

American University of Beirut
English 226: Contemporary American Literature

Fall 2005
Final Examination

I. Discuss ONE of the following questions in a well-organized and well-written essay.

1. Using *Beloved* OR *The Way to Rainy Mountain* to frame your discussion, explore the importance of different forms/types of travel in challenging the homogenization of American history.

2. Whether clearly fictional or nearly indistinguishable from reality, representations of violence permeate contemporary American texts. With reference to *The Woman Warrior*, OR *Beloved*, discuss how literary violence is often used as a metaphor for relationships of power and domination.

II. Define the following terms.

- 1.
2. Magic Realism
3. Minimalism

Good Luck!

