

ENGL 205

Introduction to Fiction

Dr. Robert C. Hanna

HH 223

344-7363

Fall 2014

Note: This syllabus may be modified by the professor, as circumstances warrant. Students will be advised should any such modifications be made.

Course Description

This course introduces literary terminology commonly used in discussing and writing about short stories and novels. British and American literature is selected from the 19th through the 21st centuries. Emphasis is placed on relationships between authors' lives and their fiction, as well as individual works of fiction that have influenced other authors' fiction.

The course fulfills Bethany Lutheran College's General Education Core Requirement of "Understanding Literature," and it may constitute an elective for both the English major and English minor.

Course Objectives

1. Students demonstrate basic cultural literacy . . . pertinent to particular course content, and can identify correctly allusions, excerpts from particular works, and works written by key authors. [from English Department Objectives]
2. Students can ask effective questions about texts. [from English Department Objectives]
3. Students exhibit a foundational knowledge of literary terminology. [from English Department Objectives]
4. Students experience . . . literature as an educated individual. [from Objectives of the College]
5. Students demonstrate proficiency in written . . . English. [from Objectives of the College]

Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify correctly allusions of the times taken directly from literature selected for this course. [see Course Objective 1]
2. Identify correctly excerpts from literature selected for this course. [see Course Objective 1]
3. Identify correctly excerpts from works written by authors read in this course. [see Course Objective 1]

4. Ask effective questions of the various texts selected for this course. [see Course Objective 2]
5. Define literary terminology and then apply it to course texts for evaluating its usage by authors read in this course, both on paper and in discussions. [see Course Objective 3]
6. Respond personally to literature in at least one way not previously experienced. [see Course Objective 4]
7. Write persuasively using literary terminology correctly. [see Course Objective 5]
8. Write creatively in a manner used by one or more authors read in this course. [see Course Objective 5]

Required Literature (Titles *must* be edition and ISBN indicated.)

Alice in Wonderland

Lewis Carroll

Mineola, NY: Dover Publications

ISBN 0-486-41658-5

A Christmas Carol

Charles Dickens

Mineola, NY: Dover Publications

ISBN 978-0-486-26865-1

Frankenstein

Mary Shelley

Mineola, NY: Dover Publications

ISBN 0-486-28211-2

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court

Mark Twain

Mineola, NY: Dover Publications

ISBN 0-486-41591-0

Course Requirements and Evaluations

I. Reading Assignments

In addition to the required novels and short story, each student will read a novel not assigned to anyone else in class. Each reading assignment is to be completed in advance of its scheduled quiz.

II. Writing Assignments

Writing assignments consist of 1) an analysis of a novel not assigned to anyone else in class, and 2) original fiction based on models studied in class. Writing assignments are graded based on instructions given in class and meeting the due dates specified on the syllabus. [a measurement of Student Learning Outcomes 1, 5, 6, 7, and 8]

III. Quizzes

Each reading assignment is accompanied by a quiz. Should a student miss a quiz, a makeup quiz will be provided during the student's final exam. [a measurement of Student Learning Outcomes 2 and 5]

IV. Attendance and Participation [a measurement of Student Learning Outcomes 4, 5, and 6]

Attendance in this course is required, as is participation. Students should note that even excused absences prevent participation. Students who do not satisfactorily participate in class on a voluntary basis as a result of not being in class should expect to receive a lowered final course grade. **Students who cannot attend class as scheduled are advised to enroll in this course in a semester when full participation is achievable.**

Students who miss class for any reason are required to contact the professor by e-mail on the same day as the missed class meeting. The nature of the absence is to be provided. The professor will reply to all such messages, as proof of receipt.

V. Evaluation of Students

- 20% Quizzes
- 20% Original Fiction
- 20% Novel Analysis
- 20% Midterm Exam [a measurement of Student Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5]
- 20% Cumulative Final Exam [a measurement of Student Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7]

VI. Grading Scale

A=94 to 100; A minus=90 to 93; B plus=87 to 89; B=83 to 86; B minus=80 to 82; C plus=77 to 79; C=73 to 76; C minus=70 to 72; D plus=67 to 69; D=63 to 66; D minus=60 to 62; F=below 60.

Sequence of Class Meetings and Topics

01	Introduction to Course Terms of Literary Analysis for Interpreting Fiction I
02	Ghost Stories
03	Terms of Literary Analysis for Interpreting Fiction II Individual Novel Selection
04	Original Fiction I Due P. G. Wodehouse
05	Quiz on “The Fall of the House of Usher”
06	Quiz on “A Descent into the Maelstrom”
07	Original Fiction II Due Science Fiction
08	Continuation of previous class meeting
09	Original Fiction III Due Arthur Conan Doyle
10	Detective Fiction
11	Continuation of previous class meeting
12	Continuation of previous class meeting
13	Agatha Christie
14	Review for Midterm Exam
15	Midterm Exam
16	O. Henry
17	Bram Stoker
18	Mark Twain
19	Quiz on <i>A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court</i> Novel Analysis Practice I
20	Original Fiction IV Due Novel Analysis Practice II

- 21 *The Innocents Abroad* and Mark Twain's "Autobiography"
- 22 **Quiz on *Frankenstein***
Mary Shelley
- 23 Horror Fiction
- 24 **Quiz on *Alice in Wonderland***
- 25 Disaster Fiction
Conrad Aiken
Nathaniel Hawthorne
- 26 Ray Bradbury
- 27 Charles Dickens
- 28 **Novel Analysis Due**
Continuation of previous class meeting
- 29 **Quiz on *A Christmas Carol***
- 30 Review for Final Exam