be Covered**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 17-19</td>
<td>Introductory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 22-26</td>
<td><em>The Red Badge of Courage</em> Civil War Poetry</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 29-February 2</td>
<td><em>A Farewell to Arms</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>February 5-9</td>
<td><em>A Farewell to Arms/The Enormous Room</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>February 12-16</td>
<td><em>The Enormous Room</em> WW I Poetry</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 19-23</td>
<td><em>The Naked and the Dead</em> First Essay Due</td>
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<td>February 26-March 2</td>
<td><em>The Naked and the Dead</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 5-9</td>
<td>World War II Poetry</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Midterm Examination</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12-16</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 19-23</td>
<td><em>Catch-22</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
March 26-30  
*Catch-22/ The Things They Carried*

April 2-6  
*The Things They Carried*  
Vietnam War poetry

April 9-13  
*Meditations in Green*

April 16-20  
*Jarhead*  
**Second Essay Due**

April 23-27  
*Jarhead*  
Gulf War Poetry

April 30  
Last Class

May 8, 9 am-12 noon  
Final Exam

**VII. Office Hours**

My office is located in Humanities Hall, Room 105, and my office hours are **Monday-Friday, 2-3 PM**. If these hours are ever inconvenient, appointments can be arranged. Please do not hesitate to see me about anything that is of concern to you.

**VIII. Honor Code**

I assume that you are familiar with the Honor Code and that you know what plagiarism is.