Spring 1-15-2014

ENG 2011G-001: Literature, the Self, & the World
~ Fiction

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ENGLISH 2011G
Literature, the Self, & the World ~ Fiction
from novel to film: adaptations

Course Description

English 2011G is a general education course, studying significant works of literature (fiction) from diverse cultures and of the ways in which they depict meaning, identity, and action in the world.

To give that broad outline a more specific focus, we will be considering this semester the concept of adaptation—or what happens when a novel is adapted for film? Among the thematic and theoretical questions we will be exploring include such questions as: Can a film be "faithful" to a novel? To what extent does a film interpret a novel? How does the narrative (and fiction) of film differ from the narrative of a novel?

The goal here is not only to increase your analytical and reading skills—developing your ability to talk with precision and sophistication about books and movies—but is also to enjoy some beautiful and challenging works of fiction.

Assignments & Grading

You will write two formal short papers and then complete a larger final project that will include an oral presentation component. (I realize most students hate oral presentations; however, this assignment has always proven enjoyable and informative for the whole class.)

You will also be required to complete frequent informal response papers (1-2 pages). These are typically due at the beginning of the assigned class, and you should be prepared to read portions of your paper to the class. Unless you have made arrangements with me ahead of time, I don't allow response papers to come in late.

You also need to be an active participant in class discussions, which means you're always present, prepared, and eager to ask questions or engage with other students. This is not a lecture course. Class discussion is the course; hence it's worth 20% of your final grade.

Tues, Thurs 8 - 9:15
Coleman Hall 3159

Texts & Materials
Dashiell Hammett, The Maltese Falcon (1930)
Kazuo Ishiguro, Never Let Me Go (2005)
Bram Stoker, Dracula (1897)
Tim O'Brien, The Things They Carried (1989)

Instructor: Prof. R. Beebe
rbeebe@eiu.edu
Office: Coleman 3841
Office Hours: Mon 9 - 10:30
T/R 9:30 - 10:30
1:00 - 2:30

Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Papers @ 15%</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response Papers, Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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D2L (Desire to Learn)

This course uses D2L, often quite extensively.

Learn how to use it—especially how to upload assignments to a dropbox.

Check it often. Sign up for automatic notification so you'll know when something new is posted.
Participation & Attendance (continued)
I usually allow 2-3 personal days (unexcused absences). Thereafter, you will lose 5% from your final grade for each unexcused absence. Six or more unexcused absences will automatically result in a grade of “No Credit” (NC).

Conferences
If you are having any problems with a paper, I encourage you to come by and see me during my office hours or make an appointment for a more convenient time. I will be more than happy to talk any number of times about a single paper or particular writing problem.

Classroom Etiquette
You’re welcome to bring your notebook computer to class. However, I ask that you observe common rules of etiquette and decorum when you use it. In brief, you may use it to take notes or complete an in-class writing activity. You may not use it for anything not directly related to class work.

Please turn off (or mute) cell phones. Out of respect for the class and the integrity of class activities, please refrain from using your phone during class.

Electronic Writing Portfolio
This course is a writing-intensive course and, as such, your papers satisfy the requirements for the Electronic Writing Portfolio. EWP guidelines insist that you complete your submission prior to the last day of class. Talk to me if you have any questions about this or consult the EWP website.

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.

Course Schedule & Due Dates
I will hand out the day-to-day course schedule in Week 2. However, the approximate due dates of the formal papers are listed in the right column.

For Thursday, January 16, please read—and be ready to discuss—the following:

- Hilary Mantel, “The Heart Fails Without Warning”
- Dani Shapiro: “Dear Disillusioned Reader Who Contacted Me on Facebook”

Plagiarism
Since the university is a place of ideas, discussion, and reflection, it views plagiarism—the taking of others’ ideas as one’s own—very harshly. The penalty for plagiarizing is swift and severe. You will receive an immediate F for the course and notice will be given to the Office of Student Standards.

If you have any questions about plagiarism—however small—please talk to me before you turn in your work.

Approximate Due Dates
Paper 1 Feb 6
Paper 2 Mar 6
Final Project Apr 29