

WE '02

**Chaminade University of Honolulu**  
**January Term, 2002, Accelerated Undergraduate Programs**  
**Ten weeks: 8 January 2002 - 14 March 2002**  
**Kaneohe Marine Corps Base**

- Course:** English 255<sup>20</sup>, Short Story and Novel (3)
- Time:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1950-2155
- Instructor:** Dr. John N. Hunter (JNH)
- Communications:** Call JNH on W or F; leave a message if necessary. 808-737-9246.  
E-mail: [jnormanhunter@yahoo.com](mailto:jnormanhunter@yahoo.com). Or connect before/after class.
- Textbooks:** *The Heath Introduction to Fiction*, ed. John J. Clayton  
*Classics of Modern Fiction*, ed. Irving Howe
- Course Introduction:** A classic introductory literature course, exploring mainly modern works of short to middling lengths. One focus: how richly to enjoy and richly to understand great works of fiction. Another: useful tools of literary appreciation—analysis, terms, categories, methods.
- Course Description:** Reading, thinking, and feeling one's way through a course of classical and modern fiction, by English, Continental, and American masters. A course designed to help you understand both the uses and the glories of literary art, from Hawthorne's Puritans through Kafka to the surreal world of Gabriel Garcia Marquez. English Pre-Major course.
- Course Objectives:** At the end of this course, you should be able to:
1. Discuss convincingly, including on paper, the nature of fiction, particularly modern American fiction measured against touchstone 'classics';
  2. Read and determine the merits of almost any fiction;
  3. Recognize, in fiction great and greater, the social, cultural, individual, and artistic values the works explore and illuminate.
- Course Format** Lecture and discussion, often one hour devoted to each. Frequent reading quizzes, until they prove unnecessary. Vigorous reading, vigorous talking expected of all.
- Course requirements:** Above all, keeping up with the reading; come to class having read, and read well, the assignments. Five or six reading quizzes, one essay, an essay-test midterm, a long 'superquiz'-and-essay-test final exam.
- Grading System:** Scale: A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F = 59 and below  
Components: attendance and participation, 20%; college essay, 20%; quizzes, 15%; midterm, 20%; final examination, 25%.

## English 255, Short Story and Novel, Schedule of activities:

Jan. 8	Introductions: texts, demonstrations, assignments, tools and resources (e.g., syllabus).
Jan. 10	<u>Premoderns</u> : Hawthorne, Poe, Melville, Crane, Gilman, Chopin. (Specifics TBA)
Jan. 15	<u>American Masters</u> : Faulkner, Hemingway, Steinbeck, Cather
Jan. 17	Hurston, Jackson. Applications of terms and methods (quiz). Review.
Jan. 22	<u>Chekhov and other European Masters</u> : Chekhov, Joyce, Kafka.
Jan. 24	Conrad, Lawrence.
Jan. 29	<u>Modernism and Beyond</u> : Crane X2; catchup.
Jan. 31	Flannery O'Connor X 2.
Feb. 5	Baldwin; glance back at Hurston <i>et alia</i> .
Feb. 7	McPherson. Catchup and review.
Feb. 12	Midterm examination; post-test appraisals. Essay assignment, with examples.
Feb. 14	Lessing X 2.
Feb. 19	Marquez X 2.
Feb. 21	<u>Contemporary Fiction (pp 601ff in Heath)</u> : Oates, Barth, Achebe, Bambara.
Feb. 26	Walker, O'Brien, Paley, Updike. Essay due.
Feb. 28	Jhabvala, Bellow, Gordimer, Carver.
March 5	Essays returned; feedback. Nature of college writing.
March 7	Mason, Erdrich, Minot, Munro.
March 12	O'Brien, Clayton. Review and preparation for final exam.
March 14	Final Examination.

The schedule should be one of your primary tools for negotiating the course. When in doubt or when the professor has not given precise assignments, by page and text, ask! Whatever you are uncertain about, ask! And above all do the reading. The course cannot work for you, and you cannot do well in it, if you do not give yourself heartily to the practice of reading, one of the key attainments of the educated person. Turn off the television, turn away from your technical reports, and be absorbed by the literary adventures possible in great fiction. You won't regret it.

JNH