

Chaminade University of Honolulu
Summer Weekend Program
July 11 – September 12, 1998
Tripler Army Medical Center

COURSE: Short Story and Novel **EN 25530**

TIME: Saturdays 0800 – 1210

INSTRUCTOR: Steven W. Bannow (Telephone 526-4566)

TEXTS: Classics of Modern Fiction (5th Edition), Irving Howe
The Heath Introduction to Fiction (5th Edition), John Clayton
Any standard dictionary, desk-size or larger, for reference
Any standard EN102 text for MLA term paper format reference

I. Introduction:

Welcome to English 255. This is a survey course designed to increase your awareness and appreciation for the wonderfully rich and diverse world of literature. A quick review of the syllabus will reveal a wide range of selections. My purpose is to paint with a broad brush, to offer you a wide assortment of fiction from a host of world-class writers. You will not admire every piece. In fact, you may find a few hard to grasp, relatively weak, or downright bothersome. I am certain, however, that you will be challenged by virtually every piece and that our discussions will open new worlds of understanding to each of you. We will go beyond plot and will explore the nuances of theme, imagery, character development, use of the language, and other points of intellectual interest.

II. Course Prerequisite

The prerequisite for this course is English 102, which may be taken concurrently with prior approval. Students are responsible for the application of all relevant and appropriate MLA research and citation techniques (as presented in English 102) to the writing of the term paper in this course. (Your term paper must also adhere to commonly accepted university writing standards.) While not a formal prerequisite, love of ideas and reading will be highly beneficial.

III. Academic Requirements

Success in English 255 depends upon the following: First, students must demonstrate careful reading of the assignment and preparation for each class meeting. Second, students must show a firm grasp of the material covered in class as reflected in successful completion of the various graded quizzes and final examination. Third, students must provide a short term paper (approximately 4 pages) using the MLA style manual and incorporating the views of at least two critics.

IV. Course Objectives

- To explore a wide assortment of short stories and short novels (novellas), thus allowing students the opportunity to experience a range of exposure to authors and writing styles.
- To gain greater insight into any author's most extraordinary literary accomplishment – bringing language to life.
- To ponder the concept that writing is a personal experience and to contemplate the fact that writers reveal much about their sense of the world in their work.

V. Relationship of this course to the general objectives of the university:

- * To develop in the student approaches to the creative and analytical understanding and appreciation of fiction, specifically through the study of classic novellas and short stories of world literature.
- * To open to the student the wealth of fiction – both artistic and intellectual.
- * To encourage a search for truth through literature and to assist the student in forming a value system or a philosophy of life.

VI. Format of course

Class discussion of key issues and themes within each work. **Student involvement will be emphasized in all aspects of the learning experience.** Active reading of the assigned material is absolutely essential to a **complete understanding of class discussion and to successful completion of all graded requirements.**

VII. Grading

Quiz #1 during class session 3	In-class, open-book	15%
Quiz #2 during class session 6	In-class, open-book	15%
Quiz #3 during class session 8	In-class, open-book	15%
Term paper due in class session 9	Approximately 4 pages	20%
Final Examination during class session 10	In-class, open-book	20%
Class Participation	Consistent, PROMPT attendance and active participation in class discussions	15%

A NOTE ON GRADING AND ATTENDANCE:

Class attendance and promptness are essential – especially since we meet for a total of only ten sessions. Unless particularly unusual circumstances can be demonstrated by the student, more than two absences will result in a failing grade. PLEASE give me advance notice any time you must miss a class. Each student shall obtain the names and telephone numbers of at least two other classmates for the purpose of exchanging information about class notes, syllabus changes, and assignments in the event of absences.

VIII. Schedule

****NOTE:** You are not required to write answers to the review questions that follow the works. I do, however, expect you to read and think about them as part of your class preparations.

DATE

ASSIGNMENT FOR NEXT CLASS

July 11

1. Course introduction.
2. Discussion: Reading for enjoyment and appreciation.
3. Literary terms: theme, form, imagery, content, language, style, etc.
4. In-class reading/discussion: "Hills Like White Elephants," Heath, 436-440.

1. Overview of texts.
2. Heath, 1-13 (Through "Narrative Structure and Focus").
3. Heath, 53-54, 64-74, 75-90.

July 18

1. The short story as a reflection of the writer's world; discussion of Heath, 1-13.
2. Discuss Hawthorne and Poe and representative works.
3. In-class reading/discussion: "The Purloined Letter."

1. Heath, 13-32.
2. Heath, 106-134.
3. Prepare for Quiz #1.

July 25

1. More discussion of the Short Story as literary genre.
2. Discuss Melville and "Bartleby the Scrivener."
3. In-class reading/discussion: Start "Notes from Underground."
4. Quiz #1.

1. Heath, 33-45.
2. Classics, v-ix and 3-115.

August 1

1. The Novella/Short Novel.
2. Discuss Dostoevsky

1. Catch up with or get ahead on your reading
2. Prepare Term Paper Topic/Author/Work.

August 8

1. Writing about Literature and Using the Library -- Guest lecturer.
2. In-class reading: Stephen Crane, Heath, 230-249, Classics, 187-225.

1. Crane readings in Heath and Classics.
2. Heath, 253-257, 285-293.
3. Prepare for Quiz#2.

August 15

1. Submit Term Paper proposal/outline.
2. Discuss Crane and representative works.
3. Discuss: "The Chekov Tradition" and representative works by Anton Chekov
4. In-class reading: "Misery" in Heath, 271-275.
5. Quiz #2.

1. Heath, 297-298, 299-330, 349-357, 359-365, 372.
2. Classics, 283-339, 343-391.

August 22

1. Discuss "Writers in the Modern Canon."
2. Discuss Conrad and "The Secret Sharer"
3. Discuss Kafka and The Metamorphosis
4. Discuss Woolf and "An Unwritten Novel"
5. Discuss Joyce and representative works.
6. In-class reading/discussion: D.H. Lawrence, "The Rocking-Horse Winner," Heath, 399-411.

1. Heath, 412-434, 459-467.
2. Classics, 447-484.
3. Prepare for Quiz#3.

August 29

1. Discuss Faulkner: "That Evening Sun" and "A Rose for Miss Emily"
 2. Discuss Porter and "The Jilting of Granny Weatherall"
 3. Quiz #3
1. Heath, 478-484, 486-493, 544-556.
 2. Classics, 487-537.
 3. Finish term paper.

September 5

1. Term paper is due.
 1. Discuss Welty and "A Worn Path."
 2. Discuss Jackson and "The Lottery."
 3. Discuss O'Connor and "A Good Man is Hard to Find" and The Displaced Person.
1. Heath, 557-581, 637-643.
 2. Classics, 637-693.
 3. Prepare for final Examination.

September 12

1. James Baldwin and "Sonny's Blues."
2. Discuss Achebe and "The Madman."
3. Discuss Marquez and No One Writes to the Colonel
4. Review for Final Examination.
5. Final Examination.
6. Discuss Final Examination, course wrap-up.

** A tip of the hat to Robert Rogers for contributing ideas and language to this course outline.