

ENG 150 Introduction to Literature (Winter Session 2013-2014)

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Class Meets: ONLINE

Email is the ONLY way to get a hold of me.

Text Required:

All Materials for Reading will be found online.

Course Description: This course will develop students' appreciation and understanding of literature and challenge them to explore a variety of issues (social, historical, geographical, ethnic, and political) through reading, writing, and discussion of literary texts. These texts may vary by genre, historical period, or country of origin, but the goal of the course is to provide students with the skills necessary to understand how literary form produces meaning. The theme of this course is **Society**.

Course Objectives:

To enable students to:

1. Write interpretive essays that draw connections between literary form and meaning
2. Make meaningful thematic connections between contemporary issues and literature from historical, geographic, or ethnic origins
3. Cultivate an understanding of specific literary elements and techniques in a literary work
Practice reading and interpretation from a variety of critical standpoints
4. Use writing-to-learn strategies (such as journals, writing logs, and brainstorming) to develop their understanding of course content and to think critically about that content
5. engage literature through the drafting, editing, and revising of their own writing
6. Use research and documentation skills where they may be necessary and integrate them through paraphrase, quotation and citation appropriately

Student Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- a. Master interpretive essays that demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between literary form and meaning. (UCC Expression: Literature SLO 1, UCC Program SLO 9)
- b. Develop meaningful thematic connections, orally and in writing, between contemporary issues and literature from various historical, geographic, or ethnic origins. (UCC Expression: Literature SLO 2, UCC Program SLO 3)
- c. Demonstrate an understanding of specific literary elements and techniques in a literary work. (UCC Expression: Literature SLO 3, UCC Program SLO 1)
- d. Identify a variety of critical approaches to reading and interpretation. (UCC Expression: Literature SLO 4, UCC Program SLO 3)
- e. Use writing-to-Learn strategies such as brainstorming, free-writing, reading logs etc.) to develop their understanding of course content and to think critically about that content. (UCC Writing Intensive SLO 1)
- f. Create essays through drafting, editing, and revising of their responses that demonstrate an engagement in literature (UCC Writing Intensive SLO 2, UCC Program SLO 9)
- g. Create documents which accurately cite secondary sources consulted for research purposes (UCC Writing Intensive 3, UCC Program SLO 5)

Assessment:

Participation in ONLINE Discussion Boards and Quizzes	25%
Daily Class Journals and Revisions	25%
Paper # 1 Short Story	25%
Paper # 2 Poetry	25%

Class Expectations: (Information Regarding the Following is also found on Blackboard under Course Information)

Quizzes (Part of 25%): Quizzes are given at designated times which will open up on Blackboard. They are always pop quizzes (so daily diligence is required). Each quiz will be timed. So, please keep a close eye on the time.

Participation in Online Discussion Forums (Part of 25%): Active participation in class is critical. Your online discussion grade is composed of the following:

I will post the online discussion assignment for the week on alternating days; you will then have until Midnight the next day to post your response. The questions will come from the readings due that week. This means you should complete the reading well before you respond. Each Response must include the following: A Thesis, A Supporting Argument (Quotes and Examples from the text), and Analysis (Explanations). These responses will be graded on a 100-point scale. Failure to do the above will result in failing grades.

Daily Class Journals (Part of 25%): Almost on Daily basis, I will ask you all to contemplate an issue, question or concept relevant to daily readings. These assignments will engage with your knowledge of the material. Each assignment must be 1-2 pages in length and submitted via the Assignment link attached to the entry under the Assignment Page in Blackboard. These journals will be checked on turnitin.com for plagiarism. Any plagiarism of this work (including handing in the same writing from another course) will result in failure of the course. No exceptions.

Paper: (25% each) Paper will be on a topic of your choice; however, look at the Course Documents section for possible paper topics. The paper should focus directly with the topics that we have discussed throughout the semester. Such ideas may consider, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, displacement, ideology, identity, migration, etc. The paper will be 3-4 pages in length. Each paper must be submitted online in TWO places: First, post the paper in the Assignment link in Blackboard. Second, post the paper on turnitin.com

Plagiarism:

Issues of plagiarism will be taken seriously. Do not take, borrow or steal information from other sources without citing them in your paper. Make sure your sources are listed in your Works Cited. If you do engage in this or any other dishonest academic practice (spelled out clearly in the student handbook). I will report plagiarism to the Dean's office and you will fail the course or receiving disciplinary action from the university. Turn in only your own work and cite all of your sources (no matter how small). If you have any questions regarding the standards in place, please contact me. Moreover, signing in the name of another student on the daily attendance roll will be considered a form of cheating and will cause you and the other student to be marked absent for the day, as well as the possibility of being reported to the committee for academic dishonesty.

Grading: 94-100 A, A- 93-90, B+ 89-87, B 86-84, B- 83-80, C+ 79-77
C 76-74, C- 73-70, D+ 69-66, D 66-64, F 63-0

Things to Consider:

1. Assignments must be submitted at designated times on Blackboard on the day assigned and in the assigned format. There will be no chances if you miss the window for submission. **I will not accept late work.** Each assignment will be double spaced with 1" margins on all sides (no tricks!! I know them all). Double Spaced. The only acceptable font is Times New Roman in 12 point size.

2. Email is for important discussions only. You should not ask questions referring to the specifics of how to use Blackboard. Those questions are all answered online for you, as well as available in help sections and a specific section on the discussion board. Please refer there for help. I will **not accept emailed papers** to me directly; all papers should be uploaded to specific areas in blackboard. Though this is an online course, I will not be online every hour of every day. Please

be prepared for the fact that if you send me an email, it may take me up to 24-48 hours to answer. Leaving me phone messages is not acceptable.

3. Students are expected to show respect for diverse opinions during class discussion and in papers. Each student is also expected to participate in class discussion online in a responsible manner, presenting opinions but also permitting others to present their opinions. A failure to respect other students and the opinions they offer is unacceptable behavior.