

Fall 8-15-2005

ENG 2205-002: Introduction to Literary Studies

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Syllabus for English 2205: Introduction to Literary Studies, Fall 2005, Section 002

Required Texts and Materials

Behn, *Oroonoko; or, The Royal Slave*, ed. Catherine Gallagher, Bedford Cultural Edition
Rivkin and Ryan, *Literary Theory: An Anthology*, 2nd ed.
Stoker, *Dracula*, ed. Nina Auerbach and David J. Skal, Norton Critical Edition
Additional readings and handouts to be provided by the professor
E-mail account

Recommended Text

Gibaldi, *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 6th ed. (consider buying it)

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students of English to fundamental issues in the discipline. While we will begin with close readings of primary texts from the genres of poetry and fiction, we will focus much of our attention on 1) critical responses to those texts and 2) the theories and methodologies informing those responses. Our forays into criticism will lead us to encounters with formalism, Marxism, psychoanalysis, and historicism, among other interpretive practices. Along the way, we will not only learn strategies for reading texts but also raise and answer questions about formulating a research topic, conducting research, and documenting sources. The course requires careful preparation of challenging readings; measured contributions to class discussions; and engaged critical thought.

Writing Intensive Course

You should consider submitting an essay written for this class to the Electronic Writing Portfolio or EWP. Please visit the following web address for information on the submission process: <www.eiu.edu/~assess/electronic_writing_portfolio1.htm>. The course deadline for EWP submissions is Friday, Dec 9, 2005.

Description of Assignments

Group Analysis / Presentation: in a group of four or five, you will use close reading to analyze a poem and then present your interpretation to the class.

Review: you will write a paper (750-1000 words) explaining the argument of Stephen Arata's scholarly essay "The Occidental Tourist: *Dracula* and the Anxiety of Reverse Colonization."

Mid-term and Final Examinations: these examinations will test your knowledge of course readings and discussions through a variety of question formats, including identification, short answer, and essay.

Proposal / Annotated Bibliography: you will propose a topic for the contribution essay (650-800 words) and begin your research by compiling an annotated bibliography of eight to ten items.

Contribution Essay and Presentation: you will write a research paper (1750-2000 words) in which you contribute to the critical understanding of a work of literature and then present the results of your research to the class.

Daily Assignments

Daily assignments include quizzes, journal entries, in-class responses, and various other work assigned on a day-to-day basis. If our discussions lag, I will increase the number of daily assignments, for instance, by giving pop quizzes or requiring additional journal entries. Each daily assignment will be worth ten points. At the end of the semester, I will divide earned daily assignment points by the total possible to arrive at a grade.

Policies

Attendance: 6 unexcused absences = forfeiture of your entire participation grade for the semester (10% of final grade)

If you miss class, you are responsible for finding out what happened and asking me for any missed handouts. Absences will be excused only in the case of a documented illness or emergency, or of documented participation in an official university activity. For your absence to be excused, you must provide me with a legible photocopy of your documentation for my records. Such documentation must be provided prior to the absence or upon your return to class. Please do not come to class late. Three instances of tardiness may count as an absence.

Late work: Daily assignments will not be accepted late. Missing peer reviews or showing up for them with incomplete drafts will result in a reduction of your final grade on the paper by one half a letter grade or five percentage points. Papers turned in after the final due date will incur a penalty of one letter grade per day late. Only in the case of a properly documented absence will a paper be accepted late without penalty. All drafts and papers are due at the start of class on the due dates.

Grading Scale: 100 to 90 = A, 89.9 to 80 = B, 79.9 to 70 = C, 69.9 to 60 = D, 59.9 and below F

Grading Percentages:	Group Analysis / Presentation	10%
	Review	10%
	Mid-term Examination	15%
	Proposal / Annotated Bibliography	10%
	Contribution Essay	20%
	Final Examination	15%
	Daily Assignments	10%
	Participation	10%

Assessment: For the Group Analysis / Presentation, Review, Proposal / Annotated Bibliography, Contribution Essay, I will provide formal assignment sheets. Your grade for a given assignment will be determined by how well your work fulfills the requirements outlined in the assignment sheet. You will receive written or verbal descriptions of daily assignments. Your participation grade will be based on your attendance, the regularity and quality of your contributions to class discussion, and your level of engagement during group work and class activities.

Academic dishonesty: According to the *MLA Style Manual*, the word "plagiarism" has its origin in the Latin term for "kidnapper": plagiarists kidnap other writers' sentences, phrases, or ideas and present them as their own. The *Random House Dictionary* defines "plagiarism" as "The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work." Plagiarism often results from faulty documentation or careless note taking. *Always place quoted materials in quotation marks, and always cite quoted and/or paraphrased sources, even in rough drafts of papers or presentations.* Respect for the intellectual work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources. Inexcusable acts of plagiarism include downloading or buying a paper from the internet; copying and pasting phrases or passages from electronic sources into your paper without citing them; submitting a paper written by another student as your own; borrowing the language and content of a website verbatim and using it as an "original" presentation; and so on. The penalty for academic dishonesty is failure in the course. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs.

The Office of Disability Services: If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Provisional Schedule

Please note: each reading should be completed before class on the day it is listed.

Week One

M Aug 22	Introduction to the course Begin reading <i>Dracula</i> (9-327); finish by F Sept 16
W Aug 24	Close Reading: Critical Perspectives "Introduction: Formalisms," Rivkin and Ryan (<i>Literary Theory</i> 3-6;

- hereafter abbreviated as *LT*)
- F Aug 26 **Russian Formalism**
 "Art as Technique," Viktor Shklovsky (*LT* 15-21)
 Strongly suggested: view *The Matrix* prior to W Aug 31
 Continue reading *Dracula* (9-327); finish by F Sept 16
- Week Two
- M Aug 29 **American New Criticism**
 "The Canonization," John Donne (*LT* 38-9; read the poem first)
 "The Language of Paradox," Cleanth Brooks (*LT* 28-38)
- W Aug 31 **Marxism and *The Matrix***
 "The Factory," from *Capital*, Karl Marx (provided 544-53)
 "Hegemony," Antonio Gramsci (*LT* 673)
- F Sept 2 Group Analysis of Poem / Presentation: assigned
 Choose poem; form groups; begin close reading
 Continue reading *Dracula* (9-327); finish by F Sept 16
- Week Three
- M Sept 5 Labor Day; no class
- W Sept 7 Finish close reading; plan all aspects of presentation
- F Sept 9 Due: Presentations
 Continue reading *Dracula* (9-327); finish by F Sept 16
- Week Four
- M Sept 12 Due: Presentations
- W Sept 14 **Case Study One: *Dracula***
 Review: assigned
 "The Uncanny," Sigmund Freud (*LT* 418-30)
- F Sept 16 Introduction to Gothic
 "Gothic Excess and Transgression," Fred Botting (provided)
- Week Five
- M Sept 19 Initial discussion of *Dracula*; due: journal entry (250 words)
Dracula, Gender, and Sexuality
 "Fictional Conventions and Sexuality in *Dracula*," Carrol Fry (35-8; provided)
- W Sept 21 "Your Girls that You All Love Are Mine': *Dracula* and the Victorian Male Sexual
 Imagination," Gail Griffin (137-48; provided)
- F Sept 23 "'Kiss Me with Those Red Lips': Gender and Inversion in Bram Stoker's *Dracula*,"
 Christopher Craft (in Norton *Dracula* 444-59)
- Week Six
- M Sept 26 ***Dracula, Race, and Imperialism***
 "Count Dracula and the Martians," R. J. Dingley (13-24; provided)
 Clip from film *Bram Stoker's Dracula*
- W Sept 28 "The Occidental Tourist: *Dracula* and the Anxiety of Reverse Colonization,"
 Stephen Arata (in Norton *Dracula* 462-79)
- F Sept 30 Drafting exercise
- Week Seven
- M Oct 3 First draft due: Review; peer review
- W Oct 5 Conferences
- F Oct 7 Fall break; no class
- Week Eight
- M Oct 10 Review for exam; conferences
 Begin reading *Oroonoko* (34-100); finish by W Oct 19
- W Oct 12 Final draft due: Review
 Contribution Essay: assigned
 Research strategies
- F Oct 14 Mid-term examination

Continue reading *Oroonoko* (34-100); finish by W Oct 19

Week Nine

- M Oct 17 Compiling a bibliography
Writing annotations
MLA documentation
- W Oct 19 **Case Study Two: *Oroonoko***
Initial discussion of *Oroonoko*; due: journal entry (250 words)
- F Oct 21 **Historicizing through Literary Contexts**
From "On Cannibals," Michel de Montaigne (168-74)
From *The Masque of Blacknesse*, Ben Jonson (175-9)
(both readings found in Bedford *Oroonoko*)

Week Ten

- M Oct 24 From *Spectator*, "On a Slave Love-Triangle," Joseph Addison (196-8)
From *Robinson Crusoe*, Daniel Defoe (199-207)
(both in Bedford *Oroonoko*)
- W Oct 26 Is *Oroonoko* a novel?
- F Oct 28 "Discourse in the Novel," Mikhail Bakhtin (LT 674-85)

Week Eleven

- M Oct 31 Due: Contribution Proposal / Annotated Bibliography
Discussion of the proposals
- W Nov 2 **Colonial / Post-Colonial Studies**
"Introduction," Rivkin and Ryan (1071-4)
From *The Groans of the Plantations*, Edward Littleton (376-7; 423-7)
The Slave Trade
- F Nov 4 "History," Dennis Walder (LT 1075 to top of 1085; then, skip to "Summary" 1088)

Week Twelve

- M Nov 7 From an *Impartial Description of Surinam*, George Warren (351-4)
From *The Negro's and Indians Advocate*, Morgan Godwyn (365-8)
From *The Interesting Narrative of the Life*, Olaudah Equiano (391-2)
(all in Bedford *Oroonoko*)
- W Nov 9 From *Oroonoko, a Tragedy*, Thomas Southerne (107-31)
"On an African Prince at a Performance of *Oroonoko*" (445-6)
(both in Bedford *Oroonoko*)
- F Nov 11 Reading TBA

Week Thirteen

- M Nov 14 First Draft Due: Contribution Essay; peer review
- W Nov 16 Conferences
- F Nov 18 Conferences

Fall Recess

- Nov 21, 23, 25 No classes

Week Fourteen

- M Nov 28 Review for Final Examination; presentations
- W Nov 30 Presentations
- F Dec 2 Presentations

Week Fifteen

- M Dec 5 Presentations
- W Dec 7 Presentations
- F Dec 9 Presentations
Final Draft Due: Contribution Essay
Deadline for EWP submissions
- Final Exam Thursday, Dec. 15, 12:30-2:30 pm