

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU  
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & FINE ARTS  
DIVISION OF ACCELERATED PROGRAMS  
Course Outline and Syllabus

EN255: <sup>10</sup> Short Story/Novel  
Semester:  
Location:  
Instructor: Robert A. Rogers  
H#: 524-3012

SP 01  
mg

### INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

Welcome to EN255! This survey course is designed to increase students' awareness and appreciation of the enormous diversity of authors and their individual styles of writing through a detailed examination of their short stories and novels. It is understood that not every student will be profoundly moved by every work of every author, but it is the sincere hope and intention of this course that some of these widely recognized names in the world of literature will become, in a sense, highly regarded and personally valued academic friends - members of one's own immediate literary "family," so to speak. Furthermore, it is hoped that students will be motivated to go beyond the requirements of the course and the ten weeks of the semester to continue the enriching process of discovery: new stories, new authors, and new insights into the human experience as reflected in literature. Finally, it should be mentioned that in our frantically busy, over-scheduled lives, few people really have the time to read much anymore. And so this course has the added value of giving students an important reason to make time for one of life's most privileged luxuries - the opportunity to sit down with a good book. Enjoy!

### REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

The possession and conscientious use of the following books are requirements of the course:

1. Classics of Modern Fiction (5th Edition), Irvine Howe
2. The Heath Introduction to Fiction (5th Edition), John Clayton
3. Any standard dictionary, desk size or larger, for reference
4. Any standard EN102 text for MLA term paper format reference

### COURSE PREREQUISITES

The first prerequisite of this course is EN102, which may usually be taken concurrently with prior approval. Students are responsible for the application of all relevant and appropriate MLA research techniques to the writing of the term paper as presented in EN102. Also, this paper must adhere to commonly accepted university standards of formal, written English as used for academic purposes.

The second course prerequisite is as follows. Because reading is both time and focus intensive, it is indeed essential that students be willing and able to make a significant commitment of time and effort to the successful completion of this course. And although it is not a formal prerequisite, a love of reading would be most beneficial.

### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS OF THE COURSE

A successful and rewarding experience in EN255 will include the following. First, students must demonstrate careful reading of the assignments and preparation for each class with detailed, interactive and insightful class discussions. Second, students must respond with fully developed and clearly focused short essay answers to the three exams of the course. And third, students must produce a short term paper (4-6 pages of text) using the MLA writing style and incorporating the views of at least two critics. Also, there will be an extra credit option.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

The following are intended to maximize the personal and academic value of this course for students:

1. to explore a reasonably large number of short stories and short novels, thus giving students a wide range of exposure to a great diversity of authors and their writing styles;
2. to produce a short term paper which allows students their choice of additional reading of work(s) by any author on the syllabus as well as the responses of at least two critics of that author;
3. to gain greater insight into any author's most extraordinary creative accomplishment - bringing characters to life through language;
4. to appreciate that writing is an intensely personal experience and to respect the fact that every author reveals much about his or her sense of the world in the writing process so that, at some level - literal, psychological or imaginative - every story is to a degree autobiographical;
5. to examine "character" in literature - the conflicts, the flaws, the weaknesses and strengths, the recognition of human limitations and of human potential and of that occasional heroic response from the common man;
6. to acknowledge certain universal thematic concerns common to all literature as they are revealed by the central characters of a work. One approach to character and theme, an instructor originated construct, is "T<sup>3</sup>" which essentially examines the thematic significance of transgression, transformation, and transcendence as they are relevant to literature;
7. to recognize that the best of literature stands the test of time and transcends cultural specifics and the limitations of place. Therefore, characters, in all their humanity, are both authentically individual as well as valid universal reflections of our world and ourselves.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

University policy mandates that accurate attendance records be kept for each meeting of the class. This is particularly important for students who are benefiting from government tuition subsidies and loan programs, because the university itself has an obligation to report problems of non-attendance to appropriate government agencies. Therefore, it is the students' responsibility to be in class on time as much as humanly possible. Students are not allowed to sign in for a particular class meeting unless they are present for the entire instructional period, or unless they have the instructor's prior permission. Because of the critical importance of class discussions, excessive absences would have a significant negative impact on the course grade. However, students on verified deployment or medical or emergency leave will receive full credit for written work mailed and postmarked by the due date to the following address: 1137 Wilder Ave. #803, Honolulu, HI 96822-2757.

## GRADING POLICY

The course grade will be determined based on five grades of equal value. There are three major exams, the term paper, and the level of sustained, active class participation. The dates of the major exams and the term paper are indicated on the course syllabus in capital letters. Please note that it is imperative for students to be in class on these dates because makeups would be quite challenging. At the conclusion of the course, students who submit a stamped, self-addressed envelope together with their final exam will have it returned to them corrected within a reasonably short time. Included also will be the course grade.

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU  
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & FINE ARTS  
DIVISION OF ACCELERATED PROGRAMS  
Course Outline and Syllabus

Course: EN255 (Short Story/Novel)  
Semester: Spring 2001  
Location: Schofield  
Instructor: Robert A. Rogers  
H#: (808) 621-2878

MEETING/DATE MATERIALS TO BE COVERED

1. T-4/3:
  1. Course Introduction: Reading for enjoyment and appreciation, exploration and discovery.
  2. EN255 Prerequisite Sign-In Sheet and Checklist.
  3. EN255 Class Participation Self-Assessment Form.
  4. Handout: "Exploring the World of Literature."
  5. Handout: "Academic Honesty. . ." (Chaminade University of Honolulu General Catalog, 49).
  6. Handout: "Theft, or Cutting Corners?"
  7. Literary analysis: Theme, form, content, style, "T3."
  8. Short story handouts: "Bacus and Philemon" and "What a Thought."
2. Th-4/5:
  1. The short story as a reflection of the writer's world and point of view as discussed in Heath, 1-12.
  2. Class discussion: "Ninotchka: A Love Story," "Survivor Type" and "Young Goodman Brown."
3. T-4/10:
  1. Narrative structure, focus, imagery and tone in the short story as discussed in Heath, 12-32.
  2. Class discussion: "The Chrysanthemums" and No One Writes to the Colonel.
4. Th-4/12:
  1. "How to Read and Write about Fiction" in Heath, 32-45.
  2. Class discussion: "Bartleby the Scrivener" and "The Secret Sharer."
5. T-4/17:
  1. Class discussion: "Charlie's Return" and The Death of Ivan Ilych and Tolstoy handout.
  2. Review: Strategies for mid-term exam preparation and responses to short essay questions.
6. Th-4/19:
  1. Class discussion: "The Yellow Wall-Paper" and "The Open Boat."
  2. Review for Exam #1.

ASSIGNMENT FOR NEXT CLASS MEETING

1. Overview of texts.
  2. Handout: "Ninotchka: A Love Story."
  3. Handout: "Survivor Type."
  4. Heath, 1-12, 53-54, 64-74.
- 
1. Heath, 12-32, 468-77.
  2. Classics, 695-705, 635-93.
- 
1. Heath, 32-45, 106-34, 299-330.
  2. Handout: "Charlie's Return."
  3. Handout: "War, Peace, Love, Death, and Genius: The Life of Leo Tolstoy."
- 
1. Classics, 117-84.
  2. Preliminary term paper topic choice.
  3. Handout: Short essay exam preparation.
- 
1. Heath, 217-49.
- 
1. Classics, 281-339.
  2. Review for Exam #1.

MEETING/DATE MATERIALS TO BE COVERED

ASSIGNMENT FOR NEXT CLASS MEETING

- |              |   |  |
|--------------|---|--|
| 7. T-4/24:   | 1. Class discussion: <u>The Metamorphosis</u> .<br>2. Class analysis: Contrasting characteristics of the short story and the novella.<br>3. Review for Exam #1.   | 1. Review for Exam #1.<br>2. Background reading for term paper.  |
| 8. Th-4/26:  | 1. EXAM #1.   | 1. Handout: "Loi--The Bandit" ( <u>Many Lives</u> ).<br>2. Background reading for term paper.<br>3. <u>Classics</u> , 185-225.   |
| 9. T-5/1:    | 1. Class discussion: <u>The Blue Hotel</u> and "Loi--The Bandit."<br>2. Class analysis: Identifying distinctions between popular fiction and the classics.  | 1. <u>Heath</u> , 412-13, 426-34, 459-67.<br>2. Deadline: author for term paper.<br>3. Handout: "Pathfinder: Literary Criticism."  |
| 10. Th-5/3:  | 1. Class discussion: "The Jilting of Granny Weatherall" and "A Rose for Emily."<br>2. Review of handout: "Pathfinder: Literary Criticism."  | 1. <u>Heath</u> , 251-70.<br>2. Handout: "Term Paper Guidelines."<br>3. Review of MLA format for term paper.   |
| 11. T-5/8:   | 1. Class discussion: "The Chekhov Tradition" and "The Lady with the Dog."<br>2. Review: "Term Paper Guidelines" and student responsibilities for MLA format application to term paper.                                | 1. <u>Heath</u> , 435-40.<br>2. Handout: "Babylon Revisited."<br>3. Handout: ". . . F. Scott Fitzgerald."<br>4. Handout: "Ernest Hemingway . . . ."  |
| 12. Th-5/10: | 1. Class discussion: "Hills Like White Elephants" and "Babylon Revisited" along with biographical handouts.<br>2. Review for Exam #2.   | 1. <u>Heath</u> , 603-17 and handout: ". . .Homepage."<br>2. Deadline: Term paper specific work(s).<br>3. Handout: "Bright and Morning Star."<br>4. Handout: "'We Chanted. . .'"Selma Town."'" |
| 13. T-5/15:  | 1. Class discussion: "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?" "Bright and Morning Star" and related handout.   | 1. Review for Exam #2.<br>2. Background reading for term paper.  |
| 14. Th-5/17: | 1. EXAM #2.   | 1. <u>Heath</u> , 590-99, 756-57, 769-78, 803-11, 557-82.<br>2. Deadline: Term paper critics (min: 2).   |
| 15. T-5/22:  | 1. Class discussion: "Sonny's Blues" and Thematic discussion of "How I Finally Lost My Heart," "Lust," and "What We Talk about When We Talk about Love."<br>2. Review: Final questions and concerns about term paper. | 1. <u>Heath</u> , 486-93, 724-46.<br>2. Deadline: Rough draft of term paper.   |

## MEETING/DATE MATERIALS TO BE COVERED

## ASSIGNMENT FOR NEXT CLASS MEETING

- |              |   |  |
|--------------|---|--|
| 16. Th-5/24: | 1. Class discussion: "The Lottery" and <u>A Silver Dish</u> .<br>2. Review: Doubtful reliability of unquestioned and uncritical autobiographical interpretations in literature. | 1. <u>Classics</u> , 485-537.<br>2. <u>TERM PAPER</u> .  |
| 17. T-3/29:  | 1. Class discussion: <u>The Displaced Person</u> .<br>2. Review: Universal themes in literature.  | 1. <u>Heath</u> , 189-95, 699-708.<br>2. Review for final exam.  |
| 18. Th-5/31: | 1. Class discussion: "Old Mother Savage" and "Separating."<br>2. Extra credit option.<br>3. Review for final exam.  | 1. <u>Heath</u> , 747-55, 856-66.<br>2. Handout: "The Power of a Well Told Tale."<br>3. Review for final exam. |
| 19. T-6/5:   | 1. Class discussion: "City Lovers" and "The Man Who Could See Radiance."<br>2. Extra credit option.<br>3. Review for final exam.  | 1. Review for final exam.<br>2. Self-addressed, stamped envelope.  |
| 20. Th-6/7:  | 1. <b>FINAL EXAM.</b><br>2. <b>Course evaluations.</b>  | End of course.   |

NOTE #1: The last day to add, drop or make a program change is 4/9. The last day to withdraw from classes is 5/21.

NOTE #2: A fifteen minute extra credit option based on your term paper is scheduled during both the eighteenth and nineteenth meetings of the class. This is a nice way to help your grade, and you are welcome to take advantage of it. Details will be forthcoming as the semester progresses.

NOTE #3: In a discussion focused and participation graded course, the importance of attendance cannot be overstated. A student's enrollment in this course is his or her contractual commitment to be in class on time and for the entire instructional period of each and every class meeting. Chaminade University requires that attendance be reported together with course grades at the end of each semester. Thank you in advance for your compliance with this policy.