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ENG 1002-012-038-063: Composition and Literature

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Spring 2003 Syllabus – English 1002G
Composition and Literature

Instructor: Ms. Vicki Curts, Coleman Hall 3820, Office 581-6309
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 - 12:15, 2:00 - 3:15 and by appointment.

Classes: English 1002G 012 CH3691 9:30 -10:45
English 1002G 038 CH2120 12:30 - 1:45
English 1002G 063 CH3290 3:30 - 4:45

An Introduction to Fiction, X. J. Kennedy & Dana Gioia 8th ed.
The Bedford Introduction to Drama, Lee A. Jacobus 4th ed.
Online References, Andrew Harnack & E. Kleppinger
Writing Essays about Literature, Kelley Griffith, 6th ed.
The Blair Handbook
Webster’s Dictionary

Nature of the Course:
Students will read short stories, poetry, plays and criticism. Papers of a critical and analytical nature will be written about these works and will include research papers with documented sources.

Department Policy 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 original work’ (Random House Dictionary of the English Language) has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.”

Attendance: A student who misses class loses points. Much of the work done in class, in-class writing, class participation and short quizzes, earns points that cannot be made up. Tests, such as the mid-term, may be made up only if the student has proof of illness. If you have a problem, please see me or call to discuss it.

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

Late Papers: A paper that is late ONE day loses points. Papers OVER one day late are still required as part of the course work. The paper will be read and evaluated, but for no credit. Exceptions may be made in certain situations; see me if an emergency arises. A paper that is one day late must be turned in to CH308, initialed by the secretary, then placed in my mailbox before 4:30 when the office closes. Since I am not in my office on
Monday, Wednesday or Friday, this is the only way I have of knowing the paper was turned in by the deadline.

Grading:  
- 90 points — three short paper assignments
- 300 points — three essays (5+ pages)
- 150 points — estimate of participation, questions and quiz points
- 250 points — mid-term and final exams

Selected readings: Students are responsible for works listed as well as the biographical information about the authors. Look up all words that are new or that may be used in a way that appears nonstandard or unusual in some way.

Questions: From time to time questions will be handed out on the readings. The answers are due on the day of the discussion of the work, and are meant to help with class discussion. They may not be turned in later in the event of absence.

Quizzes: Short, usually five point, reading quizzes are given often and may not be made up. Longer tests over poetry, short stories and the plays may be made up if you have an excused absence. Please see me if you have a problem.

Reading Assignments: This is a general guide and we may get ahead or behind of the dates given. Additional readings may be announced in class from time to time and you will be responsible for handouts as well.

POETRY

January 13  Introduction to the class. In-class writing.

January 15  *Writing Essays about Literature*, “Interpreting Poetry” p. 87-115  
Poetry text: Read “Dover Beach” and answer the questions 1-5 and 1-2 p.95-96 on “Dulce et Decorum Est” (p.102) and “Dover Bitch” (p.609.)  
Read also “The Train” on p.188.

January 20  Poetry text:  
Read 9-34.  
Choose from one these poems and write an imitation:  
“Mountain Graveyard” p.24, or “Nose” p.81 or “Behind Grandma’s House” p.167.  
Read the sample response on 277 and write a response to “Nighttime Fires.” At least a page. Use examples from the poem to reveal its theme and tone. Who is the speaker?  
Terms to know: Theme, tone, speaker, doggerel, anagram, lyric, narrative/epic.

January 22  Poetry:  
Read 46-62. “Bored” on 72 and answer questions 1-3. Compare the attitude of the speakers to the fathers in “Bored” and “Those Winter Sundays” p. 10. Explain how these are both reflections on what has been learned. A page typed.
Read 89-94. Answer the questions after “Root Cellar” and “Green Chile” on 96-97.  

Explication due on “Shoplifting” p. 649 or “Mid-Term Break” p.241. (30 points). Read the sample explication on 538 before you write yours.

January 29  Poetry. Chap. 5 Figures of speech.  
Read 114-123.  
Terms to know: simile, metaphor, synecdoche, metonymy, apostrophe, personification, overstatement/hyperbole, understatement, paradox, oxymoron.

Feb. 3  Poetry. Chap. 6 Symbol, allegory and irony.  
Read 143-148. Do Connections question 1 on 148.  
“Home Burial” p. 343 and readings on 367 and 368.  
“Out, Out—“p.350, “Fire and Ice” p.353

February 5  Hughes: “Mother to Son” 378, “The Weary Blues” 380, poems from 387 to 395.  
Poetry paper is due—5 pages (100 points). Paper should be a comparison of two poems with a similar theme or an explication of a poem. Poems outside the text may not be used.

February 10  Test over poetry.

FICTION

February 12  Writing Essays “Interpreting Fiction” p.33-60.  
Fiction and Point of View: Grim’s “Godfather Death” 3-13.  
“Harrison Bergeron” p. 233-240. Write a response reflecting your understanding of the theme and include ways we “equalize” citizens today. Thinking satirically, where might this lead us?

February 17  Setting: “The Storm” by Kate Chopin p. 112  
“Greasy Lake” by T. Coraghessan Boyle p. 128  
1. Analyze how the dirty, remote lake brings out the behavior that the characters would not demonstrate elsewhere.  
2. Do Exercise 1 on page 153 under “Further Suggestions.”

February 19  Character: “A Family Supper” by Kazuo Ishiguro p.631  
1. Based on what we know of the father, what will be the outcome of the dinner?
"The Things They Carried" by Tim O’Brien p.706.
1. Answer the questions from the handout.
2. Check out O’Brien’s Web Site

February 24  “Cathedral” by Raymond Carver p. 448 & Carver 485-492.
1. Write a comparison of the narrative point of view, tone and style in “Cathedral”
and “What We Talk About When We Talk About Love” on 475.
2. Answer the questions on p. 484 for class discussion.

February 26  Theme and symbol: “The Lottery by Shirley Jackson p. 254. Answer
question 6 on 261.
“The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas” by Ursela LeGuin p. 267
Answer the questions on 272.

March 2  Short story paper topic and summary is due and must be approved.
Sample essays on 765 – 778.
Approaches to literature: Formalist p. 783, biographical p.786, historical
and reader-response p. 809. Your paper must reflect one of these styles.

Suggested stories for a paper on character, theme or setting:
“The Yellow Wallpaper” “A Rose for Emily” “Sonny’s Blues” “First Confession”
“Battle Royal” “The Five-Forty-Eight” “A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain”
“The Chrysanthemums” “Saboteur” “Jungle Video” “The Prophecy” “To Build a Fire”

March 9  Conferences.
March 11  Conferences.

March 15-19  SPRING BREAK

Readings on O’Connor p. 432 – 437.

March 25  Paper workshop. Resources should include story from the text, any
criticism in the text, a journal article, and 2 articles of criticism about the
author’s work.

March 30  Short story paper due. (100 point paper). Turn in both hard copy and disc.

DRAMA  Glossary of dramatic terms  p.1795+

April 1  Test over the short stories.
April 6  Greek drama p.29-38.
Writing Essays about Literature “Interpreting Drama” p. 61-84

April 8  Realism through Absurdist drama p.888-898
Betrayal by Harold Pinter p. 1378-1405.
April 13  

*Trifles* by Susan glaspell p. 954-961.

April 15  

'night, Mother by Marsha Norman p.1488-1509

April 20  

'night, Mother continued. Film.

Read one article of criticism about the play. See pages 1818-1819 for a bibliography.

April 22  

"MASTER HAROLD” ... and the boys p.1463-1487

April 27  

"MASTER…” continued.

Read one article of criticism about the play. See p.1812.

April 29  

*Art* by Yasmina Reza p. 1697-1720.

Read a criticism of the play (p.1821) and a recent review.

**Drama on character, theme or setting is due.**

May 3 - 7  

**FINALS WEEK**

9:30  class final on Monday  May 3rd at 10:15-12:15.

12:30 class final on Wednesday  May 5th at 8:00-10:00.

3:30 class final on Thursday  May 6th at 2:45-4:45.