Spring 1-15-2005

ENG 3010G-002: Literary masterworks

John Allison
Eastern Illinois University

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_spring2005

Part of the English Language and Literature Commons

Recommended Citation
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_spring2005/98

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 2005 at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Spring 2005 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.
ENGLISH 3010: LITERARY MASTERWORKS

Spring 2005

Instructor: John Allison
Office: 3552 Coleman Hall
Phone: 581-6978 (office); 348-0269 (home)
Email: cfjba@eiu.edu
Office Hours: MW: 10-11:00, 1-2:00; F: 10-11:00

Objectives of Course

• To provide an opportunity to read, discuss, and enjoy works that have come to be known as masterworks of comedy;
• To encourage reflection about why certain works are called “masterworks” and whether the term means anything;
• To encourage thinking about ways that comic works reflect diverse outlooks concerning human nature and society;
• To promote the expression of independent, critical thinking in discussion and writing;
• To promote the use of reasoning and evidence in supporting interpretations of works;
• To contribute to continuing development of substantive, coherent, competent writing

Requirements of the Course

• Three Essays of Interpretation (approximately four pages each in 12 point type): 60%
• Six-Eight Pop Quizzes: 20%
• Final Examination (essay of 600-800 words, two shorter responses of 250-300 words each): 20%

Criteria for Evaluating Essays and Examinations

When I evaluate your essays, I will consider content (depth, reasoning, evidence), coherence (organization, transitions, word choice), style, grammar, and punctuation. Of these criteria, content is most important, but an essay can fail if it is severely deficient in any one of the categories. Plagiarized work will result in a failing grade for the course, and may lead to further consequences as determined by the Judicial Board.

Attendance and Grading

After three unexcused absences, you will forfeit one letter grade (10% of the total credit for the course). You will forfeit 5% percent for each subsequent unexcused absence. For an excused absence, you must provide evidence from Health Service, a doctor, or an appropriate university employee.

Late Work and Grading

You may turn in one of the first two essays one class day late. Otherwise, late essays will carry a penalty of 5% for each class day. If you miss a quiz, I will not schedule a make-up quiz. However, missed quizzes will not affect your quiz average when you have an excused absence (see Attendance and Grading).

Revision

You may revise one of your first two essays for a new grade.
Calculation of the Grade

I use a simple percentage scale, along with a letter grade, for each essay and examination. For example, an 88% is a B+ and a 92% is an A-. You can easily calculate your overall grade for the course by using the weighting indicated in the section “Requirements of the Course.” Usually I'll give a half quiz at a time, five of the ten items for each complete quiz. Because each item counts ten points, the grading scale for quizzes mirrors that for the essays and examination.

Students with Disabilities

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

ELECTRONIC WRITING PORTFOLIO

Because the course is designated “writing intensive,” you can submit one of the essays as a submission to the portfolio.
**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

1. Week of January 10
   - Introduction to Course
   - Shakespeare's *Henry IV, Part I* (Act I, pp. 3-26)
   - Act II (27-59)

2. Week of January 17
   - King's Day: No Classes
   - Acts III-IV (60-108)
   - Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Act I, pp. 3-16)

3. Week of January 24
   - Act IV (59-69)
   - Act V (70-86)

4. Week of January 31
   - Cervante's *Don Quixote* (Author's Dedication and pages 25-63)
   - *Don Quixote* (63-84)
   - *Don Quixote* (111-41)

5. Week of February 7
   - *Don Quixote* (142-81, 248-82)
   - *Don Quixote* (381-418, 450-61)
   - Lincoln's Day: No Classes

6. Week of February 14
   - *Don Quixote* (465-532)
   - *Don Quixote* (538-79, 629-51, 656-86)
   - *Don Quixote* (656-735); Essay I Due

7. Week of February 21
   - *Don Quixote* (847-54, 887-91, 934-40)
   - Group Discussion; Preparation for Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*
   - *Gulliver's Travels* (v-x, 25-54)

8. Week of February 28
   - *Gulliver's Travels* (54-92)
   - *Gulliver's Travels* (95-129)

9. Week of March 7
   - *Gulliver's Travels* (129-164)
   - *Gulliver's Travels* (147-2)
   - *Gulliver's Travels* (237-84)
SPRING RECESS

Week of March 21
- *Gulliver's Travels* (284-318)
- Group Discussion; Introduction to Voltaire’s *Candide*
- Voltaire's *Candide* (19-46)

10. Week of March 28
- *Candide* (46-96)
- *Candide* (96-144)
- Group Discussion; Introduction to Twain’s *Huckleberry Finn*

11. Week of April 4
- Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* (27-69)
- *Huckleberry Finn* (69-100); **Essay II Due**
- *Huckleberry Finn* (100-32)

12. Week of April 11
- *Huckleberry Finn* (132-210)
- *Huckleberry Finn* (210-265)
- Toole’s *A Confederacy of Dunces* (11-65)

13. Week of April 19
- Toole's *A Confederacy of Dunces* (65-163)
- *A Confederacy of Dunces* (164-217)
- *A Confederacy of Dunces* (217-71)

14. Week of April 25
- *A Confederacy of Dunces* (272-62)
- *A Confederacy of Dunces* (362-405)
- **Essay III Due**; Student Evaluation of Instruction; Preparation for Final