

FE '02

Chaminade University of Honolulu
Fall 2002
English 201³⁰ – Types of Literature (Proposed) Syllabus

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Office hours: by appointment

Class Dates: October 8th – December 17th

Meeting Times: Tuesday & Thursdays 7:50 – 9:50 P.M.

Required Texts: Michael Meyer's *THINKING AND WRITING ABOUT LITERATURE*, Second Edition, plus several handouts

Course Description/Goals: This course will introduce various analytical approaches to the study of literature, —analytical approaches whose grasp students will demonstrate by means of essays that employ elements from specific schools of thought. What is meant by a Formalist, Psychoanalytical, Marxist, Feminist, Historical, or Reader-Response *reading* of a novel, poem, play, film, or any other artistic work? Students should be able not to only understand what particular elements make up each of the schools of thought mentioned, but also to apply different schools of thought to their own readings. The goal is to grasp the fundamentals of the most widely applied literary approaches to literature and to be able to produce original papers that can advance or at least participate in this ongoing discourse.

The type of writing necessary to do well in this class is research-oriented analytical writing that is formal, clear, and logical, and which adheres to MLA writing conventions. Proficiency in critical thinking skills, as well as mastery of standard diction, syntax, and grammar, will be expected from each student's written work.

Course Requirements:

English 100, 101 and/or 102 must be fulfilled prior to taking this class.

All required texts and materials must be brought to class except when otherwise noted.

All assigned reading and other class work must be completed by or before stated deadlines.

Active participation in all in-class discussions and individual and group exercises is mandatory.

Lastly, and this is particularly important since this is an accelerated course, **each student will be required to attend and be punctual to each class**. No exceptions beyond those that can be documented will be accepted; and, furthermore, failing to attend or get to class on time will adversely affect final grade irrespectively of quality of work.

Grading Scale:

- A- Outstanding scholarship and unusual degree of intellectual initiative.
- B- Superior work done in a consistent and intelligent manner.
- C- Average grade indicating a competent grasp of subject.
- D- Lesser achievement but still a passing grade.

F- Failing grade due to either a student's inability to grasp the bare minimum of the subject OR due to a student's inability to fulfill one or more class requirements such as attendance, reading, oral presentation(s), etc.

W- Withdrawal: Grade given to those registered students who officially withdraw from class.

C/NC- Credit / No Credit: Limited to one course per semester. Applicable only to courses fulfilling general elective requirements. For clarification, see counselor.

I – Incomplete: This grade is given to those students who for a determined valid reason are not able to complete a course. In such cases, a written agreement must be made between instructor and student regarding the missed work and the deadline for such work to be done.

Required Course Activities:

Oral presentation: Each student will make an oral presentation about a poem. This poem cannot be from any of the sections in the text that will be covered in class. Of course, students are encouraged to look outside the text and find other poems from other cultures, times, languages (provided they are translated into English). However, when a student chooses to present a poem from outside the text, copies should be provided for each class member at least a week before the presentation date.

Presentation time should be approximately ten minutes, depending on the length of the poem. The ultimate time limit allowance will be determined by the number of students in the class.

A sign-up sheet for presentations will be passed to the class. Be sure to sign up during the first or second day of instruction.


Full credit for oral presentations will require:

- 1) A brief biography of the author, with emphasis on material related to the chosen poem.
- 2) Presenting the poem, that is: a) reciting it to the class is a voice that is clear and sufficiently loud for everyone in the class to hear, and b) an overall analysis of the poem from researched information, but using only those terms that can be explained to members in the class.
- 3) A personal reading/explanation of the poem: What do you really think about the poem? What do you like or dislike about the poem and why? Here you may refer or even quote formal criticism or theory, but the emphasis must always be your own personal reading and not that of someone else.

Lastly, a written summary of your presentation must be turned in before or on the same day of your presentation. It should be spell-checked and grammatically correct.

Course Schedule:

DATE:	ASSIGNMENTS
Oct. 7 th	<p>Preliminary: The process of Reading and Responding about Literature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ What is Literature?➤ Types of Literature: The Genres➤ Annotating Text and Journal Note Taking <p>Understanding Drama:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Origins of Modern Theater➤ Kinds of Drama <p>Assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) In-class Pre-test2) Read for next class <i>Oedipus Rex</i> (entire play)
Oct. 10 th	<p>The Elements of Drama:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Plot and Structure: Development and organization of drama➤ Character: Character's words, actions and comments by other characters➤ Language: Formal and informal language<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tone and Irony <p>Sophocles and Greek Drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ An Introduction to Greek Drama➤ An Exploration of <i>Oedipus</i> <p>Assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Quiz #12) In-class work3) Read for next class <i>Hamlet</i>, Acts I and II
Oct. 15 th	<p>The Elements of Drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Setting/Staging: Uses of staging (costumes, props, scenery and lighting)➤ Theme <p>William Shakespeare and the Elizabethan Drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The Renaissance Period: The Re-Creation of Classical Theater➤ Shakespeare's Theater <p>Assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Quiz #22) In-class work3) Read for next class <i>Hamlet</i>, Acts III - V
Oct. 17 th	<p>An Exploration of <i>Hamlet</i></p> <p>Assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Quiz #32) In-class work
Oct. 22 nd	<p>Drama on the Silver and Color Screens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Stage Plays and Film➤ Aesthetics of Film <p>Video of <i>Hamlet</i></p> <p>Assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Essay #1 due2) Read for next class
Oct. 24 th	<p>Reading, responding and writing about poetry</p> <p>The elements of Poetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Diction: Word Choice, Word Order➤ Denotations and Connotations➤ Voice/Tone <p>Assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Quiz #42) In-class work3) Read for next class
Oct. 29 th	<p>The Elements of Poetry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Imagery: The work's link to the senses➤ Figurative Language: Simile, Metaphor, Personification, Apostrophe, Metonymy➤ Meaning and Idea <p>Assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Quiz #52) Class work3) Read for next class

Oct. 31 st	<p>Poetry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Allusion ➤ Figurative Language: Symbol and Allegory ➤ Rhythm and Meter ➤ Pattern <p>Assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Quiz #6 2) In-class work 3) Read for next class
Nov 5 th	<p>Poetry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Paradox, Overstatement, Understatement, Irony <p>Common poetics forms: sonnet, open form, etc.</p> <p>Assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Essay #2 due 2) Review for mid-term
Nov. 7 th	<p>(Novel: Buy <i>Middle Passage</i> by Charles R. Johnson)</p> <p>Theory (from Text) <i>Barn Burning/The Story of An Hour/A & P</i></p> <p>MID-TERM</p> 
Nov. 12 th	<i>The Man Who Would Send Rain Clouds/Indian Camp/The Open Boat</i>
Nov. 14 th	<i>The Things They Carried/ How to Tell a True War Story/To Build a Fire (1908, 1912)</i>
Nov. 19 th	<i>The Girls in Their Summer Dresses/Everything That Rises Must Converge/The Lottery</i>
Nov. 21 st	<i>A Very Old Man With Enormous Wings/The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World/Goblin Market</i>
Nov. 26 th	<p>Discussion of possible essay topics (In-class outline exercise)</p> <p>Introduction to <i>Middle Passage</i> (read first 1/3 of novel)</p>
Nov. 28 th	NO CLASS: Thanksgiving! (Work on the first draft of your FINAL ESSAY)
Dec. 3 rd	<p><i>Middle Passage</i> (read second 1/3 of novel)</p> <p>First Draft is due</p>
Dec. 5 th	<p><i>Middle Passage</i> (finish reading novel)</p> <p>In-class discussion of drafts</p>
Dec. 10 th	Final discussion of novel (Film?)
Dec. 12 th	<p>Course Review and Q&As for Final Exam</p> <p>Final Essay is due</p>
Dec. 17 th	<p>Final Exam</p> <p>Course Evaluation</p>