ENGL-352G: BOOKPACKING “THE BIG EASY”

Maymester 2020 (May 16–June 10, 2020)

A Cultural and Literary Journey through New Orleans and Southern Louisiana

Description

Led by award-winning BBC filmmaker and presenter Andrew Chater, this four-unit Maymester course is an exercise in “bookpacking”, a humanities experience that explores great novels on the road, fusing literature, history and contemporary social studies into a new form of cultural travel.

The course takes us to New Orleans and Southern Louisiana, a unique and extraordinary destination formed of a fusion of cultural strands: French Creole, Cajun, White Protestant and African-American. We’ll spend four weeks exploring this vibrant region, studying a range of classic and contemporary novels, including Interview With The Vampire, A Confederacy of Dunces, and Michael Ondaatje’s novel of the Jazz Age, Coming Through Slaughter. It promises to be a rich and critically exciting cultural experience.

Interested?

Come to an introductory session which Andrew will be hosting on Tuesday, October 15th, from 3:30 to 5pm in THH-420.

The course is open to all, and it satisfies the GE-B Humanistic Enquiry category in the General Education Program. To find out more about the course, visit www.bookpackers.com; to find out more about Andrew, visit www.andrewchater.com. For administrative or logistical questions, contact Jose Perez Guerrero, Undergraduate Studies Coordinator for the Department of English, on jperezgu@usc.edu.