

EN 201: Types of Literature
Chaminade University of Honolulu
Fall 2007 MWF 8-8:50 am, Freitas Hall 255

Instructor: Brian Reeves, M.A.
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Texts: DiYanni, Robert. Literature: Approaches to Fiction, Poetry and Drama.
Chopin, Kate. The Awakening.

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

Course Description and Objectives:

EN 201 is a survey course designed to introduce students to the three major forms of literary enterprise: drama, fiction, and poetry. This course will examine key works from each of these main genres in close detail, with an eye for critical analysis. Through the lens of several methods of literary criticism, 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 an analytical essay. 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.

Course Requirements:

Students are responsible for reading assigned chapters in full and coming to class prepared to discuss what they have read. To this end, attendance is mandatory and a heavy weight is placed on participation in class discussions. Students will also be responsible for one essay and a group project (more information will be provided on these assignments later in the course).

Extra Credit:

An opportunity will be available at the end of the semester for extra credit. This will be your opportunity to earn extra points by creating a multimedia presentation. More details will be provided toward the end of the semester.

Class Attendance:

Like all college courses, it is in your best interest to attend *and* participate fully, as some content provided in the lectures and discussions will not be in the text. Chaminade's policy is that a student may miss no more than six M/W/F classes during a regular semester. Missing more may result in either withdrawal from the course or failure. The university requires attendance be taken every day, so be sure you don't miss any classes. Also, please consider those around you and arrive on time. Students more than fifteen minutes late to class will be marked as absent.

Class Environment:

It is important that the classroom be kept free from interruptions and distractions to facilitate learning. Please turn off cell phones and other devices before you arrive in class. Also, please stay focused while you are in class, and avoid doing other homework or allowing yourself to be distracted by other materials. It is disruptive and rude. Students may bring laptops to help take notes; some materials may even be available for download. However, remember that laptop use is a privilege, not a right. If use of laptops during class is distracting to others, I may have to ban them from classroom use.

Honor Policy:

Students are expected to exercise academic honesty and integrity in this class and every class during their matriculation at Chaminade. Please familiarize yourself with the university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty, as engaging in these activities may result in disciplinary action and failure of this course.

Students Requiring Special Services:

Students in need of special services or arrangements because of hearing, visual, or other disability should contact me early in the semester to make said arrangements.

Website:

While this course does not have an official website, the publisher has a site designed to accompany the textbook which offers complete texts of some of the older works, exercises, quizzes, and writing prompts. These may be useful in helping you prepare for exams or better understanding some of the more challenging readings from this semester.

Assignments:

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

- Participation: 20%
- One Short Essay (6+ pages): 20%
- Class Presentation: 20%
- Examinations: 10% each (40% total)

Participation: Your participation will be based on frequency of participation, degree of apparent initiative, and mastery of material. I expect all students to be ready to discuss any reading by class time. Students who have completely read all stories and poems and are *active* participants in discussions, showing obvious mastery of the material, can expect higher than average marks. If you are unclear about your participation, you can see me at any time and we can discuss how you can improve your contribution to the class.

Essay: The essay you write must be created by you alone and be turned in on time. All papers must be typed and double-spaced. Late papers will not be accepted past the due date. Avoid problems later by completing and submitting your essay early. All papers must be carefully edited, as typos and grammatical errors will decrease overall grade.

Presentation: Students will be divided into small groups for purposes of developing and implementing a class discussion on one aspect of the novel, *The Awakening*. This will be conducted in the last two weeks of class. Each group must prepare a lecture and activity that will take the entire class session. All presentations must also include some visual or audio aspect. Subjects will be given later in the semester.

Examinations: There will be an exam following each section: Fiction, Poetry, Drama and Novel. This exam will be multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. Questions will be based on the readings, as well as class discussions. Exams will not be cumulative. Make-up exams may be provided only under the condition that a university-sanctioned event or written medical excuse are provided. Make-up exams will be given in essay format.

Grading Scale:

The following grading scale will be used as a rough guide to all assignments, as well as the end grade for the class as a whole.

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| A | Outstanding scholarship and an unusual degree of intellectual initiative |
| B | Superior work done in a consistent and intellectual manner |
| C | Average grade indicating competent grasp of subject matter and acceptable performance |
| D | Inferior work of the lowest passing grade, not satisfactory for fulfillment of prerequisite course work |
| F | Failed to grasp minimum subject matter; no credit given |

Mandatory Conferences:

At semester midpoint we will cancel three classes to perform mandatory one-on-one student conferences. All students will select one of the three days to meet with me in private to discuss their current academic performance, including participation and exam scores. These short meetings will be held in the classroom.