

Pm

Types of Literature: Novels and Short Stories
English 255⁵⁰
Joy Hewett
Spring 1999

Messages: 739-9827; email: jhewett@chaminade.edu
3 credits, 3 hr.

Texts and Supplies:

Clayton, John. The Heath Introduction to Fiction, 5th edition DC Heath and Co.
 Howe, Irving, ed. Classics of Modern Fiction, 5th edition Harcourt Brace Jovanovich
 Handouts
 Journal folder with binding
 Binder for keeping notes, handouts, or paper
 HD Disk and paper for word/processing or typing

Optional Resource Materials and Supplemental Texts:

Hacker, D. A Writer's Reference or The Holt Handbook for writing reference; library books, journals, and magazines can be used for research; academic indexes and book review indexes for research: Contemporary Literary Criticism, Dictionary of Literary Biography, and Twentieth Century Literary Criticism. Use any of these sources or the internet.

Description:

This course is a study of short stories and novels. During the first part of the semester, the focus will be on the short story and elements of fiction. The last part of the semester will concentrate on novels.

Course Objectives:

- To read, study, and understand a wide variety of short stories and novels
- To become familiar with literary terms and concepts
- To interpret literature
- To apply critical and creative thinking skills
- To make oral presentations and participate in discussion to promote understanding and appreciation of novels and short stories, their authors, and adaptations of stories in other forms
- To write about individual, societal, and universal themes in stories and novels and research, analyze and write about the elements of fiction
- To gain knowledge and enjoyment of a variety of short stories and types of novels

Evaluation:

- 10% participation
- 25% midterm
- 25% final exam
- 30% short story oral presentation and paper
- 10% reading log journal

A=90 to 100, excellent work; B=80-89, good work; C=70-79, acceptable work; D=60-69, below satisfactory work; F= no credit; W=official withdrawal

Requirements and Class Policies:

1. You will be expected to be attentive during all methods of instruction provided for you, including lectures, discussion, question and answer sessions, collaborative creative projects, and presentations.
2. In your short story presentation & report, emphasis will be placed on organization and content that shows a carefully thought out thesis and in-depth development of support for your ideas and that utilizes appropriate elements of writing style for

effective communication. Papers must be typed. Copies made from word processors must be dark enough to read and on standard sized paper. Double space your paper, and put your name, the assignment and date on the upper right hand corner. Use one inch margins on the sides and bottom of your pages. Make extra copies of your paper.

3. Your assignments are due on time (the beginning of the class period). Work is due even if you are absent. Make arrangements to get the paper in on time.
4. Unfortunately, I must mention that using the words of others as your own without acknowledgment is considered to be a serious offense by the university. Plagiarism can result in a student receiving an F on a paper.

Attendance:

The course includes activities we do in class and if you do not participate in them you cannot achieve the results diligent effort provides nor contribute to the class discussions or activities. Therefore, attendance is necessary. Absences will adversely affect your participation grade. Get the phone numbers of a couple of your classmates in order to get notes you may have missed in the event of an emergency.

Classmate's Number _____

Classmate's Number _____

Conduct:

Students are expected to arrive on time and stay the entire class period. Late entries or early exits can be disruptive to the learning environment. No cell phone calls or pagers should interfere with class. Please be considerate of your classmates and your instructor. Courtesy in the classroom promotes a pleasant learning environment, and respect for all individuals in the class promotes harmony.

April 8

Week 1: Getting started. Discussion on the nature of reality and reading fiction. Use reading log suggestions for writing about story.

Olsen "I Stand Here Ironing"

Babel "My first Goose"

Oral Presentation sign-up

Considering Character and Plot. Read p.1-19

What is a story? Begin reading short stories with a consideration for what makes a good story.

April 15

Week 2: Character--how do people come alive in reader's imagination?

Consider character development and how character portrayals enhance plot and suspense. Consider character and motive in plot development.

Oates "Where are You Going, Where Have You Been?"

Hurston "Sweat"

Consider use of mood and emotion in character and conflict. Plot.

Problems that move the story.

Checkov "Misery"

Faulkner "A Rose for Emily"

Oral presentation story selection deadline

Oral presentations begin

Read Introduction p.19-32; "How to read and write about fiction" p.33-45

- April 22 **Week 3: Become familiar with vocabulary terms used for discussion of fiction (p.44-45)**
Setting and Details to build meaning in story:
O'Brien "The Man I Killed"
Consider mood development and suspense in setting.
Jewett "A White Heron"
Crane "The Open Boat"
Joyce "Araby"
Oral Presentations
- April 29 **Week 4: Begin preparing notes on "What Makes a Good Story?"**
Point of View:
Gilman "The Yellow Wallpaper"
Hemingway "Hills like White Elephants"
Carver "Cathedral"
Voice, Style, Tone:
Bambara, "The Lesson"
Listening to "Pass on, No Pass Back"
Oral Presentations
- May 6 **Week 5: Theme, Symbolism, Allegory**
How do characters and symbols develop theme:
Walker "Everyday Use"
Symbols and Allegory :
Hawthorne "Young Goodman Brown"
Welty "A Worn Path"
Oral Presentations
Review
- May 13 **Week 6: Mid-term on short stories. Be prepared for discussion of what makes a good short story. Make sure you have plenty of examples to support your opinion.**
Oral Presentations
- May 20 **Week 7: The history of the novel and genres. Discussion of literature and life, universal themes and everyday reality.**
Begin discussing short novel The Metamorphosis
All presentation papers/reports completed and due
- May 27 **Week 8: Complete discussion of novels**
Discuss My Mortal Enemy
- June 3 **Week 9: Journals due**
Final Exam: Test on vocabulary terms, elements of fiction, novel
- June 10 **Week 10: Video of classic novel**
Return of exam and journals