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ENG 2205-001: Introduction to Literary Studies

Melissa Caldwell
Eastern Illinois University

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ENG 2205: Introduction to Literary Studies

The Monstrous through Genre and Time

ENG 2205.001 / Fall 2018
MWF 10:00-10:50
CH 3160

Instructor: Dr. Caldwell
E-Mail: mcaldwell@ciu.edu
Office: CH 3050
Office Hours: M 11-1, 2-4:30; W 1-4:30; and by appt

Course Definition, Expectations, and Learning Objectives

English 2205, Introduction to Literary Studies (3-0-3), is “a study of fundamental issues underlying literary criticism and interpretation focusing on literary works, diverse critical practices, and historical backgrounds of critical strategies” required of English majors and minors and open to students pursuing other majors. Please note that the prerequisites for this course are as follows: ENG 1002G and, if you are an English major, ENG 1105, or ENG 1002G and concurrent enrollment in ENG 1105. If you have not fulfilled these courses for any reason, please talk to me at the beginning of the semester.

In class, your primary responsibilities include

- ...listening closely
- ...asking questions about the text or ideas related to it
- ...engaging in class discussion
- ...taking notes and following along in your text (which you have brought with you to class)

Outside of class, your responsibilities include

- ...reading and rereading
- ...preparing for class discussion by noting important passages in the assigned reading, looking up words and concepts that you are unfamiliar with, and preparing notes for discussion

A digression on the word “Introduction.”

An introductory class is an exciting kind of course: it is meant to build your familiarity with and interest in a given discipline. However, “introductory” should not be taken to mean “easy.” Do not allow yourself to get behind in the course and do not ignore any difficulties that you may experience. Even though this is an “introductory” course, it is hardly an easy one, and you may find yourself being asked to think about literature in new and challenging ways. I want you to know at the outset that I am absolutely committed to your success in this course, but ultimately you are responsible for your own education. You should consult with me early and often about your papers or any difficulties you are experiencing with the reading, and by all means bring questions you have to class and voice them. As you work on your written assignments, remember that I am happy to help at all stages of your writing process—from topic development to working through difficult passages to developing your thesis to constructing and/or revising drafts, etc. In short, when you need help, be proactive and seek it out.

Required Texts

~William Shakespeare, *Titus Andronicus* (first printed, 1594)
~John Milton, *Paradise Lost* (second ed., 1674)
~Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (1818)
~Ahmed Saadawi, *Frankenstein in Baghdad* (Arabic ed., 2015; trans. English ed., 2018)
~Poetry and other essays via D2L (see below)

Course Goals and Learning Objectives

- develop and strengthen your analytical reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills
- develop and use a vocabulary appropriate for literary criticism
- develop the ability to read texts contextually by learning about their literary, historical, and cultural contexts
- understand the relationship between form and meaning
- become familiar with and adept at using print and digital research resources available to you on Booth Library and scholarly websites
- engage in the kind of active and sophisticated discussion of texts expected of English majors and minors
- create greater awareness of peoples and cultures across time and place

Although critical thinking, writing, speaking, and research skills are key to your success as an English major or minor, they are also skills that are broadly applicable — indeed, essential — to your endeavors beyond the walls of Eastern.

Technology and Classroom Etiquette

I highly recommend taking notes in this class — both reading notes and discussion notes. Doing so will enhance your understanding of the texts, prepare you to write your papers, give you a study sheet for your exams, and simply enrich your experience in this course. You are welcome to bring a computer or iPad to class to use for taking notes or in order to consult e-texts. However, you may not use it for anything not related to class. Cell phones have no place in this class. Please turn off or mute cell phones and do not text during class. Finally, I welcome email communications with you, but please treat written correspondence with me as you would any formal business communication.

Attendance and Participation

In order to succeed in this class it is *absolutely essential* for you do the reading, attend class regularly with your text in hand (preferably a hard copy written text and not an electronic copy), participate in lively and meaningful discussion of our assigned texts, and take notes. Your participation grade will be based on your contributions to class discussion and attendance. If you have any doubts about how you are doing in the class, you may ask me about your participation grade at any point in the semester. In general, high grades (i.e., As and Bs) are reserved for those students who are well prepared for class and make meaningful contributions to class discussions on a daily basis; average grades (i.e., Cs) are reserved for those students who are prepared but who participate only on occasion or who participate regularly but not meaningfully; and low grades (i.e., Ds and Fs) are reserved for those students who are not well prepared and/or who make no meaningful contributions to class discussion and/or are frequently off task, disruptive, etc.

Attendance is crucial, and you can expect your final grade to drop by 1/3 a letter grade for each additional absence after your 3rd absence. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed in class, including but not limited to any changes in reading assignments or homework, quizzes, etc. Please arrange to turn your homework in as soon as possible if you miss class. If there is a reason why you must miss class for an extended period of time, you should consult with me early about your absences. I reserve the right to count you absent

for behavior inappropriate and unbecoming a college classroom including, but not limited to, texting, chatting, or any irrelevant use of technology in class, reading materials irrelevant to class, consistent tardiness, sleeping, or any other behavior that is disrespectful to your peers.

If you miss class on the day of the final exam, you will not be permitted to make up the exam unless you can document an excused absence.

Quizzes, Homework, and Major Assignments

Detailed assignments for the major essays, poetry explication, and all other assignments to be completed will be distributed as those assignments approach. In addition, there will be homework assignments designed to help you develop your ideas for those projects. Quizzes and in-class writing assignments may be given as needed without prior notice and may cover any material from the class, including assigned readings, concepts presented or discussed in class, guest speakers, vocabulary terms, research methods, etc.

If you miss class, you should check with a classmate or me to learn whether you missed an assignment. In general, essays will not be accepted late. However, you are allowed to turn in one essay one class period late without penalty.

Evaluation

Assignment	Weight	Final Grading Scale	
Participation and Homework	20%	90-100	A
Poetry Explication (5-6 double-spaced, typed pages)	10%	80-89	B
Shakespeare Solo with Written Analysis (5-6 double-spaced, typed pages)	10%	70-79	C
Essay 1 (5-6 double-spaced, typed pages)	10%	60-69	D
Essay 2 (5-6 double-spaced, typed pages)	10%	Below 60	F
Revision Essay (5-6 double-spaced, typed pages)	20%		
Midterm Exam	10%		
Final Exam	10%		

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). The English Department's policy on plagiarism states the following:

“Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism — ‘The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s original work’ (*Random House Dictionary of the English Language*) — has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including

immediate assignments, of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Office of Student Standards.”

To put this another way: plagiarism absolutely will not be tolerated in this class. Plagiarists will be reported to the Office of Student Standards and will fail the course. If you are confused about plagiarism at any point in the semester, it is your responsibility to ask me about it before you turn in an assignment.

Information for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by Ninth Street Hall, Room 2006, or call [217-581-6583](tel:217-581-6583).

Other Resources

The Student Success Center

Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/~success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call [217-581-6696](tel:217-581-6696), or go to 9th Street Hall, Room 1302.

The Writing Center

You are always welcome to meet with me during office hours to discuss any writing issues. However, I also encourage you to use EIU's Writing Center located at 3110 Coleman Hall. This free service provides one-to-one conferences with writing center consultants who can help you with brainstorming, organizing, developing support, documenting your papers, and working with sentence-level concerns. The writing center is open to help any student from any major at any stage of his or her writing process, and its system of one-to-one conferences demonstrates value and respect for individual writers, all of whom can benefit from feedback about their works in progress. To schedule an appointment, you can drop by the center (3110 Coleman Hall) or you can call 581-5929.

EIU Writing Portfolio

If you wish to do so, you may submit any essay longer than 750 words to your Electronic Writing Portfolio by the end of the semester. A successfully revised Essay 3 is an ideal candidate for your EWP submission.

*****Your enrollment in this course constitutes your agreement to the state of affairs outlined in the course policies listed above and in the schedule of readings below.*****

Course Calendar

Unit 1 ~ Why We Read & How: Close Reading and Literary Form	Mon, Aug 20	Defining what we mean by “close reading”
	Wed, Aug 22	R. Mead, “The Scourge of Relatability” (D2L)
	Fri, Aug 24	“Close Reading Up Close” G. Graff, “Disliking Reading at an Early Age” (D2L)
	Mon, Aug 27	Poetry, closed form (D2L)
	Wed, Aug 29	Poetry, open form (D2L)
	Fri, Aug 31	“Close Reading Emily Dickinson”

		Bring Dickinson poems
	Mon, Sept 3	***No Class – Labor Day***
	Wed, Sept 5	From observation to explication: choose poem for explication from selection on D2L
	Fri, Sept 7	Paper 1 workshop: Evidence and explication
	Mon, Sept 10	Conferences
	Wed, Sept 12	“Research in English Studies” Due: Poetry Explication (D2L Dropbox)
Unit 2 ~ Close Reading an Unfamiliar Text: The Major Poem	Fri, Sept 14	“Cracking the Code: Strategies for Reading Unfamiliar Texts”
	Mon, Sept 17	<i>Paradise Lost, Book 1</i>
	Wed, Sept 19	<i>Paradise Lost, Book 2</i>
	Fri, Sept 21	<i>Paradise Lost, Book 3</i>
	Mon, Sept 24	<i>Paradise Lost, Book 8</i>
	Wed, Sept, 26	Essay 1 workshop
	Fri, Sept, 28	Conferences
	Mon, Oct 1	Midterm Exam Review
	Wed, Oct 3	Midterm Exam
Unit 3 ~ Close Reading the Context: Reading Like a Historicist	Fri, Oct 5	“Reading Like a Historicist” Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> , preface and letters, and Appendix A Due: Essay 1 (D2L Dropbox)
	Mon, Oct 8	Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> , volume 1, and Appendix B
	Wed, Oct 10	Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> , volume 2
	Fri, Oct 12	**No class – Fall Break**
	Mon, Oct 15	Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> , volume 3
	Wed, Oct 17	Using the archives, location TBA
	Fri, Oct 19	Using the archives, location TBA
	Mon, Oct 22	Paper 2 Workshop: “Using Sources, Setting Up Your Argument”
Unit 4 ~ Adaptation and Cross-Cultural Exchange: Reading Beyond Transatlanticism	Wed, Oct 24	“Reading Adaptation and Non-Western Literature”
	Fri, Oct 26	Ahmed, <i>Frankenstein in Baghdad</i> , p. 1-52
	Mon, Oct 29	Ahmed, <i>Frankenstein in Baghdad</i> , p. 53-89 Due: Essay 2 via D2L Dropbox
	Wed, Oct 31	Ahmed, <i>Frankenstein in Baghdad</i> , p. 90-164
	Fri, Nov 2	Ahmed, <i>Frankenstein in Baghdad</i> , p. 165-208
	Mon, Nov 5	Ahmed, <i>Frankenstein in Baghdad</i> , p. 209-244
	Wed, Nov 7	Ahmed, <i>Frankenstein in Baghdad</i> , p. 245-end

	Fri, Nov 9	In-class work in groups
	Mon, Nov 12	Group presentations
Unit 5 ~ Page, Stage, and Screen: Adaptation across Media and the Dramatic Text	Wed, Nov 14	Shakespeare, <i>Titus Andronicus</i> , Act 1
	Fri, Nov 16	<i>TA</i> , Act 2
	Nov 19-23	**No Class – Thanksgiving Break**
	Mon, Nov 26	<i>TA</i> , Act 3
	Wed, Nov 28	<i>TA</i> , Act 4
	Fri, Nov 30	<i>TA</i> , Act 5
	Mon, Dec 3	Shakespeare Solos rehearsals; Due: Written component due via D2L Dropbox
	Wed, Dec 5	Perform Shakespeare Solos
	Fri, Dec 7	Finish Shakespeare Solos, Evaluations Revision essay due via D2L Dropbox
	Tuesday, Dec 11	** Final Examination** 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m