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ENG 3010G-002: Literary Masterworks

Susan Bazargan
Eastern Illinois University

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English 3010G-002 Literary Masterworks
TTh: 2-3:15 Coleman Hall 3691
Fall semester 2005
Dr. Susan Bazargan
Office Hours: T 1:15-2, 3:15-5, Th: 3:15-5 and by appointment
Office: Coleman Hall 3765; phone: 581-6979
E-mail: sbazargan@eiu.edu

This course will introduce you to some of the best fiction produced by British and North American authors of the 19th and 20th centuries. We'll mainly focus on the "*bildungsroman*," the novel of formation or education. You'll read and write about issues of identity formation, rites of passage, and the anxieties and problems faced by young people entering adulthood. We'll discuss why this type of novel still remains a favorite genre in fiction and what purposes it serves.

Course requirements:

Class attendance and participation are expected. I call roll regularly and can disregard only two unexcused absences during the semester. If you accumulate more than two unexcused absences, your grade will suffer (1/2 point for each absence). If you're absent because of an illness, I will expect a note from your doctor or the health center. In case of a family emergency, please stop by the first chance you have so we can talk about classes you've missed.

Before class starts, I expect you to hand in three questions based on your reading for that day. These questions will count as part of your participation grade. I also expect you to ask and answer questions, make comments, and argue with me—in other words, be a "live" member of class discussions. Your participation grade counts as 20% of your total grade.

Papers: You'll write two 4-page papers. If you wish, you can incorporate research material in them (some of the topics require that you do so). You can revise your first paper for a better grade. (The average of the two grades will be the final grade for this paper.) This is a writing-intensive course, so you can use one of the papers (preferably the revised one) for your writing portfolio.

Exams and pop quizzes: You'll take two exams during the semester. They will consist of a number of questions (10-15) to which you'll be asked to provide detailed answers. I might give you pop quizzes, especially if I get the feeling you're not keeping up with the reading.

Grading Policy:

Papers: 40%; Exams (and quizzes, if any are given): 40%; Participation: 20%

Conferences: Please stop by my office to discuss any problem or question related to the course. You can make an appointment if my regular office hours are inconvenient for you. The best way to reach me is by e-mail.

Other policies:

Almost all of the novels we're reading have been the subject of a great deal of critical writing. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with what other readers have said and thought about these books; you can draw upon other readers' ideas, as long as you give them credit! But if the dark forces ever tempt you to plagiarize, please remember that I'm very good at detecting plagiarism; if you're discovered, I'll be required to give you a grade of F for the course and report you to the Judicial Affairs Office! (This is the English Department policy.) If you're nervous about your writing skills, let me know, and I'll be happy to work with you on an individual basis. Remember that the Writing Center is a great resource for you to use.

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.

Required Texts:

Bronte, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre*

Cather, Willa. *O Pioneers!*

Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations*

Douglass, Frederick. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*

Joyce, James. *Dubliners* (selected stories)

Rhys, Jean. *Wide Sargasso Sea*

Shelley, *Frankenstein*

Spiegelman, Art. *Maus*

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Class meetings:

August 23: Introduction to the course

8/25: *Frankenstein*, Letter I–IV and Chaps. 1-7

8/30: *Frankenstein*, Chaps. 8-17

September 1: *Frankenstein*, Chaps. 18-end

9/6: *Great Expectations*, Chaps. 1-8

9/8: *GE*, Chaps. 9-17

9/13: *GE*, Chaps. 18-27

9/15: *GE*, Chaps. 28-35

9/20: *GE*, Chaps. 36-45

9/22: *GE*, Chaps. 46-end

9/27: *Jane Eyre*, 1-8

9/29: *JE*, Chaps. 9-17

October 4: *JE*, Chaps. 18-27

10/6: *JE*, Chaps. 28-35

10/11: *JE*, Chaps. 36-end

10/13: FIRST EXAM

10/18: *WSS*, Chaps. Part I

10/20: *WSS*, Chaps. Part I (continued) and Part II

10/25: *WSS*, Chaps. Part II (continued)
FIRST PAPER IS DUE

10/27: *WSS*, Part III

November 1st: *Frederick Douglas*, Chaps.1-5

11/3: *FD*, Chaps. 6-end

11/8: *O Pioneers!* Part I and half of Part II

11/10: *OP*, rest of Part II and Part III

11/15: *OP*, Part IV and V

11/17: *Dubliners*: “The Sisters,” “An Encounter,”

THANKSGIVING BREAK

11/29: “Araby,” “Eveline”

December 1st: *Maus* (first half)

12/6: *Maus* (second half)

12/8: SECOND PAPER IS DUE
SECOND EXAM