

## English 240R: Introduction to Literary Studies

McCormick

Spring Trimester 2008

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### SYLLABUS

#### Instructor:

Scannell McCormick

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#### Required Texts:

- Kennedy and Gioia, Literature: Backpack Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Writing. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.
- a grammar handbook

#### Catalogue Course Description:

An initiation into the formal study of fiction, poetry, and drama, drawing on works from several periods, different cultures and races, and male and female writers. This course aims in particular to develop students' critical and analytical skills as the prerequisite for all upper level courses in literature.

#### Course Objectives:

Students will study literature across genres—fiction, poetry, and drama—by

- reading representative works of literature from these genres and learning basic concepts and features of each;
- considering differences among authors in terms of each writer's style, voice, and purpose of writing;
- learning basic literary terms and applying them to works read;
- discussing means of evaluating works read;
- discussing in class perceptions, questions, and responses to literature assigned.
- writing essays of literary criticism/analysis.

#### Course Requirements:

##### Essays:

Students will produce a total of three essays, one on each of the major genres that the course covers: fiction, poetry, and drama. Details for the essays will be made available well in advance of the due date. Each writing project will be worth 20% of the final grade.

##### Online Discussions:

Every week students will find posted under the discussion area questions and topics related to the readings for that week. Thinking about what we read in this course and generating ideas about what we read are essential to understanding the course materials; thus joining in the general discussion will serve as your participation grade for the course and will be worth 20% of the course grade.

##### Quizzes:

Students will take ten quizzes (10 points each) that will make up 20% of their course grade. The quizzes will cover any of the material assigned for that week.

**Grading:**

Grading is an A to F scale, with A being numerically equivalent to 4.0, and AB 3.5, a B 3.0, etc. Failure to complete any major component of this course (an essay, peer review, the final examination) will result in failing the course, no matter what the student's mathematical GPA.

Essays (three total): 20% each, 60% total

Discussion: 20%

Quizzes: 20%

**Attendance and Missed/Late Work Policy:**

Students will be responsible for class materials. Likewise, students will not be able to make up missed quizzes, nor may students hand in any materials late—regardless of cause.

**Work Load:**

As a rule, you should be prepared to spend at least two hours of time for every credit hour that the class is worth. In a typical three-credit course, for example, this works out to at least six hours of homework per class per week. If your schedule does not allow you to commit this amount of time, you will need to take this course during a term when you can.

**Writing Lab:**

Students are urged to make use of the resources available at Augsburg's Writing Lab web site, <[www.augsburg.edu/writinglab](http://www.augsburg.edu/writinglab)>.

**Modern Language Association (MLA) Conventions:**

Students will spend a portion of this course learning the proper formatting and citation conventions for the Modern Language Association (MLA), the standard style sheet for essays in literature and language. (An extensive MLA style sheet is available at the Writing Lab web site.) The instructor will accept no essay that does not conform to the MLA conventions for format, internal citations, and list of works cited.

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism:**

It is assumed that all work that students produce for this course is original and that, further, students will properly credit (see following) the source(s) of all information—that is, words, as well as ideas—that are not original. The instructor will accept no essay the outside sources for which are not properly cited both internally and finally. Plagiarism will result in failure of the course.

**Extra Credit:**

No extra credit is available in this section of English 240.

**Questions:**

Students are reminded that they always have the right to an explanation for anything that pertains to the course. If students ever have questions about a particular assignment, a grade, or the course in general, they are urged simply to ask the instructor for an explanation.

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**ASSIGNMENT SHEET**

WEEK	UNIT	WORKS	QUIZ	ESSAY DUE
<b>01. APRIL 08</b>	<b>Fiction Unit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chapter 01: "Plot"</li><li>• Chapter 02: "Point of View"</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hawthorne, Young Goodman Brown</li><li>• Faulkner, "A Rose for Emily"</li></ul>	<b>Quiz 01</b>	
<b>02. APRIL 15</b> <b>CLASS DOES NOT MEET THIS WEEK</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chapter 04, "Setting"</li><li>• Chapter 03, "Character"</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hemingway, "A Clean, Well-Lighted Place"</li><li>• Porter, "The Jilting of Granny Weather"</li></ul>	<b>Quiz 02</b>	
<b>03. APRIL 22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chapter 05, "Tone and Style"</li><li>• Chapter 06, "Symbol"</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chopin, "The Storm"</li><li>• Jackson, "The Lottery"</li></ul>	<b>Quiz 03</b>	
<b>04. APRIL 29</b> <b>CLASS DOES NOT MEET THIS WEEK</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chapter 27, "Writing about Literature"</li><li>• Chapter 28, "Writing About a Story"</li></ul>			<b>Rough Draft of Essay 01: Fiction</b>
<b>05. MAY 06</b>	<b>Drama Unit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chapter 22, "Reading a Play"</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shakespeare, <u>Othello, The Moor of Venice</u></li></ul>	<b>Quiz 04</b>	<b>Final Draft of Essay 01: Fiction</b>
<b>06. MAY 13</b> <b>CLASS DOES NOT MEET THIS WEEK</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wilde, <u>The Importance of Being Earnest</u> (online)</li></ul>	<b>Quiz 05</b>	

WEEK	UNIT	WORKS	QUIZ	ESSAY DUE
<b>07. MAY 20</b>  <b>BACCALAUREATE SERVICE 7 PM</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Williams, <u>The Glass Menagerie</u></li> </ul>	<b>Quiz 06</b>	
<b>08. MAY 27</b>  <b>CLASS DOES NOT MEET THIS WEEK</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 30, "Writing about a Play"</li> </ul>			<b>Rough Draft of Essay 02: Drama</b>
<b>09. JUNE 03</b>	<b>Poetry Unit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 09, "Reading a Poem"</li> <li>Chapter 11, "Words"</li> <li>Chapter 12, "Saying and Suggesting"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yeats, "The Lake Isle of Innisfree"</li> <li>Frost, "'Out, Out—'"</li> <li>Browning, "My Last Duchess"</li> <li>Blake, "London"</li> </ul>	<b>Quiz 07</b>	<b>Final Draft of Essay 02: Drama</b>
<b>10. JUNE 10</b>  <b>CLASS DOES NOT MEET THIS WEEK</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chapter 10, "Listening to Voice"</li> <li>Chapter 13, "Imagery"</li> <li>Chapter 14, "Figures of Speech"</li> <li>Chapter 15, "Sound"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Owen, "Dulce et Decorum Est" "The Winter Evening Settles Down"</li> <li>Roethke, "Root Cellar"</li> <li>Shakespeare, "Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day?"</li> <li>Moss, "Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day?"</li> <li>Stillman, "In Memoriam John Coltrane"</li> </ul>	<b>Quiz 08</b>	

WEEK	UNIT	WORKS	QUIZ	ESSAY DUE
<b>11. JUNE 17</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 16, “Rhythm”</li> <li>• Chapter 17, “Closed Form”</li> <li>• Chapter 18, “Open Form</li> <li>• Chapter 29, “Writing about a Poem</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hopkins, “God’s Grandeur”</li> <li>• Millay, “Counting-Out Rhyme”</li> <li>• Housman, “When I Was One-and Twenty”</li> <li>• Addonizio, “First Sonnet for You”</li> <li>• Bishop, “Sestina”</li> <li>• Thomas, “Do not go gentle into that good night”</li> <li>• Olds, “Rites of Passage</li> </ul>	<b>Quiz 09</b>	<b>Rough Draft of Essay 03: Poetry</b>
<b>12. JUNE 24</b>			<b>Quiz 10</b>	<b>Final Draft of Essay 03: Poetry</b>

Quizzes will be 10 points each and will cover **any and all** of the materials assigned as homework for that week.