

English 1410.550
Introduction to Literature
Jan 21, 2020 - May 16, 2020
Location: Online Course

Instructor: Deidre J. Williams
Email: djwill75@unm.edu

Course Description:

Students will be exposed to a variety of literary genres that include fiction, poetry, and drama. Students will identify common literary conventions in each genre, understanding how specific elements influence meaning and are related to understanding cultural, historical, and identity formations. Students will be expected to produce a formal literary analysis essay.

Student Learning Objectives:

After successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Read literature at the college level by gaining the ability to effectively identify and explain literary conventions, themes and tropes.
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of and ability to apply literary analysis (reader response, feminist, historical, cultural, and critical theory) when reading any text (novels, poems, plays, news articles, comics, memes, films, commercials, etc.).
- Apply critical thinking and analytical skills to understand the meanings in literature as well as developing an increased self-awareness of one's own life stories and the texts s/he encounters every day.

Essential Questions Asked Throughout the Course:

- How do we understand or learn about our Self better by reading?
- How do we learn to analyze or reflect on the world around us by reading?
- What is storytelling and why does it matter?
- How do we create and understand stories by using literary conventions?

Required Text:

- Kennedy, X.J. et al. 2013. *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Writing (Twelfth Edition)*. Pearson: Boston, Mass. ISBN: 100205-23038-5.
- Additional Required Readings available on UNMLearn in the "Readings" Folder.

Contacting Ms. Williams:

You can email me through the course page on UNMLearn by clicking on the "EMAIL" menu tab or by emailing me directly at djwill75@unm. Please include Lit 1410 in the subject line if you email me directly. You can anticipate a 24-hour response from me, Monday – Friday. I will try and respond to all weekend emails and postings by noon on Monday or earlier.

Course Participation and Graded Requirements

Course Expectations

Together, we will create a learning environment based on clear communication and mutual respect. EACH WEEK, students will be *expected* to complete the following by a stated deadline:

- View course module that may include lecture, video, and/or PowerPoint slides
- Read the assigned book chapters and/or supplemental readings
- Complete weekly Assignments: Journal, Discussions and Quizzes
- Time required (approximately 6-8 hrs. per week)

Course Orientation:

You are expected to complete the Assignments in the first week as a part of your orientation to this course. You will be held accountable for the use of the tools introduced in the orientation.

Weekly Assignments

40% of Grade

Assignments are available every Tuesday and Due the Following Monday by 8:00 pm.

Discussion Board: responses to instructor prompts and fellow students' posts.

Journal: a writing response (guided with specific questions) about the weekly readings/texts.

Quiz: multiple choice and T/F questions to test knowledge of key vocabulary, theoretical concepts, and points discussed in lecture and reading materials.

Midterm Exam

15% of Grade

Due on Monday 3/16 by 8:00 pm.

The format will be a short answer essay questions that build upon the application of literary analyses learned in the first eight weeks. Students will be able to refer to Journal Entries and notes.

Outline of Literary Analysis Paper and Final Project Proposal

10% of Grade

Due on Monday 4/13 by 8:00 pm.

Draft of Literary Analysis Paper

10% of Grade

Due on Monday 4/27 by 8:00 pm.

Creative Final Project (Media/Art/Visual Representation of Literary Analysis)

15% of Grade

Due Monday 5/4 by 8:00 pm

Final Literary Analysis Paper

10% of Grade

Due on Monday 5/11 by 8:00 pm.

Student Accountability

Late Assignments Policy:

Late assignments will NOT be accepted unless the student receives prior approval from the instructor.

This means that you have contacted me before the due date. In case of extenuating circumstances, please contact me as soon as possible.

Accountability & Support at UNM Valencia

Student Expectations for Online Courses:

- students are expected to submit all written work online
- students are expected to learn how to navigate in Learn
- students are expected to communicate respectfully with one another in discussions
- students are expected to read and respond to (if necessary) course announcements
- students are expected to use the Learn course email as opposed to a personal email
- students are expected to keep instructor informed of class related problems, or problems that may prevent the student from full participation—**prior** to due dates of assignments or class end date
- students are expected to address technical problems immediately

Key Rules of Conduct for UNM Learn:

- If you have a difficulty using a tool to complete work, use the “Create a Support Ticket” link in the Course Menu immediately and notify your instructor as well.
- All postings and emails must meet the standards as set by Netiquette, as you will read in the course orientation module. Any post that is designed to attack or dis-respect a fellow student or the instructor is considered a serious violation. Such a post will be taken down immediately and the student who made the post will not receive credit for the assignment.
- Students who fail to comply with the above expectations, particularly the proper use of Netiquette, may be asked to leave the course. Repeated incidents may result in the student being dropped from the course or further disciplinary action.

Technical Requirements:

- Reliable access to a Computer and a high-speed Internet connection.
- Supported browsers include: Internet Explorer, Firefox, and Safari. Detailed Supported Browsers and Operating Systems: <http://online.unm.edu/lms/help/browsers>
- A computer’s processor speed, RAM and Internet connection can **greatly** affect performance. Please utilize internet access at your high school or UNM Valencia.
- If you have questions about UNM Learn/computer-related issues, please call (505) 277-5757, M-F, 8:00 am-12:00 noon and M-F, 1:00 pm-5:00 pm MST. Computer technicians are available and happy to help you solve those difficult problems. For Blackboard Learn Assistance click on the tab entitled, “How to use Learn,” which is located on the left-hand menu bar of our course page.

UNM Code of Conduct:

Students will be disciplined when engaged in any behaviors that “affect adversely the University’s educational function, to disrupt community living on campus, or to interfere with the rights of others to pursue their education, to conduct their University duties and responsibilities or to participate in University activities” (UNM-VC 2012-14 Catalogue p. 179)

*. This course has a zero-tolerance policy on academic dishonesty and plagiarism. When found

guilty, the student will be dropped from this course and a report will be submitted to the Department Chair and the Dean of Instruction. The same report will be kept in the student's academic file.

- **Academic Dishonesty** includes “but not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments: claiming credit for work not done by you or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students,” etc. Any student suspected of academic dishonesty will be subject to the investigative and disciplinary process of UNM (p.29) *.
- **Plagiarism** is intellectual theft. Plagiarism is when you copy an idea or any text that is more than six words from any source, including the Internet or your friends, without citing the source. To avoid plagiarism, you must enclose whatever you copy in quotation marks and cite the source.
- **Mutual Respect** is expected between students as well as between students and the professor. All forms of harassment or abuse will be handled according to the Student Code of Conduct Policy of UNM (pp. 186-188) *.

Title XI Rights and Responsibilities

“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 pg. 15 - <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>). 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>. Please note that UNM has three offices where you can report incidents and concerns confidentially, meaning that the staff there will NOT contact the Office of Equal Opportunity without your consent. These are LoboRespect Advocacy Center (<http://loborespect.unm.edu>), the Women's Resource Center (<https://women.unm.edu>) and the LGBTQ Resource Center (<http://lgbtqrc.unm.edu>).”

Classroom and Learning Accessibility:

In accordance with University Policy 2310 and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any student who, because of a disability, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact both the instructor and the Accessibility Resource Center as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. It is the responsibility of the student to request accommodation for individual learning needs.

*For more information about UNM Policy and Codes of Conduct, please refer to UNM Student Handbook at: <http://pathfinder.unm.edu/>.

Course Schedule*

*Subject to change based on learning objectives

I may very well cut or change some readings based on student needs. *

- Week 1**
Jan 21 **Course Orientation**
An Invitation to Being a Curious Reader
Readings: Welcome Letter, Syllabus, Netiquette, *The First Day* by Edward P. Jones, and “*What is a Story*” (*online article*).
Audio Visual: *Edward P. Jones on Writing* (2:34 min and 29:00 min)
Applying: Journal 1, Discussion 1, Quiz 1
Assignments Due Mon Jan 27 by 8:00pm
- **Note Each Week will look similar to above with a variety of readings and audio visuals as well as 3-4 Assignments.
- Week 2**
Jan 28 **Reader Response Analysis & Close Reading**
Narratives and Storytelling
Readings: (will provide in PDF)
Excerpts from the following authors: Sherman Alexie, Sandra Cisneros, Cherrie Moraga, Maya Angelou, and Junot Diaz
Audio Visuals: TBD
- Week 3**
Feb 4 **Intro to Critical Literary Analysis**
Point of View and Identity
Readings: (from Ch. 2 of Textbook)
William Faulkner, *A Rose for Emily*
ZZ Packer, *Brownies*
Eudora Welty, *A Worn Path*
James Baldwin, *Sonny’s Blues*
Audio Visuals: *The Doll Test & The Imitation of Life*
- Week 4**
Feb 11 **The Situation and the Story**
Understanding Themes & Tropes
Readings: (from Ch. 6 of textbook)
Stephen Crane, *The Open Boat*
Alice Munro, *How I Met My Husband*
Luke 15:11-32, *The Parable of the Prodigal Son*
Kurt Vonnegut Jr., *Harrison Bergeron*

- Week 5**
Feb 18 **Setting & Voice**
A Sense of Place
Readings: (from Ch. 4 of textbook)
Kate Chopin, *The Storm*
Jack London, *To Build a Fire*
Amy Tan, *A Pair of Tickets*
Alice Walker, *Everyday Use*
Audio Visuals: film clips TBD
- Week 6**
Feb 25 **Studies of Symbolism**
Recognizing Tropes and Allegory
Readings: (from Ch. 7 of textbook)
John Steinbeck, *The Chrysanthemum*
John Cheever, *The Swimmer*
Shirley Jackson, *The Lottery*
Audio Visuals: lecture and images
- Week 7**
Mar 3 **Character and Reader Expectations**
Creating “The Other”
Readings: (from Ch. 3 of textbook)
Raymond Carver, *Cathedral*
Annie Proulx, *Brokeback Mountain (pdf)*
Audio Visuals: Clips from the film, *The Elephant Man*
- Week 8**
Mar 10 **Pause, Review & Clarify Concepts**
Lecture and Discussion
No additional Readings
- Midterm Exam Due on Monday 3/16 by 8:00 pm.**
- Week 9**
Mar 17 **SPRING BREAK**
No Assignments
- Week 10**
Mar 24 **Applying Feminist Literary Criticism**
Social Meaning and Allegory
Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *The Yellow Wallpaper*
Marge Piercy, *Barbie Doll (pdf)*

Audio Visuals: TBD
Week 11 **Science Fiction & Horror**
Mar 31 Social Meaning and “Other” Worlds
Readings:
Ursula K. Le Guin, *The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas* (from Ch. 7)
Octavia Butler, *Bloodchild*
H.P. Lovecraft, *Rats in the Walls*
Edgar Allan Poe, *The Tell-Tale Heart* (from Ch.10 of text)

Week 12 **Tone & Style**
Apr 7 Lecture and Discussion
No additional Readings

Outline of Literary Analysis Paper and Creative Project Proposal
Due on Monday 4/13 by 8:00 pm.

Week 13 **Intro to Poetry**
Apr 14 Readings: Ch. 13 Reading a Poem
Robert Frost, Adrienne Rich, Joy Harjo

Week 14 **Poetry Part II**
Apr 21 Poetry from the following Authors:
Sharon Olds, T.S. Elliott, E.E. Cummings, Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman,
Benjamin Alire Saenz

Draft of Literary Analysis Paper
Due on Monday 4/27 by 8:00 pm.

Week 15 **Intro to Drama**
Apr 28 Play: *Fences* pp. 1883 of textbook

Creative Final Project (Media/Art/Visual Representation of Literary Analysis)
Due Monday 5/4 by 8:00 pm

Week 16 **Drama Part II**
May 5 Readings: Ch. 39, Evaluating a Play

Week 17 **FINALS WEEK**
May 11 **Final Literary Analysis Paper Due by 8:00 pm**