

Spring 1-15-2016

# ENG 2205-001: Intro to Literary Studies

Angela Vietto

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Eng 2205 | Spring 2016  
**Introduction to Literary Studies**

Prof. Angela Vietto  
3345 Coleman  
Text/cell: 217-549-3203 (9 am to 9 pm)  
arvietto@ciu.edu

Office hours:  
M 10-11; WF 10-12; T 2-4 *and by  
appointment*

In this class, we will explore what it is that specialists in literary studies do when we study literature, how we do what we do, and why we do it.

To be more precise, we will

- learn about and practice the technique often called “close reading” (also called explication or textual analysis)
- develop your knowledge of and facility in using specialized vocabulary for literary study
- learn about and practice using a variety of research tools for studying the historical and cultural contexts of works of literature
- work on refining your essay writing skills for literary study

**Textbooks from TRS**

Bronte, *Wuthering Heights*  
Morrison, *Beloved*  
Palahniuk, *Fight Club*  
Stoker, *Dracula*

**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.

**Attendance**—When you miss class, you may miss a graded activity or some work time with a team you are a member of. Once we begin team projects, I expect you to contact a team member any time you miss class. If you missed class for a University-defined “excused absence” I will allow you to make up any graded activity you missed after you provide me with documentation for the absence. For unexcused or undocumented absences, no make-up will be allowed. After 3 unexcused absences, each additional unexcused absence will result in 4% off your final grade. This policy is in place to support your success in the class.

**Cell Phones**—Keep them silent and put away inside a zipped bag (bookbag or purse) during class, unless I let you know there’s a good class-related reason to get them out. This policy is in place to support both your success and the success of your classmates.

**English Teacher Education Majors**—Students seeking certification to teach English Language Arts should distribute yellow recommendation for student teaching sheets to all their instructors in English, every semester.

**The Student Success Center**—Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (<http://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, or go to 9th Street Hall, Room 1302.

**Academic Integrity**—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.

**The English Department Statement on Plagiarism**—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 own 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 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. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources.

**The Electronic Writing Portfolio**—Any written project of 750 words or longer (excluding fiction or poetry) written for this class would be suitable for submission to the EWP. Submissions must be made by the last day of finals week at the end of the semester. *Earlier deadlines apply for graduating seniors.*

### **Grading and Major Assignments\***

Short writings (in and out of class) & quizzes	30%
Essay 1	25%
Essay 2	25%
Ringuette Cup research competition	10%
Final exam	10%

### **Final Grading Scale**

A	90-100%
B	80-89.99%
C	70-79.99%
D	60-69.99%
F	59.99% and below

*Short writings* will include mini-essays, responses, and discussion board postings in D2L.

*Quizzes* will sometimes be simple reading checks; other times they will offer an opportunity to review concepts or practice interpretive skills. Quizzes will not normally be announced in advance.

*Essay 1* will analyze some aspect of either *Wuthering Heights* or *Dracula* that intrigued you during the reading process. Ideally, it will expand on one of the mini-essays you will have written after completing those novels. The essay should support an arguable thesis with close reading and textual evidence. It may also rely on broader discussion of cultural context, but the extent to which you include such material will depend on your topic. *Essay 2* will do the same for either *Beloved* or *Fight Club*.

# Schedule

Readings are due on the date listed. Short writings will be announced/assigned in class and on D2L.

M Jan 11	Introductions: The course, you, me, and close reading
W Jan 13	Introductions continued. Elements of narrative. The OED.
F Jan 15	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> , chapters 1-3, pp. 25-48
M Jan 18	<b><u>Martin Luther King Birthday, no classes</u></b>
W Jan 20	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> , chapters 4-9, pp. 48-94
F Jan 22	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> , chapters 10-13, pp. 94-138
M Jan 25	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> , chapters 14-20, pp. 139-183
W Jan 27	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> , chapters 21-25, pp. 183-226
F Jan 29	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> , chapters 26-31, pp. 226-261
M Feb 1	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> , chapters 32-34, pp. 261-288
W Feb 3	Mini-essay due. Contexts and primary source databases. Organize teams for Ringuette Cup.
F Feb 5	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> , Charlotte Bronte's introductory materials, 15-24, and cultural documents and illustrations, pages TBA
M Feb 8	<i>Dracula</i> , chapters I-IV, pp. 5-55
W Feb 10	<i>Dracula</i> , chapters V-VIII, pp. 55-98
F Feb 12	<b><u>Lincoln's Birthday, no classes</u></b>
M Feb 15	<i>Dracula</i> , chapters IX-XII, pp. 98-147
W Feb 17	Ringuette Cup Round I questions due. <i>Dracula</i> , chapters XIII-XV, pp. 147-185
F Feb 19	<i>Dracula</i> , chapters XVI-XIX, pp. 185-229
M Feb 22	<i>Dracula</i> , chapters XX-XXIII, pp. 229-273
W Feb 24	<i>Dracula</i> , chapters XXIV-XXVII, pp. 273-327
F Feb 26	Mini-essay due. Introduction to contexts.
M Feb 29	<i>Dracula</i> , contextual materials, pages TBA.

W Mar 2	Individual conferences on Essay 1
F Mar 4	Essay 1 due. Ringuette Cup Round 2 due. Contemporary literature, older literature, historical literature. Review.
M Mar 7	<i>Beloved</i> , 3-42
W Mar 9	<i>Beloved</i> , 43-85
F Mar 11	<i>Beloved</i> , 86-132
Mar 14-18	<b>Spring Break</b>
M Mar 21	<i>Beloved</i> , 133-165
W Mar 23	<i>Beloved</i> , 167-199
F Mar 25	<i>Beloved</i> , 200-235
M Mar 28	<i>Beloved</i> , 237-275
W Mar 30	<i>Beloved</i> , criticism TBA
F Apr 1	Mini-essay due. Time for teams to work.
M Apr 4	Ringuette Cup Round 3 due. <i>Fight Club</i> , chapters 1-4, pp. 11-39
W Apr 6	<i>Fight Club</i> , chapters 5-9, pp. 40-78
F Apr 8	<i>Fight Club</i> , chapters 10-16, pp. 79-125
M Apr 11	<i>Fight Club</i> , chapters 17-21, pp. 126-161
W Apr 13	<i>Fight Club</i> , chapters 22-30, pp. 162-208
F Apr 15	Mini-essay due. Contexts.
M Apr 18	Time for teams to work on final Ringuette Cup questions.
W Apr 20	Individual conferences on Essay 2.
F Apr 22	TBA
M Apr 25	Essay 2 due. Review.
W Apr 27	Review.
F Apr 29	Review and course conclusion. Essay 2 due.
Finals week M May 2 2:45-4:45	Final Exam