

English 201: Introduction to Literature

Dr. Mary Baumhover

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Office Hours

Monday 12-12:30

Tuesday 12-12:30

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Prerequisites: Successful (passing with a C or better) completion of Composition and Rhetoric 101 and 102

Required Text:

X. J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia. *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama*. 9th ed. New York: Longman, 2005.

On June 7, bring the titles and page numbers of two short stories and two poems you would like to see included in this semester's reading list.

Course Objectives:

This course explores poetry, short stories, and drama from around the world.

While there will be occasional lectures, the class generally will function through discussion.

Expected outcomes:

Students will read a wide variety of literature, and demonstrate understanding, appreciation, and critical thinking in daily essay questions, a formal essay, a midterm, and a final.

Assignments:

30 % Daily writing

15% Midterm

30% Formal Essay

15% Final

10% Participation

Daily Writing:

At the beginning of each class, I will ask a question about the reading assigned for that day; you will be given five to ten minutes to write a short essay in response. If you are late, you miss your chance to write that day's essay. If you have an excused absence, you may make up the essay, but it is your responsibility to make arrangements with me.

Formal Essay: The essay should be approximately four to seven pages long (typed, double-spaced, with standard margins). It should focus on one or more works from our text. Support your claims with quotations from the text, and include page numbers. If page numbers are missing, the assignment is incomplete. You may include research, but the essays must show original insight. If you use research, follow the MLA format, and cite all references. I will be happy to work with you on a rough draft of your essay; you can see me during office hours, or make an appointment with me.

Plagiarism will result in failure of the class. Late essays will drop one grade for each day they are overdue. Talk with me if you have a legitimate excuse or are having problems.

Midterm and Final: Before each exam, you will have an opportunity to propose essay questions. I will include some student questions on the tests, provided they offer sufficient challenge without being unfairly difficult.

Class Participation: Since this is primarily a discussion class, you must contribute. At the end of the semester, I will ask you to evaluate your own contribution to class discussion (although I reserve the right to determine the final grade). Talking with the person next to you does not contribute.

Attendance: Four unexcused absences will flunk you. Please let me know about excused absences.

Tentative Reading List

June 2: Introduction; “Buffalo Bill’s,” 938; “The Story of an Hour,” 553

3: “My Papa’s Waltz,” 718; “Concrete Cat,” 948; “Reincarnation,” 1073; “Young Goodman Brown,” 584; “Happy Endings,” 497

4: “The Unknown Citizen,” 733; “As I walked Out One Evening,” 1144; “Aunt Jennifer’s Tigers,”

707; “The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World,” 566; “The Things They Carried,”

667

7: “you fit into me,” 828; “Some Keep the Sabbath Going to Church,” 1101; “To His Coy Mistress,”

1208; “Revelation,” 443; “Cathedral,” 109

8: “Annabel Lee,” 1088; “Quinceanera,” 1018; “The Road Not Taken,” 962; “The Lottery,” 262; “The

Lottery,” 262; “The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas,” 272

9: “Eight O’Clock,” 868; “Daddy,” 1222; “My Last Duchess,” 712; “Shiloh,” 643; “A Rose for Emily,”

29