

LIT 2331 Masterpieces of World Literature Sec 501

Course Syllabus

Spring 2014

Section 501

T 7:00 – 9:45 PM

Class location: CB3 1.310

Outside of class and office hours, using your UTD email is the best way to contact me. Expect a reply within 48 hours. If more time has passed, something has gone wrong and you should resend your email.

Mark Jenkins

Email: mark.jenkins@utdallas.edu

Office Number: JO 4.134

Office Hours: Tuesday 6:00- 6:50 pm &
By appointment

NOTE: All matters associated with this course are subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Any and all changes will be communicated to students in writing.

Course Description

Literature transcends geographical, political, and language boundaries. This course will consider representative writers and texts from around the world from the last hundred and fifty years to explore universal themes and issues, such as love, war, death, and humor. This course will also examine the way writers speak to one another across time and space as they use poetry and short stories to make sense of their own experiences. We will consider what elements a writer utilizes to make a poem or short story work, such as sound, imagery, voice, occasion, plot, character, setting, and use these tools for careful, close readings, incorporating context and criticism where appropriate.

Student Learning Objectives

- Students will learn literary terms and concepts and apply them to the short story and poetry texts.
 - Students will be able to closely read and discuss texts in a careful, thoughtful manner.
 - Students will be able to gather, incorporate, and interpret critical source material into their writing.
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Required Texts

Bradbury, Ray. *The Illustrated Man*. ISBN: 0062079972

Halpern, Daniel. *The Art of the Story: An International Anthology*. ISBN: 0140296387

Kaminsky, Ilya and Susan Harris, eds. *The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry* ISBN 0061583243

Smith, Erin Elizabeth. *The Naming of Strays*. ISBN: 0982630980

Vendler, Helen. *Poems, Poets, Poetry* 3rd Edition Only ISBN 0312463197

Spring 2014 Assignments and Academic Calendar

Reading Policy & Expectations: Come to class prepared to discuss the readings for that day. As our readings are short, it would be to your benefit to read each piece multiple times. **You are required to read everything that is assigned, even if you have read it before.**

(All Readings must be read before class on day listed)

Tues, Jan 14	Introduction to the Course Course syllabus and class expectations
Tues, Jan 21	Elements of The Short Story. In Halpern, read Reinaldo Arenas "The Glass Tower" 33-41, Nicola Barker "G-String" 69-72, Richard Bausch "Aren't You Happy for Me?" 85-95,
Tues, Jan 28	Halpern: Raymond Carver "Are These Actual Miles?" 146-152, Nathan Englander "The Twenty-seventh Man" 248-260, Victor Erofejev "The Parakeet" 261-269, Barry Hannah "Midnight and I'm Not Famous Yet," 306-315, Angela Carter "The Courtship of Mr. Lyon" 137-145
Tues, Feb 4	Halpern: Junot Díaz "Ysrael" 211-219, Deborah Eisenberg "The Girl Who Left Her Sock on the Floor" 233-247, Nuruddin Farah "My Father, The Englishman, and I" 276-278, Graham Swift "Learning to Swim" 534-545, Bharti Mukherjee "The Management of Grief" 435-447, Ingo Schulze "The Ring" 527-533
Tues, Feb 14	Halpern: Haruki Murakami "The Elephant Vanishes" 453-465, Francine Prose "Talking Dog" 502-512, Patrick Chamoiseau "The Old Man Slave and the Mastiff" 152-161, Julian Barnes "Evermore" 73-84, Murathan Mungan "Muradhad and Selvihan or The Tale of the Crystal Kiosk" 448-452
Tues, Feb 21	Ray Bradbury Read "Prologue" and "The Veldt" 1-25; "The Man," "The Long Rain" "The Rocket Man," 62-111; "The Fox and the Forest" 149-168
Tues, Feb 28	Introduction to Poetry. In Vendler, read Chapter 1 and 2 (but not "Reading Other Poems") 3-15, 27-65
Tues, March 4	Vendler: Chapter 3, 4, 5 (but not "Reading Other Poems") 77-99, 111-138, 153-167
Tues, March 11	Spring Break No Class
Tues, March 18	Vendler: Chapters 6, 7, 8 (but not "Reading Other Poems") 179-196, 213-227, 239-255
Tues, March 25	Ecco International Poetry. Read Introduction, Else Lasker-Schüler "In the Evening" 8, Paul Valéry "The Angel Handed Me a Book" 8-9, Vladimir Mayakovsky from "The Cloud in Trousers: A Tetraptych" 72-73, Eugenio Montale "Lemon Trees" 80-82, Nâzim Hikmet "On Living" 126-128, Carlos Drummond de Andrade "Seven-Sided Poem" 129-130, Pablo Neruda "Walking Around" "Ode to My Socks" 146-50, Anna Swir "The First Madrigal" 171

Tues, April 6	Ecco: Edmond Jabès "Dedication" 197, Orhan Veli Kanik "Poem With a Tail" 203, Octavio Paz "Flame, Speech" 207-208, João Cabral de Melo Neto "The Emptiness of Man" 233-234, Tadeusz Różewicz "Who is a Poet" "A Sketch for a Modern Love Poem" 234-236, Wislawa Szymborska "Letters of the Dead" "The Joy of Writing" 251-253 "The Terrorist, He Watches" 257-258, Zbigniew Herbert "Report From Paradise" 270, Jaime Sabines "Pieces of Shadow" 300
Tues, April 13	Ángel González "Whatever You Want" 292- 293, Mahmoud Darwish "And We Love Life" 366-367, Adam Zagajewski "To go to Lvov," "Late Beethoven" 378-382, "Music Heard With You" 384-385, Ernest Farrés "Summer Evening, 1947" 424-425, Polina Barskova "Manuscript Found by Natasha Rostova During the Fire" 428-429
Tues, April 20	Selections from Erin Elizabeth Smith <i>The Naming of Strays</i> "Sweet" 1, "Aromatics" 2, "Overpass" 24, "How to Fall in Love" 25, "The Way the Cold Attaches" 29, "Charity" 32, "The Myth of Independence" 45-46, "Love in Mississippi" 47, "The Naming of Strays" 63, "Spring Again in Hattiesburg" 75
Tues, April 27	Essay 2 Creative Project & Presentations

Grading

Essay #1: Close Reading Paper	25%
Essay #2: Creative Project	20%
Creative Project Presentation	10%
Reading Journal	20%
Discussion Leading	5%
Weekly In Class Short Essays	10%
Participation	10%
Total	100%

(I will make use of the +/- system in grading as stipulated by *The University of Texas at Dallas Undergraduate Catalogue, 2010-2012.*)

General Essay Format Guidelines

Please follow this format for your essay rough drafts and final copies:

- Final drafts should follow the MLA format. This includes citing all outside sources correctly (including anything from out text books) both in text and on a works cited page. An example of a paper in MLA format can be found on Purdue University's Owl website: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/>
- Essays must be typed, double-spaced, on one side of the paper, and with standard margins on the right and left sides, top, and bottom of the page.

- The font used for your final draft should be **12-point Times** or a similarly proportioned and sized font.
- Pages must be numbered with your last name and page number in the upper right-hand corner in the document header.
- Your essays must have a title, but not a separate title page.

Note: Essays that fail to meet MLA format requirements are subject to a letter grade reduction. We will review MLA formatting well in advance of the first essay's due date and you will have many different resources for MLA citation.

Assignments

Class Discussion

For each class, you should bring a list of questions or comments about the assigned readings and be prepared to discuss these questions and comments with your classmates. Each week, I will select one or two class members at random to serve as discussion leaders for that class period. I am looking for quality in your remarks, not necessarily quantity, thoughtfulness, and a familiarity with the text in your discussion.

Weekly Reading Journal

Each week, you will post on eLearning a response to a short story or poem from the week's readings. Your responses should focus on a particular element, such as a character, point of view, plot, imagery, title, use of irony, opening or closing line. It could also instead focus on an important passage from the text.

Avoid any strictly emotional responses (I didn't like X)

Avoid summarizing plot or describing text.

Avoid generalizing

Avoid superficial observations

Avoid repeating points made in class lectures or discussions.

Do focus on a powerful, meaningful part of the text or a particular element.

Do offer a close, careful reading.

Do include brief quotes from readings where appropriate

Use correct MLA format for in-text (parenthetical) citations.

Your entries should offer a thoughtful response to course readings and/or class discussions.

I will be looking for improvement over time in your ability and willingness to respond to and analyze texts in controlled, focused entries. Each entry will be graded "pass" or "rewrite."

Length: at least 250 words

Due each class week by Monday at 11:59 PM starting January 20th.

Essay 1: Close Reading Paper

For this assignment, choose a short story you haven't written about before from our course readings to write a careful analysis. Other texts may be allowed with the instructor's approval. Your essay will focus on some particular parts of the story, whether the protagonist, theme, plot, or other techniques, to argue for your particular analysis starting in the thesis. You will select and refine a topic in your proposal, choosing an argument that is appropriate in scope and about which reasonable people could disagree. You will make an argument based on your own ideas, and each of your assertions will be supported by specific lines and examples from the text. You will propose a paper topic, revise your proposal, produce a rough draft, engage in peer review, make a revision plan for your final paper, and then submit a final draft.

*Sources: As this is a close reading, sources should not be used besides direct quotes from the text itself.

Requirements: 4-page minimum, double-spaced. Follow paper guidelines and use MLA style for all quotes. We will have a discussion about the various parts as the first due date approaches.

Proposal Due February 14th in class and on eLearning
Zero draft outline Due February 21st in class and on eLearning
Rough Draft Due February 28th in class and on eLearning
Final Draft Due March 4th on eLearning only by 11:59 pm.

Essay 2 Creative Project and Presentation

Your second writing assignment will be to create an original work inspired by a concept or something we've read this semester. This could include (but is not limited to) your own original creative writing, a painting, board game, tumblr account. It should reflect a deep level of engagement and understanding of your chosen texts.

In addition to your project itself, a 5-6 page paper should consider how your project relates to a specific text or texts from the course. Your project will also serve as the basis for a short 5 – 10 minute presentation given on the last day of class. In addition to documenting and turning in different parts of your project, please feel free to contact me as you work on your project. Do not wait until the last minute to get help.

Proposal Due March 25th in class and on eLearning
Zero draft Due April 6th in class and on eLearning
Rough Draft Due April 13th in class and on eLearning
Final Draft Due Tuesday April 27th on eLearning by 11:59 pm.
Presentation in-class Tuesday April 27th

In Class Essay Quizzes

Starting with the second week of class, class will start with a 5-10 minute quiz or writing response. These will cover the previous week's lecture and readings. These may not be made up due to absence or lateness, regardless of reason, but I will drop the two lowest grades at the end of the semester.

Course Policies

Attendance

Because each class period consists of a mixture of class discussion, group work and freewriting, your thoughtful, attentive, and active participation is essential (and will form a portion of your grade). If you sleep, engage in non-class-related activities, or interfere with your classmates' ability to learn you will be counted absent for that day. Be on time - class starts promptly.

Leaving early will count as an absence.

Each student is allowed two (2) unexcused absences, no questions asked. Save them for when you really need them. Your final grade will suffer a 5% reduction for *each* unexcused absence you accumulate over two (e.g., 6 unexcused absences = 12% total reduction). **You are responsible for your attendance. You must make sure you sign the roll sheet and/or notify me if you arrive late or after I have taken roll.**

Punctuality

Persistent tardiness to class is disrespectful to both your instructor and your peers. Continually arriving late to class will affect your participation grade in the course. Three tardies will result in one unexcused absence for the course; I will consider you absent if you arrive more than 20 minutes late to class.

Class Participation

Your success in this course is a function of your level of engagement. I am interested in the quality of your remarks rather than the quantity. Please use your analysis of the readings, your blog posts, and prior research and/or study when responding orally in class, and please be prepared to back up any points you make.

Participation in this course does not include doing work unrelated to this course during class, sleeping in class, or using the computers or other personal electronic devices for personal messaging, research, or entertainment.

Late Work

All drafts, including final, must be submitted when and as required in order to successfully complete this course. Late assignments will suffer a final grade deduction of 10% for each day

late. After a week (seven days) such assignments will receive a zero. If you are having trouble completing a specific assignment please get in touch with me as soon as possible before the due date and consider making use of the school's writing center. Technological issues (computer, internet, software, or printer) are not an acceptable excuse for not submitting work by due dates. There are several computer labs on campus for your use.

Uploading a final draft to Turnitin (via eLearning) is a required part of rough and final drafts for this course. Failure to do so by the due date will result in losing points, 5% of the final grade for each day late.

Personal Communication Devices

Be respectful. Use of such devices during class time is not only distracting to yourself, but to your classmates, and instructor. Therefore, do not use such devices during class. You should be able to refrain from talking or texting on your phone during class. If I repeatedly ask you to put away such devices, it will affect your class participation grade, and you may be asked to leave for that day and marked absent.

Academic Integrity

Students in LIT 2331 are expected to maintain a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. To benefit from this course in any meaningful way, it is critically important you produce original written work and document all sources accurately using MLA format

Please consult the following web sites addressing academic integrity as well as what constitutes cheating at UTD:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-AcademicIntegrity.html>

<http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-Basicexamples.html>

Ask your instructor should you become concerned that you are possibly committing an act of scholastic dishonesty. UTD will hold you accountable regardless of whether or not you intended to plagiarize your paper.

LIT 2331 students suspected of plagiarism or any other act of scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings. Should the Judicial Affairs Officer find a student responsible, then he or she will typically receive a "0" on the assignment in question.

University Policies

Please review the university policies at <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

I have read the policies for LIT 2331.501 and understood them. I agree to comply with the policies for the Spring 2014 semester. I realize that failure to comply with these policies will result in a grade reduction for the course.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (print): _____

UTD e-mail address: _____