



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO-VALENCIA  
ENGLISH 150: THE STUDY OF LITERATURE**

**SYLLABUS FALL 2017 – 12 WEEK COURSE  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2017 – DECEMBER 16, 2017**



**3 CREDIT HOURS: CRN 58433**

**ENGLISH 150.550 ONLINE**

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**BLACKBOARD: <https://learn.unm.edu>**

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**Dr. Rebecca Evanko, Instructor**  
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**Tel:** (505) 585-1958  
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**Online Availability**

Monday	Online throughout the day
Tuesday	Not Available/Not Online
Wednesday	Online throughout the day
Thursday	Online throughout the day
Friday	Online throughout the day
Evenings, Weekends, Holidays	Not Available/Not Online

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

English 150 emphasizes an appreciation of literature as an art form and an understanding of human values. It aims to develop understanding of the elements of fiction, techniques of close reading, and analysis of text through basic literary theory. Reading selections include the literary genres of short fiction, drama, and poetry/lyrics.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize and analyze basic themes in literature;
2. Recognize and describe literary conventions in the genres of poetry/lyrics, fiction, and drama;
3. Write brief essays in response to questions about literature; and
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the human values inherent in literature.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:** *Please note that these materials are REQUIRED; they are not optional.*

- ▶ UNM email address
- ▶ Access to Blackboard Learn
- ▶ Access to Microsoft Office (Word)
- ▶ Access to regular and reliable Internet connection

**TEXTS:**

All the course readings are contained within the Blackboard environment. There is no separate text required for purchase or use. While not necessary for completion of the course, students are encouraged to reference available literature anthology books and/or online study materials. It is also recommended that students access a collegiate-level grammar/writing handbook, such as *The Little Brown* or the *Penguin Handbook* – or the equivalent online source.

## ASSESSMENT

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS	GRADE %	DUe DATE	LEARNING OUTCOMES
Theme and Symbolism Essay	15 %	Sunday, October 22	1; 2; 3; 4
Lyric/Poetry Assignment	15 %	Sunday, November 19	1; 2; 4
Analysis Essay	25 %	Sunday, December 10	1; 2; 3; 4
Discussion Forum Writing	10 %	By the end of each week assigned	1; 2; 4
<b>QUIZZES and EXAMS</b>			
Quiz 1: Syllabus	10 %	Sunday, October 1	
Quiz 2: Elements of Fiction		Sunday, October 1	2
Quiz 3: Paul's Case		Sunday, October 8	2
Quiz 4: Style and Writing		Sunday, October 15	2
Quiz 5: Hills and Letter To You		Sunday, October 29	2
Quiz 6: Hollow Men and Convergence		Sunday, November 5	2
Quiz 7: Viet Nam		Sunday, November 12	2
Quiz 8: Identity		Sunday, November 19	2
Quiz 9: Literary Theory and Modernism		Sunday, November 26	2
Quiz 10: Death of a Salesman		Sunday, December 3	2
Final Exam	25 %	Monday-Wednesday, December 11 – 13	1; 2; 3; 4
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100 %</b>		

## DISCUSSION FORUM WRITING

Participation through Discussion Forum writing valued at 10 percent of the English 150 course grade. Each “meaningful” post is worth one (1) point, up to a maximum of 3 points each week. Ten (10) forum writing weeks are eligible for graded participation. Credit for forum writing each week comes from a minimum of THREE posts: ONE original post (creating a thread that answers that week’s questions) and TWO posts that respond to a peer or peers. To gain credit for Discussion Forum participation, the writing must be “meaningful.” This means posting in complete sentences to the forum question(s) asked – or in response to another’s post – while also demonstrating understanding or engaged awareness of the topic under consideration, while contributing to the discussion in a meaningful way. “Meaningful” responses can include disagreeing or agreeing -- and *explaining with your own examples why* you agree or disagree -- or elaborating on a point made in a peer’s post, again explaining *why* the elaboration is relevant.

### Credit-Eligible Discussion Forums

- Elements of Fiction (Week 2)
- Theme and Symbolism (Week 3)
- Style and Writing (Week 4)
- Theme and Symbolism Peer Review (Week 5)
- Reflection and Identity (Week 6)
- Modern Age (Week 7)
- Modern Age (Week 8)
- Modern Age (Week 9)
- Literary Theory (Week 10)
- Death of a Salesman (Week 11)

**Bonus Points:** Five bonus points can be earned on the Theme and Symbolism Peer Review Forum by *posting a draft of your own essay and responding to the draft of another using the Peer Review Rubric*. Specific deadlines apply to these bonus points. There may also be occasional opportunities for other bonus points in Discussion Forum Writing during the semester.

### Grading

Discussion Forum Writing is graded on the total number of posts made across the ten eligible weeks – up to a maximum of three (3) points per writing week, or 30 total points – provided the posts are “meaningful.” Any bonus points are earned *in addition* to the maximum baseline weekly credit.

**A:** 27-30 points\* (percentage grade 90-100)

**D:** 18-20 points\* (percentage grade 60-69)

**B:** 24-26 points\* (percentage grade 80-89)

**F:** Ranges from 1-17 points\* (percentage grade 0-59)

**C:** 21-23 points\* (percentage grade 70-79)

\* Posts must be “meaningful” in order to be eligible for credit points

## ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSIONS

- Submit ALL assignments in Blackboard.
- Scrupulously follow submission directions for each assignment.
- Submit ALL essays as Word documents, correctly formatted to MLA.
- Assignments MUST be submitted at or before midnight on the due date, as indicated by the time and date stamp in Blackboard. **Regardless of the circumstances, work submitted after midnight on the due date will be marked late and, if applicable, receive penalty.**

## LATE SUBMISSIONS, MAKE-UPS, EXTRA CREDIT

Aside from the Amnesty (see this syllabus for more details) and occasional opportunity for Bonus Points in Discussion Forum Writing, I do not assign make-up work or extra credit. The course grade is earned through completion and submission of assignments, quizzes, class participation activities, and the final examination. Unless falling under the purview of Amnesty, the late submission policy is as follows:

- Essays: 10% (one letter grade) deduction every day late up to five days, then zero grade.
- Lyric/Poetry Assignment and Final Examination: **No late work accepted.**
- Quizzes: **No late work accepted.**

## AMNESTY

The Amnesty assignment is a one-shot opportunity for any student to resubmit, if feasible and at the instructor's final discretion, any ONE assignment from the semester (excluding the Final Exam and Lyric/Poetry Assignment, if a group effort), regardless of the grade or circumstance of submission, to be reconsidered for a better grade. Students must request and be approved for Amnesty. More information about the Amnesty is given towards the end of semester.

## GRADE DISPUTES

The Student Privacy Act, a federal statute called FERPA, **strictly prohibits** instructors or administrators from talking to **anyone but students enrolled in the course** about grades, attendance, or progress. If a student has questions about a grade, assignment, or final grade for the course, FERPA dictates that **ONLY** that student may speak to the instructor with such questions. UNM-Valencia instructors and administrators **CANNOT** speak to parents about grades, attendance, or progress. In the unlikely event of a grade dispute, a student may follow the protocol below, which is outlined in more detail in the UNM Student Handbook:

1. Students must first discuss the grade dispute with the instructor.
2. If the problem is not resolved, students may then approach the Coordinator of the English Department at UNM-Valencia.
3. If the problem remains unresolved, students may then take the issue to the Dean of Instruction.

## GRADING SCALE

The final course grade is calculated from the combined percentage value of all assignments.

### PASSING GRADES

<b>A+</b>	97-100 %	<b>B+</b>	87-89 %	<b>C+</b>	77-79 %
<b>A</b>	94-96 %	<b>B</b>	84-86 %	<b>C</b>	74-76 %
<b>A-</b>	90-93 %	<b>B-</b>	80-83 %	<b>C-</b>	70-73 %

### FAILING GRADES

<b>D</b>	Below 70 %
<b>F</b>	Below 60 %

## WITHDRAWAL (W)

I strongly encourage students to talk with me if considering withdrawal from the class. A situation that may initially appear overwhelming and insurmountable can often be worked out through open communication.

The last day to withdraw WITH a grade of "W" (without approval of the Student Affairs Director) is **Friday, November 24**. Receiving a grade of "W" on the college transcript is permanent. While it does not affect the overall college GPA, it may impact future Financial Aid assistance. Students considering withdrawal from the class should discuss their situation with an academic counselor.

I administratively withdraw students who are **absent for more than two calendar weeks from participation in the course**. I may further elect to withdraw students who, **towards the end of Week 6 (October 29) are not demonstrating a passing grade in the course**. Withdrawal appeals must be submitted prior to the final exam period. For more information, please see Academic Policies and Procedures from the current UNM Catalog.

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Plagiarism, cheating, and collusion are **serious academic transgressions** that can result in a zero grade to failing the course to disciplinary action and/or expulsion from university. Plagiarism means using language and/or ideas from others, including other students, without acknowledging the source. It also includes downloading and submitting papers from the Internet, copying passages from sources and failing to cite them, or rephrasing another's ideas and passing them off as a student's own original thought or writing. It does not matter the assignment, whether an essay, discussion forum writing, the final exam, or any other graded assignment, plagiarism is unacceptable. It is **NO DEFENSE** to say "I did not know." To learn how to avoid plagiarism, view the assigned lesson in the Course Content. Students can also ask me, a tutor, or see: <http://library.acadiau.ca/tutorials/plagiarism>.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Active and regular participation in class is required in this course. Attendance and overall participation is measured by weekly work on Blackboard Learn, **including graded participation in the Discussion Forums**.

Students are responsible for submitting weekly assignments and quizzes by the due dates (Sundays at 11:59 p.m.)  
Students who miss more than two weekly assignments or who do not log into Blackboard Learn within the first two weeks after accessing the course may be dropped.

This is an online course. Assignments are available in advance and work is designed, within the constraints of due dates, to be reasonably completed on the student's own schedule/time. Because of this inherent flexibility, excused absences are rare. Medical appointments, sickness (in general), child-care, court dates, job scheduling conflicts, personal internet disruption or school activities do NOT constitute excused absences.

Excused absences may include documented hospitalization or other unexpected and extreme emergencies (also documented) that necessitate an extended period away from the online environment. If excessive absenteeism is ongoing, even that falling under "excused absences," I reserve the right to drop students from the course.

### **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS and CRITICAL THOUGHT**

This is a college course. As such, students are expected to attend to their work in terms of completely and fully participating in class assignments. Successful college students also understand that "things happen in life" and there should be contingency plans put in place to prepare and account for these inevitabilities.

As a college course, maturity and intelligence are valued, taught with a pedagogy that emphasizes the use of critical discourse and discussion in learning and teaching. While discussions and topics may include thematic aspects potentially perceived as offensive, in the interests of intellectual development I do not undertake censorship and encourage the free circulation – and challenge – of ideas.

Students should not be silent and assume that their voice and opinion is not wanted, even (or especially) if it appears to be in opposition to the majority. Critical discussion, debate, and reflection on alternative ideas is a cornerstone of developing critical thought and an educated worldview. If, however, any student has concerns about course content or contributing to discussion, he or she is invited to discuss this privately with me by email or phone.

### **EMAIL ETIQUETTE and EXPECTATIONS**

When writing emails or otherwise communicating with the professor, students should keep the following in mind, not only for this class, but also in the professional working and academic arena:

- *Include an informative subject line*  
This means a subject line that contains a specific phrase or question. As an example, "Clarification Needed on MLA Formatting for Essay 1" is clear and helpful; "HEEEEEEEELLLLLLPPPPPPP!" is not.

- *Include a salutation*

Professional emails usually follow an accepted protocol, using a title and last name OR an individual's first name (if that individual has indicated it is OK to do so). They typically begin with "Hello," or "Greetings," or "Dear," or some other polite address. When students write to me, they may call me **Dr. Evanko OR Rebecca**. Informal language as a salutation, such as "Hey," "Wazzup," or addressing me as "Rebecca Evanko" (using *both* my last name and first name), is **inappropriate and rude**.

- *Finish with a closing*

Close with an appropriate phrase such as "Sincerely," "Best regards," or "Thank you for your help" – and include both your first and last name.

- *Email is not texting*

Use correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Poor spelling and text abbreviations look bad in professional communication.

## ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE

Free tutoring, in person and/or online, is available at the UNM-Valencia Learning Center. Visit the LRC Building on campus or call 505-925-8907 to schedule tutoring. For more information, see: <http://www.unm.edu/~tutor>

## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), UNM is committed to equal educational opportunities for students with disabilities. If a student has a documented disability, he or she may request reasonable accommodation in relation to the course. To do so, please provide me with a copy of an Accommodations Letter from the Office of Student Services/Accessibility Services at UNM-Valencia as soon as possible. I am unable to accommodate any special needs without the proper authorization. For more information about rights and responsibilities in relation to a disability, please contact Jeanne Lujan, Coordinator for Equal Access, in Student Services at 505-925-8910 or email: [jmlujan@unm.edu](mailto:jmlujan@unm.edu). Students may also visit the UNM Accessibility Resource Center online at: <http://as2.unm.edu>

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Assistants are considered "responsible employees" by the Department of Education (see: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>; see page 15). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity (oeo.unm.edu). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>.

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Often, I can assist students who may be having difficulty accessing the course materials once in the course. However, I do not have the technical expertise or access to help students who have difficulty logging-on to Blackboard. And so, for **problems accessing the course materials** once in the course environment, please contact me by email at [rebeccaevanko@unm.edu](mailto:rebeccaevanko@unm.edu) or call (505) 585-1958.

For problems **logging-on to the course environment**, please call UNM Learn Support at 505-277-0857 (option 2), email [learn@unm.edu](mailto:learn@unm.edu), or go to <http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/support/index.html>. There are also Help Guides and online links within the Blackboard Learn environment.

## SEMESTER PLAN

The outline on the next few pages is an outline/overview of the semester assignments and activities. This document is also in the Blackboard course environment. In the event of changes, students will be given appropriate notice.

Dr. Rebecca Evanko  
August 28, 2017

## ENGLISH 150 SEMESTER PLAN

WEEK		READ (FROM COURSE CONTENT)	WRITE (IN BLACKBOARD)	DO (SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)	IMPORTANT DATES
1	<b>STARTS</b> SEPTEMBER 18  <b>ENDS</b> SEPTEMBER 24	<b>VIEW:</b> <i>Welcome and Introduction</i> <b>READ:</b> Introduction: English 150 <b>READ:</b> Syllabus <b>READ:</b> Semester Plan <b>READ:</b> English 150 FAQs	<b>WRITE:</b> Introductions Forum  <b>WRITE:</b> Any questions in the Questions Forum	<b>DO:</b> Carefully review the English 150 FAQs reading	<b>FIRST CLASS DAY</b> MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18
2	<b>STARTS</b> SEPTEMBER 25  <b>ENDS</b> OCTOBER 1	<b>READ:</b> Elements of Fiction <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Harry Potter and The Elements of Fiction</i>	<b>WRITE:</b> Elements of Fiction Forum  <i>Credit Eligible Forum (1/10)</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 1 – Syllabus <b>DO:</b> Quiz 2 – Elements of Fiction	<b>QUIZ 1 DUE</b> SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1  <b>QUIZ 2 DUE</b> SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1
3	<b>STARTS</b> OCTOBER 2  <b>ENDS</b> OCTOBER 8	<b>READ:</b> Theme and Symbolism Paul's Case <b>READ:</b> "Paul's Case" <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Paul's Case</i>	<b>WRITE:</b> Theme and Symbolism Forum  <i>Credit Eligible Forum (2/10)</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 3 – Paul's Case	<b>QUIZ 3 DUE</b> SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8
4	<b>STARTS</b> OCTOBER 9  <b>ENDS</b> OCTOBER 15	<b>READ:</b> Theme and Symbolism Essay <b>READ:</b> Style and Writing <b>READ:</b> Format an Essay to MLA <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Persuasive Writing</i> <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Avoiding Plagiarism</i> <b>VIEW:</b> <i>"Jessie's Girl"</i>	<b>WRITE:</b> Style and Writing Forum  <i>Credit Eligible Forum (3/10)</i>  <b>BONUS POINTS!</b>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 4 – Style and Writing <b>DO:</b> Write Theme and Symbolism Essay draft	<b>QUIZ 4 DUE</b> SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15
5	<b>STARTS</b> OCTOBER 16  <b>ENDS</b> OCTOBER 22	<b>READ:</b> Theme and Symbolism Essay Peer Review Checklist <b>READ:</b> Sample Analysis Essay	<b>WRITE:</b> Theme and Symbolism Essay Peer Review Forum  <i>Credit Eligible Forum (4/10)</i>  <b>BONUS POINTS!</b>	<b>DO:</b> Revise Theme and Symbolism Essay draft <b>DO:</b> Submit Theme and Symbolism Essay	<b>THEME AND SYMBOLISM ESSAY DUE</b> SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

WEEK		READ (FROM COURSE CONTENT)	WRITE (IN BLACKBOARD)	DO (SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)	IMPORTANT DATES
6	<b>STARTS</b> OCTOBER 23 <b>ENDS</b> OCTOBER 29	<b>READ:</b> Reflections <b>READ:</b> "Hills Like White Elephants" <b>READ:</b> "Letter to You" <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Hills</i> : Dir. Schiebel <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Hills</i> : Dir. Daniels	<b>WRITE:</b> Reflections Forum <i>Credit Eligible Forum (5/10)</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 5 – Hills Like White Elephants and Letter to You	<b>QUIZ 5 DUE</b> SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29
7	<b>STARTS</b> OCTOBER 30 <b>ENDS</b> NOVEMBER 5	<b>READ:</b> The Modern Age <b>READ:</b> "The Hollow Men" <b>VIEW:</b> The Hollow Men (Reading)	<b>WRITE:</b> Modern Age Forum <i>Credit Eligible Forum (6/10)</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 6 – The Hollow Men and Convergence	<b>QUIZ 6 DUE</b> SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5
8	<b>STARTS</b> NOVEMBER 6 <b>ENDS</b> NOVEMBER 12	<b>READ:</b> Viet Nam <b>READ/VIEW:</b> "Khe Sanh" <b>READ/VIEW:</b> "The Movie in My Mind" <b>READ:</b> Lyric/Poetry Assignment	<b>WRITE:</b> Modern Age Forum <i>Credit Eligible Forum (7/10)</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 7 – Viet Nam <b>DO:</b> Draft Lyric/Poetry Assignment	<b>QUIZ 7 DUE</b> SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12
9	<b>STARTS</b> NOVEMBER 13 <b>ENDS</b> NOVEMBER 19	<b>READ:</b> Identity <b>READ/VIEW:</b> "No Aphrodisiac" <b>VIEW:</b> <i>The DNA Journey</i>	<b>WRITE:</b> Modern Age Forum <i>Credit Eligible Forum (8/10)</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 8 – Identity <b>DO:</b> Submit Lyric/Poetry Assignment	<b>QUIZ 8 DUE</b> SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19  <b>LYRIC/POETRY ASSIGNMENT DUE</b> SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19
10	<b>STARTS</b> NOVEMBER 20 <b>ENDS</b> NOVEMBER 26	<b>READ:</b> On Literary Theory <b>READ:</b> The Whitney Sentence <b>READ:</b> Analysis Essay <b>VIEW:</b> <i>The Princess Bride</i> (excerpt)	<b>WRITE:</b> Literary Theory Forum <i>Credit Eligible Forum (9/10)</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 9 – Literary Theory and Modernism	<b>QUIZ 9 DUE</b> SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26  <b>SHORT WEEK: THANKSGIVING – NOVEMBER 23 AND 24</b>

WEEK		READ (FROM COURSE CONTENT)	WRITE (IN BLACKBOARD)	DO (SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)	IMPORTANT DATES	
11	<b>STARTS</b> NOVEMBER 27  <b>ENDS</b> DECEMBER 3	READ: The Salesman's Death READ: <i>Death of a Salesman</i> VIEW: <i>Death of a Salesman</i> VIEW: DOAS: <i>Thug Notes</i> READ: Amnesty Petition	<b>WRITE:</b> Death of a Salesman Forum  <i>Credit Eligible Forum (10/10)</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 10 – Death of a Salesman <b>DO:</b> Write Analysis Essay draft <b>DO:</b> Request Amnesty (if desired)	<b>QUIZ 10 DUE</b> SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3  <b>AMNESTY PETITION DUE</b> SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3	
12	<b>STARTS</b> DECEMBER 4  <b>ENDS</b> DECEMBER 10	READ: On the Final Exam	<b>WRITE:</b> Final Exam Forum	<b>DO:</b> Submit Analysis Essay <b>DO:</b> Prepare for Final Exam	<b>LAST CLASS DAY</b> FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8  <b>AMNESTY DUE</b> SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10  <b>ANALYSIS ESSAY DUE</b> SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10	
13	<b>STARTS</b> DECEMBER 11  <b>ENDS</b> DECEMBER 15	<b>FINAL EXAMINATION</b> <b>MONDAY, DECEMBER 11 – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13</b>				<b>FALL SEMESTER ENDS</b> FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15