



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO-VALENCIA

ENGLISH 150: THE STUDY OF LITERATURE

SYLLABUS SPRING 2016 (JANUARY 19, 2016 – MAY 14, 2016)

3 CREDIT HOURS: CRNs 53011; 56167

BELEN HIGH SCHOOL

DUAL CREDIT
ONLINE
SECTIONS 550 & 551

SCHOOL OF DREAMS ACADEMY

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



'La vraie vie ... c'est la littérature'
Marcel Proust
(True life is literature)

Dr. Rebecca Flores, Instructor

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SPECIAL NOTE

I will be online regularly on Mondays – Thursdays; know, however, that I **WILL NOT** be online or available on Fridays, during weekends, holidays, or evenings.

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 three main literary genres: short fiction, drama, and poetry.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

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

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- ! UNM email address
- ! Access to Blackboard Learn
- ! Access to Microsoft Office (Word)

TEXTS:

The course uses a variety of literature genres, including the short story, poem, and play. Many of the texts are drawn from the Kennedy and Gioia textbook, *Introduction to Literature*, and this book will be referenced throughout the course. While links to all assigned texts are provided in the Blackboard environment, students are encouraged to use the Kennedy and Gioia book – or earlier versions – to which they may have access.

Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Writing. Ed. X.J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia. 8th compact ed. New York: Pearson, 2016. Print.

It is also recommended that students have access to a collegiate-level grammar/writing handbook, such as *The Little Brown* or the *Penguin Handbook*.

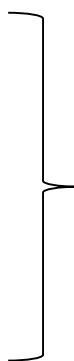
ASSIGNMENTS**ESSAYS**

	GRADE %	DUE DATE
Essay 1: Theme and Symbolism (1,000 words)	10 %	Sunday, February 28
Essay 2: Reflection (1,000 words)	10 %	Sunday, March 13
Essay 3: Analysis (1,500 words)	20 %	Sunday, May 8

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

Lyric/Poetry Assignment (min. 500 words)	10 %	Sunday, April 17
Discussion Forum Writing		<i>Due each week: designed to help with assignments</i>

TESTS, QUIZZES, EXAMS

Elements of Fiction Test	10 %	Sunday, January 31
Quiz 1: Syllabus		Sunday, January 24
Quiz 2: The Lottery		Sunday, February 7
Quiz 3: The Chrysanthemums		Sunday, February 14
Quiz 4: Style and Writing		Sunday, February 21
Quiz 5: Hills and Letter To You		Sunday, March 6
Quiz 6: Prufrock		Sunday, March 27
Quiz 7: Khe Sanh and Movie		Sunday, April 3
Quiz 8: No Aphrodisiac		Sunday, April 10
Quiz 9: Literary Theory		Sunday, April 24
Quiz 10: Death of a Salesman		Sunday, May 1
Final Exam	20 %	Week of May 9-15 (time block to be advised)
TOTAL:	100 %	

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSIONS

- ALL assignments **MUST** be submitted within the Blackboard Learn Course environment.
- Each assignment contains specific directions for submission that **MUST** be followed.
- Essays **MUST** be submitted as Word documents, correctly formatted to MLA, and be one of the following three file extensions: .doc., .docx., or .rtf. No other file extension will be accepted, and essays not submitted in Word will be returned to the student with points deducted for being late.
- Assignments **MUST** be submitted at or before midnight on the due date, as indicated by the time and day in the Blackboard Learn environment. Whether submitted one minute, five minutes, or five hours late, an assignment submitted after midnight on the due date **WILL** be marked late and receive penalty.

A NOTE ABOUT ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are available at the beginning of semester. Students can work on these assignments anytime they are available; just NOT after the due date.

LATE SUBMISSIONS, MAKE-UPS, EXTRA CREDIT

I do NOT assign make-up work or extra credit. The course grade is earned through completion and submission of assignments, tests and quizzes, class participation activities, and the final examination. The late submission policy is as follows:

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

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 about those 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

A+	97-100 %
A	94-96 %
A-	90-93 %

B+	87-89 %
B	84-86 %
B-	80-83 %

C+	77-79 %
C	74-76 %
C-	70-73 %

FAILING GRADES

D	Below 70 %
F	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 for this semester without a recorded grade is **Friday, February 5**, and the last day to withdraw with a grade of "W" (and without approval of the Student Affairs Director) is **Friday, April 15**.

Know that I may also 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, at the point of **midterm** (end of Week 8), **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 it, or rephrasing another's ideas and passing them off as a student's own original thought or writing. To learn how to avoid plagiarism, students can ask me, consult a tutor, or see: <http://library.acadiau.ca/tutorials/plagiarism>.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Active and regular participation in class, including having read the assigned material and being prepared to engage in the course discussion forums, is required in this course. Attendance and overall participation is measured by weekly work on Blackboard Learn. 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, or high-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 the purview of "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 student behavior reflects an attitude that there is something to be gained from *every* situation, and much of what one gains from it depends on what one puts into it. 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. 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

Students should keep the following in mind when writing emails, 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; "HEEEEEEEEEELLLLLLPPPPPP!" 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. Flores** OR **Rebecca**. Informal language as a salutation, such as “Hey,” “Wazzzup,” or – inexplicably, as I’ve seen in the past – using *both* my last name and first name, is inappropriate and rude.

- *Include a closing*
Close with an appropriate phrase such as “Sincerely,” “Best regards,” or “Thank you for your help” – and include your first and last name.
- *Email is not texting*
Apart from the fact that this is an English course – and, therefore, correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation goes with the territory, poor spelling and text abbreviations look bad in professional communication. So, save the text/speak lingo for another time and place.
- *Use upper and lower case lettering*
IT’S GENERALLY ACCEPTED THAT WRITING ALL IN CAPS IS THE EQUIVALENT OF SHOUTING!!!!!! Please don’t!

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 Hank Vigil in Student Services at 505-925-8910 or email: [vigilh@unm.edu](mailto:viglih@unm.edu). Students may also visit the UNM Accessibility Resource Center online at: <http://as2.unm.edu/>

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For questions about computer-related problems, call UNM Learn Support at 505-277-0857 (option 2), email 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 a guide to the planned semester activities. This document is also in the Blackboard course environment. Changes may need to be made. In that event, students will be given appropriate notice.

Dr. Rebecca Flores
January 7, 2016

ENGLISH 150 SEMESTER PLAN

WEEK		READ (FROM COURSE CONTENT)	WRITE (IN BLACKBOARD)	DO (SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)	IMPORTANT DATES
1	JANUARY 18 – 24	READ: Introduction to English 150 READ: Syllabus READ: Semester Plan	WRITE: Introductions Forum WRITE: Any questions about the class in the Questions Forum	DO: Quiz 1 – Syllabus	QUIZ 1 DUE SUNDAY, JANUARY 24
2	JANUARY 25 – 31	READ: Elements of Fiction READ: Message to My Freshman Students	WRITE: Elements of Fiction Forum	DO: Test – Elements of Fiction	ELEMENTS OF FICTION TEST DUE SUNDAY, JANUARY 31
3	FEBRUARY 1 – 7	READ: Theme and Symbolism in Jackson READ: “The Lottery”	WRITE: Theme and Symbolism Forum	DO: Quiz 2 – The Lottery	LAST DAY TO DROP (NO GRADE RECORDED) FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5 QUIZ 2 DUE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7
4	FEBRUARY 8 – 14	READ: Theme and Symbolism in Steinbeck READ: “The Chrysanthemums”	WRITE: Theme and Symbolism Forum	DO: Quiz 3 – The Chrysanthemums	QUIZ 3 DUE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14
5	FEBRUARY 15 – 21	READ: Essay 1: Theme and Symbolism READ: On Style and Writing READ: Format an Essay to MLA VIEW: Format an Essay to MLA	WRITE: Style and Writing Forum WRITE: MLA Forum (for MLA Questions)	DO: Quiz 4 – Style and Writing DO: Write Essay 1 draft	QUIZ 4 DUE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21
6	FEBRUARY 22 – 28	READ: Essay 1 Peer Review Checklist	WRITE: Essay 1 Peer Review Forum	DO: Revise Essay 1 draft DO: Submit Essay 1	ESSAY 1 DUE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

WEEK		READ (FROM COURSE CONTENT)	WRITE (IN BLACKBOARD)	DO (SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)	IMPORTANT DATES
7	FEBRUARY 29 – MARCH 6	READ: Reflections and Identity READ: “Hills Like White Elephants” READ: “Letter to You” READ: Essay 2: Reflections	WRITE: Reflection and Identity Forum	DO: Quiz 5 – Hills Like White Elephants and Letter to You DO: Write Essay 2 draft	QUIZ 5 DUE SUNDAY, MARCH 6
8	MARCH 7 – 13	READ: Essay 2 Peer Review Checklist	WRITE: Essay 2 Peer Review Forum	DO: Revise Essay 2 draft DO: Submit Essay 2	ESSAY 2 DUE SUNDAY, MARCH 13
9	MARCH 14 – 20	S P R I N G B R E A K			
10	MARCH 21 - 27	READ: The Modern Age READ: “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”	WRITE: Modern Age Forum	DO: Quiz 6 – The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock	QUIZ 6 DUE SUNDAY, MARCH 27
11	MARCH 28 – APRIL 3	READ: Viet Nam READ: “Khe Sanh” READ: “The Movie in My Mind” VIEW: “Khe Sanh” VIEW: “The Movie in My Mind”	WRITE: Modern Age Forum	DO: Quiz 7 – Khe Sanh and The Movie in My Mind	QUIZ 7 DUE SUNDAY, APRIL 3
12	APRIL 4 – 10	READ: Identity READ: “No Aphrodisiac” READ: Lyric/Poetry Assignment VIEW: “No Aphrodisiac”	WRITE: Modern Age Forum WRITE: Lyric/Poetry Forum	DO: Quiz 8 – No Aphrodisiac	QUIZ 8 DUE SUNDAY, APRIL 10
13	APRIL 11 – 17	READ: On Literary Theory READ: The Whitney Sentence VIEW: Excerpt from <i>The Princess Bride</i>	WRITE: Literary Theory Forum WRITE: Lyric/Poetry Assignment	DO: Submit Lyric/Poetry Assignment (in Blackboard)	LAST DAY TO DROP (W) FRIDAY, APRIL 15 LYRIC/POETRY ASSIGNMENT DUE SUNDAY, APRIL 17

WEEK		READ (FROM COURSE CONTENT)	WRITE (IN BLACKBOARD)	DO (SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)	IMPORTANT DATES
14	APRIL 18 – 24	READ: The Salesman's Death READ: <i>Death of a Salesman</i> READ: Essay 3: Analysis	WRITE: Death of a Salesman Forum	DO: Quiz 9 – Literary Theory	QUIZ 9 DUE SUNDAY, APRIL 24
15	APRIL 25 – MAY 1	READ: <i>Death of a Salesman</i> (as needed/continued) VIEW: <i>Death of a Salesman</i>	WRITE: Death of a Salesman Forum	DO: Quiz 10 – Death of a Salesman DO: Write Essay 3 draft	QUIZ 10 DUE SUNDAY, MAY 1
16	MAY 2 – 8	READ: Essay 3 Peer Review Checklist READ: <i>Death of a Salesman</i> (as needed/continued) READ: On the Final Exam	WRITE: Essay 3 Peer Review Forum WRITE: Death of a Salesman Forum WRITE: Any questions about the final exam in the Final Exam Discussion Forum	DO: Revise Essay 3 draft DO: Submit Essay 3 DO: Prepare for Final Exam	LAST INSTRUCTIONAL DAY FRIDAY, MAY 6 ESSAY 3 DUE SUNDAY, MAY 8
17	MAY 9 – 14	PREPARE FOR FINAL EXAMINATION DAY(S) AND TIME BLOCK TO BE ADVISED			SPRING SEMESTER ENDS SATURDAY, MAY 14