Eng. 105: Introduction to Literature

Winter Quarter 2015

Instructor Information:

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Office Hours: 4:00-4:50 MW 3:00-3:50 T

Required Textbooks:
A grammar handbook of some kind
At least two “Green Books”

Welcome! English 105 is designed to introduce you to the complex, compelling, convivial world of literature. This is not a writing class like English 101 or 102 but a reading class. We will spend most of our time reading different genres of literature and having an opportunity to understand the purpose and art of these genres. This course will primarily be a seminar class and not a lecture class. We will spend the first half of the quarter reading, responding, and understanding pieces of short fiction from around the world and through time. After that we will discuss poetry and finally drama. If possible we may briefly discuss other forms of literature as well. There will be two tests and two papers designed to ensure that the course objectives are met. Hopefully, this will be an extremely entertaining class where you will learn not only how to read important pieces of literature but at the same time how to have fun reading. Reading is one of the best ways (probably better than watching television!) to understand the world we live in: the ideas, emotions, and conceptions of human purpose that drive history. As an adult, it is vital that you understand the perspectives and thoughts of other people, cultures, and countries throughout the course of human history, so you can better interpret your own perspectives and why you have them. Let us begin.

Prerequisite: C- or higher in English 101 or current enrollment in English 101.

Outcomes:

- Students will read and respond to literary works from a variety of cultures and from a wide range of historical periods
- Students will read and respond to literary works of poetry, fiction, and drama, as well as other possible works of literature
Students will demonstrate an understanding of how literary elements such as character development, setting, and figurative language relate to literary meaning.

In accordance with the General Education Writing Requirement, students will submit at least seven pages of writing assessed for content and proper usage of MLA format.

Each essay written should have the following features:
- A clear and refined purpose
- Meaningful development
- Purposeful organization
- An effective tone
- Well-crafted sentences
- Consistent use of conventions for standard academic English

Assessment:
- Essay 1: Strong Response 15%
- Essay 2: Literature mega theme 25%
- Mid Term Test 20%
- Final Test 25%
- Trope Quiz 1 5%
- Attendance/Participation 10%
- TOTAL 100%

(Participation grade includes reading quizzes and contributions to class discussion)

Class policies and procedures:

- If at the end of the course your grade average is on a border, it will be raised if you have attended class consistently and participated actively.
- Late assignments will not be eligible for a full grade. An important part of education is the realization of deadlines. If you cannot turn in a paper on time, then you do not have good student skills. It is important to learn deadlines early on, so that when they become more important to you (i.e. when they can cost you your job) you will be able to handle them. If you do miss a paper deadline, you may submit the paper within four class periods for partial credit. After four class periods the paper will receive an F grade. E mailing papers is acceptable.
- No more than four absences are allowed. For each absence beyond the fourth, your grade will be dropped one percent. For example, if you have been absent five times one percentile point will be deducted from your grade, in some cases causing the grade to lower a full level. If you are not prepared for class, you will be counted absent. When you do miss class, remember to talk with a classmate about that day’s lesson or get that day’s homework.
You will be held responsible for completing any work assigned while you are absent. You will also be held responsible for submitting any homework that is due when you are absent. That means, make friends who can bring papers to class for you. Quizzes and tests cannot be made up if missed. **As a seminar class, vocal participation is expected and required.**

- Plagiarized papers will receive a zero. The CWU handbook states that the following is a violation of college rules: buying, copying, borrowing, or otherwise plagiarizing another’s ideas, evidence, examples, images, opinions, or other material deemed “original.” If you plagiarize, not only will your paper fail, but you may be expelled or subject to other disciplinary methods.
- If you receive a B or higher on an assignment, you may not rewrite the assignment, but if you receive a B- or lower you may rewrite. If you choose to rewrite a paper, the highest grade you can receive is a B. You must rewrite the paper within one week of the original due date. You must include the original, already graded paper with your new version. I will not re-grade your paper without the original. Late papers, regardless of the grade, may not be rewritten. In some cases, I may assign you to rewrite your paper if I feel that it does not fit the assignment parameters, or if the class as a whole has a problem with the topic.
- Please do not speak during **lecture**. I don’t really like it when you disrespect me, but I hate it when you disrespect the people around you. Everyone here wants to learn, so please help out by not talking. You can ask questions at any point during the class if you have them. If you must communicate with your neighbor, then please whisper. Also, please turn off your cellular phones.
- If you need course accommodation or adaptation because of disability, have emergency medical information to share with me, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible so your needs can be met.
Definitions
Literature—
Fiction—
Novel—
Novella—
Short story—
Poetry—
Drama—
**Week 1 – Introduction to Short Stories and analysis of Early American Stories**
(American Romanticism)

**Tuesday Jan. 6**
Syllabus / Intro to Literature
No Homework

**Wednesday Jan. 7**
Introduction to Short Stories
Read Irving 27

**Friday Jan. 9**
“Rip Van Winkle”
Read Chopin 80
Paper 1 Assigned
and Hawthorne 43

**Week 2 – Analysis of Early American stories (Realism) and World Literature: stories from Ireland, France, Japan, South America (Metafiction and Magic Realism)**

**Monday January 12**
“The Story of an Hour” and Read Joyce 130 and
“The Minister’s Black Veil” Maupassant 72

**Tuesday Jan. 13**
“Araby” and “Mother Savage”
Read Murakami (ditto)

**Wednesday Jan. 14**
“The Kidney Shaped Stone…” Read Marquez 220

**Friday Jan. 16**
“A very Old Man with Enormous Wings” Read Achebe 227 and
Mahfouz (ditto)

**Week 3 – Analysis of short stories from Africa (Arabic) and short story genres (Epistolary, Horror, Science fiction)**

**Monday January 19**
No Class

**Tuesday Jan. 20**
“Dead Man’s Path” and “Room # 12”
Read Gilman 82

**Wednesday Jan. 21**
“The Yellow Wallpaper” Read Jackson 184 and
Simpson 387

**Friday Jan. 23**
“The Lottery” and “Diary of an Interesting Year” Read Oates 270

**Week 4 – Analysis of Historic Fiction and Native American and African American stories**

**Monday Jan. 26**
“Where are you going, Where have you been?”
Read Erdrich 354

**Tuesday Jan. 27**
“The Red Convertible”
Read Alexie 385

**Wednesday Jan. 28**
“This Is What It Means to Say…”
Read Wright 162 and
Walker 304
Friday Jan. 30
“The Man Who Was Almost a Man” and Read Hurston
136
“Everyday Use”

Week 5 – Analysis of African American and Modern American (Dirty Realism)
Monday February 2
“The Man Who Was Almost a Man” Read Hurston
256 and
Tuesday February 3
“Cathedral” and “Happy Endings” Peer Review
Wednesday February 4
Friday February 6 homework
Mid Term Test (in class portion. Take home portion as homework)
Paper 1 Due

Week Six – Introduction to and analysis of Early and Modern English Poetry
Monday February 9
Introduction to Poetry Reading TBA
Tuesday Feb. 10
Early English Poetry Reading TBA
Wednesday Feb. 11
Early English Poetry Reading TBA
Paper 2 Assigned
Friday Feb. 13
Modern Poetry Reading TBA

Week Seven – Analysis of Modern Poetry
Monday February 16 No Class
Tuesday Feb. 17
Modern Poetry Reading TBA
Wednesday Feb. 18
Modern Poetry Reading TBA
Friday Feb. 20
Modern Poetry Reading TBA

Week Eight – Analysis of Modern Poetry and American and Norwegian Drama
Monday February 23
Modern Poetry / Trope Quiz Read Glaspell
Tuesday Feb. 24
Introduction to Drama and 1031
Wednesday Feb. 25
“The Philadelphia” (film) Read Ibsen
960 -990
Friday Feb. 27
Enemy of the People Read Ibsen
991 to end

Week Nine – Analysis of Norwegian and American Drama
Monday March 2
Enemy of the People Read Williams
1045
Tuesday March 3
The Glass Menagerie (film)
Wednesday March 4
The Glass Menagerie
Friday March 6
“Sure Thing” (film) Read
Wilson 1150

Paper 2 Due

Week Ten – Analysis of African American and Modern Drama
Monday March 9
The Piano Lesson (film)
Tuesday March 10

1257

The Piano Lesson

Read Reza

Wednesday March 11

“The God of Carnage” (film)

Friday March 13

“The God of Carnage”

Final Test (in Class portion. Take home portion as final)

Finals Week – Final Test Due