

Spring 1-15-2016

ENG 2011G-001: Literature, Self/World: Fiction

Donna Binns

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English 2011G: Literature, The Self, & The World (Section 001; 3691 Coleman Hall; 3 CH)

Professor: Dr. Donna Binns

Office: 3851 Coleman Hall

Office Hours: TR 2:15 p.m.--3:15 p.m.; Wednesdays 1:00 p.m.--3:00 p.m.

E-mail: djbinns@eiu.edu

English Department Phone Number: 217-581-2428

Course Description: ENG 2011G involves the study of significant works of literature from diverse cultures and of the ways in which they depict meaning, identity, and action in the world

Course Objectives:

The learning objectives for this course are as follows:

- To explore the specific characteristics of fiction as a genre of literature (Reading & Writing)
- To build on and improve your critical reading and critical thinking skills (Reading & Critical Thinking)
- To build on and improve your reading and writing skills (Reading & Writing)
- To enhance your ability to appreciate fiction from diverse cultures (Citizenship)

Required Texts & Materials:

We Are the Stories We Tell

Monster

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

Feed

Zone One

American Born Chinese

The Complete Persepolis

Watchmen

Notebook paper and pens for in-class activities

Course Requirements:

Reading: We will discuss reading assignments on the day they are listed on the course calendar. Set aside enough time to read, analyze, think about, and re-read if necessary each assignment. Look up unfamiliar words before coming to class. Prepare yourself to contribute to class and group discussions.

Writing: Students must complete the three assigned essays and final exam in order to be eligible to pass this course. In-class activities will also be assigned as part of our daily work. In-class writing must be completed during the allotted time in class, so promptness and consistent attendance are crucial. Essays must be turned in to the appropriate D2L Dropbox (under "Assessment") by the assigned date and time to avoid a late penalty. Drafts for essay peer responses are due at the beginning of class.

Daily Work & Participation: There will be a substantial amount of daily work (such as peer responses, short written responses, and group work) during the semester. Class participation also factors into the overall daily work grade. Each week, I assign a participation grade worth a maximum of five points. Disruptive students will also be required to leave class and marked absent. Failure to participate in class

activities or bring course materials, exhibition of distracting behavior such as checking e-mail, using a phone or social media, etc. during class, or excessive tardiness will also result in a loss of some or all of the weekly participation points at my discretion and may result in an absence if I believe the behavior constitutes a distraction for others. **It is the student's responsibility to insure that all work is turned in promptly.**

Attendance: Because discussion and peer response are important components of this course, attendance is vital. Five unexcused absences will be tolerated; the sixth absence will lower your course grade by one letter; the seventh will lower your course grade by two letters; and the eighth will result in failing the course. Anyone arriving at class more than fifteen minutes late or leaving before the instructor dismisses class will be counted absent. Missing one class does not excuse you for failing to prepare for the next. Absent students will be responsible for finding out what material was covered and what assignments were made in class. For an absence to be excused, bring proper verification (written documentation approved by me) for illness or emergency.

Grading:

The percentage breakdown for major graded work is as follows:

Daily Work	20%
Literary Analysis Essay #1 (3-4 pages)	20%
Literary Analysis Essay #2 (3-4 Pages)	20%
Literary Analysis Essay #3 (3-4 Pages)	20%
Final Revision Project/Exam	20%

Grading Scale

A= 90% to 100%

B= 80% to 89%

C= 70% to 79%

D= 60% to 69%

F= 0% to 59%

Late Work: Late work that is not excused before its due date will be penalized by 10% of the maximum possible points for each day it is late (excluding weekend days). All assignments must be completed within one week of the original due date. Assignments, including essay drafts for peer response, are due at the beginning of class. Work turned in late on the assigned due date may be penalized up to 10% of the maximum possible points for the assignment.

Writing Center:

Many EIU instructors will encourage you to use EIU's Writing Center located at 3110 Coleman Hall. This free service provides one-to-one conferences with writing consultants who can help you with brainstorming, organizing, developing support, documenting, and revising your papers. The Writing Center is open to work with 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 Writing Center (3110 Coleman Hall), or you can call 581-5929. When you visit, bring your work in progress (including a copy of the assignment) and an idea of what you would like to work on—planning, prewriting, organization, support, documentation, editing, etc. Please check the Writing Center Website at [www.eiu.edu/~writing/] for more information.

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>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards. In accordance with English Department and University policies, "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation as one's original work' (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty up to and including immediate assignment of the grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course."

The best argument against plagiarism is that you cheat yourself out of the education you are here to obtain when you copy someone else's work. If you believe that a specific instance in your writing might constitute plagiarism, please consult me prior to turning in the final draft.

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 to make an appointment.

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, text 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, or go to 9th Street Hall, Room 1302.

Electronic Writing Portfolio: EIU students must submit a sample of their best writing from a writing-centered or writing-intensive course for the Electronic Writing Portfolio. The Instructors assess each sample according to a rubric. These forms and further information about the Electronic Writing Portfolio are available at [<http://www.eiu.edu/~assess>]. If you wish to submit an essay from ENG 2011G, you must submit it during this semester.

ENG 2011G: Course Calendar (Spring 2016)
9:30 a.m.--10:45 a.m. TR

This schedule is subject to additions and changes at my discretion. Assignments are due on the date that they are listed on the schedule.

Gender & Race in Fiction

1-12 Course Introduction

1-14 Short Stories from *We Are the Stories We Tell*: "An Interest in Life" (61-76); "Brooklyn" (77-97); "My Man Bovanne" (116-122); "Yellow Woman" (123-133)

1-19 Short Stories from *We Are the Stories We Tell*: "Holding Things Together" (150-163); "Shiloh" (218-233); "The Slaves in New York" (234-243); "Other Lives" (274-288)

1-21 *Monster* pages 1-151

1-26 *Monster* pages 153-281

1-28 *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* Chapters "The Black-Eye-of-the-Month Club" through "Halloween" (1-81)

2-2 *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* Chapters "Slouching Toward Thanksgiving" through "Red vs. White" (82-158)

2-4 *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* Chapters "Wake" through "Talking about Turtles" (159-230)

2-9 **Literary Analysis Essay #1 Draft Due** for Peer Response

2-11 **Literary Analysis Essay #1 Due**; Watch *Jericho* Episode 1 in class

Technology & The Future in Fiction

2-16 *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* Chapters 1-15 (1-116)

2-18 *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* Chapters 16-35 (117-216)

2-23 *Feed* pages 1-104

2-25 *Feed* pages 105-203

3-1 *Feed* pages 207-297

3-3 *Zone One* pages 1-103

3-8 *Zone One* pages 103-209

3-10 *Zone One* pages 209-322

3-15 & 3-17 SPRING BREAK

3-22 **Literary Analysis Essay #2 Draft Due** for Peer Response

3-24 **Literary Analysis Essay #2 Due**; Watch *Dexter* Episode 1 in Class

Graphic Novels & Film Adaptations

3-29 *Watchmen* Chapters I-VI

3-31 *Watchmen* Chapters VII-XII

4-5 *American Born Chinese* pages 1-130

4-7 *American Born Chinese* pages 133-233

- 4-12 Watch *Persepolis* Film Adaptation in Class; Bring *The Complete Persepolis* to Class
- 4-14 Watch *Persepolis* Film Adaptation in Class; Bring *The Complete Persepolis* to Class
- 4-19 **Literary Analysis Essay #2 Draft Due** for Peer Response
- 4-21 **Literary Analysis Essay #2 Due**; Start *Watchmen* Film Adaptation in Class
- 4-26 Watch *Watchmen* Film Adaptation in Class
- 4-28 Finish & Discuss *Watchmen* Film Adaptation in Class
- 5-2 **Final Exam 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.: Bring Revised Literary Analysis Essay #1 or #2 to Exam; Complete Revision Self-Analysis Essay in Class**