

- Clayton, ed., *The Heath Introduction to Fiction*
- Howe, ed. *Classics of Modern Fiction*

Online References

Glossary of Literary Terms

Humanities Resources: Voice of the Shuttle

Internet Public Library

Literary Resources

Resources for Writers

Requirements (toc)

- Attendance and participation in discussions (approximately 20%)
- Reading journal (approximately 10%)
- Two essays (approximately 20%)
- Quizzes and miscellaneous assignments (approximately 10%)
- Final exam (approximately 40%)

Attendance and participation in discussions (toc)

Regular attendance is required for this course. After two unexcused absences, the instructor may reduce the overall grade for the course. Poor attendance may result in course failure.

It is essential that all students participate actively in discussions, both in class and online. Students need to be prepared for in-class discussion of each discussion question. In the event of a missed class, students will need to post their discussion response to the appropriate WebBoard conference; in addition, students are required to post a minimum of one informal comment for each question.

In general, students will post a minimum of 10 topical messages during the course.

Reading journal (toc)

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

**** Suggestions for keeping a journal ****

Essays (toc)

Two essays of approximately 1200 words each will be due during the term. Essays for this course will review and expand in some detail the discussions described above. While students may want to do some background research, it is not a requirement. A 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 must be submitted via the course web site, using the links provided in the study guide. It is best to compose the essays using your favorite word processing program, then copy and paste the text into the window provided on the submission form. Be sure to double space between paragraphs.

Follow [this link](#) for more details about essay assignments.

Quizzes and miscellaneous assignments (toc)

Online quizzes will be posted to the course web site throughout the term. Quizzes are intended to pace students through the course's required readings and help develop key concepts.

While participation in quizzes is required, they will be self-graded, and should be seen as preparation for the objective section of the final exam, as described below.

In addition to quizzes, students may be required to complete additional informal assignments, for example, reading brief excerpts from other works aloud to a friend or over the telephone.

Final Exam (toc)

The final exam consists of 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 two essay questions which will be distributed during the week prior to the exam. While the objective section is "closed book," the essay section is "open 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.

While students are 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.

Course Outline and Study Guide

Unit 1 -- (toc)

Log in to WebBoard Forum for this course and read through the "Help" files there. (Monday, January 17)

WebBoard Forum Post an autobiographical paragraph to the "Introductions" conference in the forum for your section. (Monday, January 17)

Read:

- Keeping a course journal
- Hawthorne, "The Minister's Black Veil" (Clayton 65)
- Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown" (Clayton 75)
- Poe, "The Fall of the House of Usher" (Clayton 87),
- Poe, "The Purloined Letter" (Clayton 101),
- Poe, "The Black Cat" (Online)

Quiz 1 (Friday, January 28)

Unit 2 -- (toc)

Read:

- Poe, "The Single Effect" (Online)
- Conrad, "The Secret Sharer" (Howe 227-280)
- Woolf, "An Unwritten Novel" (Clayton 329)
- Joyce, "Araby" (Clayton 339)

WebBoard Forum: Write a short autobiographical statement (approximately 10 sentences) describing your own literary education. Ideally, you might describe a particular experience, good or bad, from your educational background. . . . in school, in church, or maybe in a hula halau. Post to "Literary Backgrounds" (**Monday, February 7**)

Quiz 2 (Wednesday, February 9)

Unit 3 -- (toc)

Read:

- O'Connor, "The Displaced Person" (Howe 487-537)
- O'Connor, "A Good Man is Hard to Find" (Clayton 651)
- Jewett, "A White Heron" (Clayton 166)

Quiz 3 (Friday, February 18)

Unit 4 -- (toc)

Read:

- Crane, "The Blue Hotel" (Howe 185-226)
- Bierce, "Occurance at Owl Creek Bridge" (Online)

Quiz 4 (Friday, March 3)

Submit Essay 1 (Friday, March 10). See Essay Guidelines for more information.

Unit 5 -- (toc)

Read:

- "The Fusion of Reality and Illusion" (Online)
- Kafka, "The Metamorphosis" (Howe, 283-349)
- Faulkner, "A Rose for Emily" (Clayton, 403)

Quiz 5 (Wednesday, March 15)

WebBoard Forum: Using one of the stories you are reading for this course as a basis, explain what you feel is the "truth" of the fiction. Post your response to the "Truth or Fiction" conference.

Unit 6 -- (toc)

Read:

- Achebe, "The Madman" (Clayton, 689)
- Baldwin, "Sonny's Blues" (Howe 445-484)
- Carver, "Cathedral" (Clayton 758)
- Carver, "What We Talk About When We Talk About Love" (Clayton 769)

Quiz 6 (Friday, March 24)

Unit 7 -- (toc)

Read:

- Garcia-Marquez, "No One Writes to the Colonel" (Howe 635-693)
- Garcia-Marquez, "A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings" (Clayton 664)

Quiz 7 (Friday, April 7)

Unit 8 -- (toc)

- Paz, "My Life with the Wave" (Clayton 532)
- Malamud, "The Magic Barrel" (Clayton, 538)
- Malamud, "Idiots First" (Clayton 551)
- Bellow, "A Silver Dish" (Clayton 559)

Quiz 8 (Friday, April 21)

WebBoard Forum: To Be Announced

Unit 9 -- (toc)

- Bambara, "The Lesson" (Clayton 779)
- O'Brien, "The Man I Killed" (Clayton 795)
- O'Brien, "The Lives of the Dead" (Clayton 799)
- Barth, "Lost in the Funhouse" (Clayton 670)

Quiz 9 (Friday, April 28)

Submit Essay 2 (**Wednesday, May 3**). See [Essay Guidelines](#) for more information.

Final Exam: Monday, May 8, 12:45 - 2:45, H-223

Self-Assessment (Wednesday, May 10)

Updated: January 20, 2000
Contact: jkraus@chaminade.edu
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