

EN 201 Section 02

Types of Literature

Syllabus and Course Policy Sheet

Fall Day 2006

MWF 8:00a - 8:50a

Freitas 253

Instructor: Brian Reeves

E-mail: bri_reeves@hotmail.com

Required Texts:

Meyer, Michael. Thinking and Writing About Literature, A Text and Anthology.

Tolkien, J.R.R. Lord of the Rings, Part 1: The Fellowship of the Ring.

Tolkien, J.R.R. Lord of the Rings, Part 2: The Two Towers.

Tolkien, J.R.R. Lord of the Rings, Part 3: The Return of the King.

Optional Texts:

Hairston, Maxine, et. al. The Scott, Foresman Handbook for Writers.

Objectives:

EN 201 is a survey course designed to introduce students to the four major forms of literary enterprise: drama, fiction, poetry, and the essay. This course will examine key works from each of these four main genres in close detail, with an eye for critical analysis. Through the lens of several methods of literary criticism -- Formalist, Biographical, Psychological, Historical, Gender, Mythological, Reader-Response, and Deconstructionist -- we will explore each piece in class discussions and careful readings. In addition, we will continue to develop and master the writing and research skills you learned in previous writing courses by crafting two analytical essays. Students should carry away from this course an expanded understanding of the nature of literature as a common pursuit of mankind, as well as a greater appreciation for its value and importance in human and social development.

Requirements:

In order to pass this course, you must complete all the following work to minimum specifications:

- Participation - 15%
- Two Short Essays (3 - 5 pages) - 30%
- Class Presentation - 15%
- Midterm and Final Examination - 40%

Participation:

Class discussions are crucial to fully developing an understanding of the literary works we are to

examine. Therefore, it is important that all students equally participate in discussions throughout the semester. I will meet with everyone individually at mid-semester to discuss your current standing, including participation.

Essays:

We will be writing two short essays in this class, of approximately 1,000 words each, on subjects relevant to the works we are examining. Each essay is to be a solo project and must be turned in by the time indicated on the course schedule or be penalized by dropping one letter grade per day. They must be typed, double-spaced, and as free of grammatical and syntactical errors as possible. Plagiarized papers will not be tolerated and might result in your dismissal from school.

Class Presentation:

Every student will be required to give a short, informal presentation, in which they will choose one selection from the course text and tie it thematically with another from our readings earlier in the semester. Students will need to submit their chosen selection two weeks in advance, and will have fifteen minutes to complete their presentation.

Midterm and Final Examination:

Midway through the semester you will take a midterm evaluation to assess how well you have digested the material in the first half of the course. The final exam will cover both the second half of the course as well as portions of the first. Both tests will be multiple choice and short answer.