

**Chaminade University  
EN 201, Types of Literature  
Winter Evening Semester, 2009**

**Syllabus**

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***Course website: <http://www.edwebs.com/cham/201/09WinEve/index.lasso>***

**Course Description**

English 201, Types of Literature, provides students with an introduction to literature through the study of poetry, fiction and drama. It also serves as foundation course for the English major and minor programs. The course centers on examining major literary works, including classical Greek drama, Shakespeare, and a range of classical, modern and contemporary poetry and fiction. As is the case with all English courses, this one places a strong emphasis on the continuing development of writing skills, providing students with opportunities to experiment with various types of writing about literature -- critically, personally and creatively.

In response to reading assigned texts and viewing films, students engage in online discussions, prepare essays and take motivational quizzes. The course features a discussion forum that enables an online learning community focused on course readings and other literary topics. Writings in the discussion forum form the basis for three essays that help students focus and articulate their experiences as readers. By the end of the semester, students should have a clearer and deeper sense of what they personally value in literature as well as what has been valuable to human culture.

**Objectives**

By the end of the term, students who have been actively and consistently engaged in the course readings, quizzes, discussions and other assignments, who have consistently developed and refined their insights via regular journal writing, and who have completed the required research project, should be able to:

- \* Develop an understanding of and appreciation for the major types, or genre, of literature.
- \* Identify and understand key terminology used in the study of literature.
- \* Make qualitative distinctions among the wide variety of literary research sources available via the internet and libraries.
- \* Articulate ideas about the process of interpreting literature.
- \* Understand and articulate what is of personal, ethical or religious value in the study of literature.

**Texts**

***Online Texts***

All of the required texts for this course are provided online (free) via this website. Students may read texts online, thus saving the costs of printing; they may print out copies; or they may read conventional printed texts, which are widely available in libraries and bookstores.

The major texts for this course are listed below.

- \* Emily Dickinson, Selected Poems
- \* Robert Frost, Selected Poems
- \* Sylvia Plath, Selected Poems

- \* T.S. Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"
- \* Ezra Pound, Selected Poems
- \* William Butler Yeats, Selected Poems
- \* Conrad, The Secret Sharer
- \* Chopin, The Awakening
- \* Edgar Allen Poe, Selected Stories
- \* Brete Harte, "Outcasts of Poker Flat"
- \* Sarah Orne Jewett, "The White Heron,"
- \* Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wall Paper"
- \* James Joyce, "Araby"
- \* William Shakespeare, Hamlet
- \* William Shakespeare, The Sonnets
- \* George Bernard Shaw, Pygmalion
- \* Sophocles, Oedipus Rex
- \* Academy of American Poets Website

### ***Films***

These are widely available as DVDs via libraries and rental outlets. However, it is highly recommend that students register for a subscription to Netflix in support of their work in this course. Alternatively, they may purchase DVDs directly from Amazon.com or elsewhere. Also, the full texts of Pygmalion, Oedipus Rex and Hamlet are also available via the course web site; students who prefer to not view the films, may elect to read the texts of the plays.

- \* *Pygmalion* (90-minutes, screenplay by George Bernard Shaw)
- \* *Oedipus Rex* (90-minutes, directed by Sir Tyrone Guthrie)
- \* *Hamlet* (158-minutes, directed by Kenneth Branagh)
- \* *Holo Mai Pele*

### **Requirements**

Participation in online discussions (approximately 20%)  
 Reading journal (approximately 10%)  
 Essay Assignments (approximately 20%)  
 Quizzes (approximately 10%)  
 Final exam (approximately 40%)

### ***Participation in online discussions***

Students are required to post responses to each discussion question or prompt; the first posting should be a direct response to the discussion question itself; follow-up postings should consist of reactions to other students' postings. Students should keep in mind that the best responses often culminate in the posting of further topical questions.

### ***Reading journal***

Students will keep a reading journal, either in conventional pen and ink notebooks or on their computers. Journals should contain free-form responses the required readings.

The requirement for the journal is a minimum of 30 pages for the term. Journals will be checked at the final exam.

### ***Essays***

Two or more short essays totalling approximately 2400 words will be due during the term. Essays for this course will review and expand on the reading, reflection and discussion directly associated with the course.

Background research using EBSCO, the library and other sources is also required. An important element in essays for this course is quotation from required readings

In general, essays will be evaluated with regard to: 1. organization, 2. clarity, 3. correctness, 4. conciseness, and 5. creativity.

Essays send as MSWord (or RTF) email attachments to your instructor.

### ***Quizzes***

Online quizzes are due throughout the term. They are intended to pace the student through the course's required readings and to provide a useful index of the student's comprehension of the course content.

Quizzes are administered via eCollege. Submission of quizzes is required; they will be automatically graded and should be seen as preparation for the objective section of the final exam, as described below.

Miscellaneous assignments may from time to time be added to the course study guide.

### ***Final Exam***

The final exam consists to two sections. The first section is made up of 25 or more short answer or multiple-choice questions similar to those on the quizzes. The second section consists of one or more essay questions which will be distributed during the week prior to the exam. Both sections of the exam are "closed book."

### **Self-assessment and Final Grade**

The final grade for the course will be determined in part by the student's self-assessment and grade estimate, which will be submitted after taking the final exam.

### **Academic Honesty and Plagiarism**

All material submitted in fulfillment of course requirements must be written by the registered student during the term.

Work written for other courses is unacceptable in this one. Limited exceptions may be considered if approved by the instructor early in the term.

While students are strongly encouraged to consult sources outside the required reading of the course, they are also responsible for clearly stating the nature of their sources. Statements of "common knowledge" are generally exempt from this scholarly requirement.

Plagiarism is defined as the presentation of someone else's ideas as your own. Plagiarism in this course will result in a grade of "0" for the assignment and possible failure for the course.

If the instructor suspects plagiarism, the burden of proof of the originality of the writing lies with the student. Evidence of originality would include copies of early drafts of the writing, research and interview notes, as well as the ability to discuss the themes of the writing with the instructor. Students should consider their instructor's vigilance in such matters a normal part of the academic process and should be prepared to present evidence of originality if requested.

Students are strongly advised to save files of early drafts of essays, along with outlines, research notes and other supporting documentation, as the instructor may at any time require that they be presented.

## ***Course Overview***

### **Tutorial 1 -- Types of Literature, Types of Readers**

Writing Assessment Pre-Test (WA\_PreTest) in the eCollege Week 1 module. This pre-test functions to provide general information about your writing skills .

Glossary of Literary Terms Pre-Test

Readings: "Opening up the Canon: I Have a Dream"; selections from Robert Frost; selected haiku

Online discussions

Quiz 1

### **Tutorial 2 -- Authority / Authenticity**

Readings: selected poems of Langston Hughes, Gwendolyn Brooks, Maya Angelou "On the Pulse of the Morning," Emily Dickinson, Sylvia Plath; "How Poems Mean"; "Shakespeare and the Sonnets"

Online discussions

Quiz 2

### **Tutorial 3 -- Poetry and Metaphor (toc)**

Readings: selections poems of W. B. Yeats, William Carlos Williams, T.S. Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"; "Love is a Rose. Or, What is Metaphor?"; "Metaphors for Argument"; Edward Hirsh, "How to Read These Poems"

Essay 1

Online discussions

Quiz 3

### **Tutorial 4 -- The Novel -- Kate Chopin**

Reading: Chopin, *The Awakening*

Online discussions

Quiz 4

### **Tutorial 5 -- The Short Story**

Readings: "The Fusion of Reality and Illusion"; Brete Harte, "Outcast of Poker Flat"; Sarah Orne Jewett, "The White Heron"; Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wall Paper"; James Joyce, "Araby"

Online discussions

Quiz 5

### **Tutorial 6 -- Poe**

Readings: Edgar Allen Poe, "The Black Cat," "The Cask of Amontillado," "The Purloined Letter," "The Single Effect"

Online discussions

Mid-term Journal Report

Mid-term Self-Assessment

Essay 2

Quiz 6

### **Tutorial 7 -- George Bernard Shaw's Pygmalion**

Film: Pygmalion (90-minutes, screenplay by George Bernard Shaw)

Readings: Shaw, *Pygmalion*

Online Discussions

Quiz 7

## **Unit 8 -- Tragedy in the Classical Sense**

Film: Oedipus Rex (90-minutes, directed by Sir Tyrone Guthrie)

Readings: "Tragedy 1"; Sophocles, "Oedipus Rex"; "The Destiny of Oedipus"

Online discussions

Quiz 8

## **Tutorial 9 -- Drama in Elizabethan England (top)**

Film: Hamlet (158-minutes, directed by Kenneth Branagh)

Readings: "More on Tragedy . . . and a Bit about Comedy"; Shakespeare, The Tragedy of Hamlet \*

Online discussions

Quiz 9

## **Tutorial 10 -- Literature of Hawai'i (optional), Final Essay, Review, Final Exam, (top)**

Film: *Holo Mai Pele* (60-minutess) (optional/extra credit)

Readings: "Literature of Hawai'i"

Online discussions

Quiz 10 (optional/extra credit)

Review

Essay 3

Final Exam