Spring 1-15-2001

ENG 3903-001: Gender and Genre: Prose Forms

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Office Hours:
MWF 8:30-9:00 & 10-11 & by appointment

Spring 2001

English 3903--Gender and Genre: Prose Forms

Texts
• Cahill, Writing Women’s Lives
• McCarthy, Memories of a Catholic Girlhood
• Allison, Two or Three Things I Know for Sure
• Cisneros, The House On Mango Street
• Wells, Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood
• Smiley, A Thousand Acres
• Hamilton, The Book of Ruth
• Kingston, The Woman Warrior
• Naylor, Mama Day

Requirements
• Active reading and class participation. Please have all readings completed by assigned days and be prepared with questions and discussion topics. Because the success of this class depends so completely on our collective participation, I have the following attendance policy: More than three unexcused absences will lower the class participation grade to an F. As outlined in the student catalogue, I will consider an absence excused only for "reasons of illness, emergency, or university activity." Please provide me with a memo when excused absences occur. Class participation =10% of the final grade.
• Short writes. In order to begin discussion, there will be brief, informal short writes at the start of some class periods. I may occasionally ask for a brief short write outside of class as well. Short writes=10%.
• A reading reaction notebook. Think of this as a place to consider informally the readings, the class discussions, or other directly relevant experiences. It's a site of discovery, meant primarily to record your developing thoughts and reactions to our topic. It also may provide you with possible essay topics. Because it's informal, I am not concerned with editing or formal structure. I would, however, ask that you focus on one topic per entry, not simply freewrite or brainstorm, and that you be as specific/concrete as possible in making references to the readings. Please do two entries per week, for a total of 28 entries. Each entry should be at least 300 words. You may use a spiral notebook or do your entries on the computer and collect them in a pocket folder. I will collect the journals, unannounced, every so often, so please bring them to class each period. Journal=20% of the final grade.
• Midterm and Final Examinations. These exams will be essay format. Midterm=15% and the Final (cumulative)=20%
• Formal project/essay=25%.
Disability Policy
• 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.

Week 1
M 1/8—Introductions
W 1/10—In-class exercise
F 1/12—Calisher, L'Engle, Glancy in Cahill

Week 2
M 1/15—No Classes
W 1/17—Olsen and Sarton in Cahill
F 1/29—Begin McCarthy

Week 3
M 1/22—McCarthy
W 1/24—McCarthy
F 1/26—McCarthy, plus Hampl, Glasgow, and Hooks in Cahill

Week 4
M 1/29—Begin Allison
W 1/31—Allison
F 2/2—Allison, plus Mairs and Lorde in Cahill