



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

SYLLABUS SPRING 2017 – 12 WEEK COURSE  
FEBRUARY 13, 2017 – MAY 12, 2017



3 CREDIT HOURS: CRN 39044 and 44373

ENGLISH 150.550 (39044: BHS) and 150.551 (44373: SODA) ONLINE

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

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**Blackboard UNM Support:** (505) 277 0857

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

**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, 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**

<b>WRITING ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>GRADE %</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES</b>
Essay 1: Theme and Symbolism	10 %	Sunday, March 19	1; 2; 3; 4
Essay 2: Reflection	15 %	Sunday, April 2	1; 2; 3; 4
Lyric/Poetry Assignment	10 %	Sunday, April 23	1; 2; 4
Essay 3: Analysis with Literary Theory	25 %	Sunday, May 7	1; 2; 3; 4
Discussion Forum Writing	10 %	By the end of each week assigned	1; 2; 4
<b>TESTS, QUIZZES, EXAMS</b>			
Elements of Fiction Test	5 %	Sunday, February 26	2
Quiz 1: Syllabus	10 %	Sunday, February 26	
Quiz 2: The Lottery		Sunday, March 5	2
Quiz 3: The Chrysanthemums		Sunday, March 5	2
Quiz 4: Style and Writing		Sunday, March 12	2
Quiz 5: Hills and Letter To You		Sunday, March 26	2
Quiz 6: Prufrock and The Hollow Men		Sunday, April 9	2
Quiz 7: Khe Sanh and Movie		Sunday, April 16	2
Quiz 8: No Aphrodisiac		Sunday, April 16	2
Quiz 9: Literary Theory and Modernism		Sunday, April 23	2
Quiz 10: Death of a Salesman		Sunday, April 30	2
Final Exam	15 %	Monday-Wednesday, May 8 – 10	1; 2; 3; 4
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100 %</b>		

**DISCUSSION FORUM WRITING**

Participation through writing on the Discussion Forums is a graded assignment and is weighted at 10 percent of the English 150 course grade. Students are expected to participate by writing on the forums throughout the semester. Each “meaningful” post is worth one (1) point. Ten (10) forums are eligible for graded participation, as below, with a baseline (that is, excluding bonus credit) maximum credit eligibility per forum of three (3) points. Credit for forum writing comes from original posts (creating a thread) and responding to other posts. To gain credit for Discussion Forum participation, however, 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 showing a reasonable reaction that demonstrates understanding or engaged awareness of the topic under consideration. Models of “meaningful” posts will be given.

**Credit-Eligible Discussion Forums**

- Introductions
- Elements of Fiction
- Theme and Symbolism
- Style and Writing
- Essay 1 Peer Review (bonus points)
- Reflection and Identity
- Essay 2 Peer Review (bonus points)
- The Modern Age
- Literary Theory
- Death of a Salesman

**Bonus Points:** Up to ten (10) bonus points can be earned on the Peer Review Forums for Essays 1 and 2 (5 bonus points each forum) by *posting a draft of your own essay and responding to the draft of another using the Peer Review Rubric for the respective essays*. 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 forums – up to a maximum of three (3) points per forum – provided the posts are “meaningful.” Bonus points are earned *in addition* to the maximum baseline credit.

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

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

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

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

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

\* 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, tests and 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 and Tests: **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, 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 during Week 11 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, April 14**.

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 7 (April 2) 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 is **NO DEFENSE** to say "I did not know." To learn how to avoid plagiarism, students can ask me, 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, **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 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 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; "HEEEEEEEEEELLLLLLLLLPPPPPP!" 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," "Wazzzup," 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/ga-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](http://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 at all 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*  
*January 13, 2017*

## ENGLISH 150 SEMESTER PLAN

WEEK		READ (FROM COURSE CONTENT)	WRITE (IN BLACKBOARD)	DO (SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)	IMPORTANT DATES
1	FEBRUARY 13 – 19	<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>Credit Eligible Forum</b> <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, FEBRUARY 13
2	FEBRUARY 20 – 26	<b>READ:</b> Elements of Fiction <b>READ:</b> Message to My Freshman Students <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Harry Potter and The Elements of Fiction</i>	<b>WRITE:</b> Elements of Fiction Forum <b>Credit Eligible Forum</b>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 1 – Syllabus <b>DO:</b> Test – Elements of Fiction	<b>QUIZ 1 DUE</b> SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26  <b>ELEMENTS OF FICTION TEST DUE</b> SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26
3	FEBRUARY 27 – MARCH 5	<b>READ:</b> Theme and Symbolism in Jackson <b>READ:</b> “The Lottery” <b>READ:</b> Theme and Symbolism in Steinbeck <b>READ:</b> “The Chrysanthemums” <b>VIEW:</b> <i>The Lottery</i> <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Absolutely Fabulous</i>	<b>WRITE:</b> Theme and Symbolism Forum <b>Credit Eligible Forum</b>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 2 – The Lottery <b>DO:</b> Quiz 3 – The Chrysanthemums	<b>QUIZ 2 DUE</b> SUNDAY, MARCH 5  <b>QUIZ 3 DUE</b> SUNDAY, MARCH 5
4	MARCH 6 – 12	<b>READ:</b> Essay 1: Theme and Symbolism <b>READ:</b> On 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>WRITE:</b> Style and Writing Forum  <b>Credit Eligible Forum</b> <b>BONUS POINTS! (5)</b>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 4 – Style and Writing <b>DO:</b> Write Essay 1 draft	<b>QUIZ 4 DUE</b> SUNDAY, MARCH 12
5	MARCH 13 – 19	<b>READ:</b> Essay 1 Peer Review Checklist <b>READ:</b> Sample Analytical Essay	<b>WRITE:</b> Essay 1 Peer Review Forum  <b>Credit Eligible Forum</b> <b>BONUS POINTS! (5)</b>	<b>DO:</b> Revise Essay 1 draft <b>DO:</b> Submit Essay 1	<b>ESSAY 1 DUE</b> SUNDAY, MARCH 19  <b>SPRING BREAK</b> <b>Limited class activity</b>

WEEK		READ (FROM COURSE CONTENT)	WRITE (IN BLACKBOARD)	DO (SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)	IMPORTANT DATES
6	MARCH 20 – 26	<b>READ:</b> Reflections and Identity <b>READ:</b> “Hills Like White Elephants” <b>READ:</b> “Letter to You” <b>READ:</b> Essay 2: Reflections <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Hills: Dir. Schiebel</i> <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Hills: Dir. Daniels</i>	<b>WRITE:</b> Reflection and Identity Forum <i>Credit Eligible Forum</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 5 – Hills Like White Elephants and Letter to You <b>DO:</b> Write Essay 2 draft	<b>QUIZ 5 DUE</b> SUNDAY, MARCH 26
7	MARCH 27 – APRIL 2	<b>READ:</b> Essay 2 Peer Review Checklist	<b>WRITE:</b> Essay 2 Peer Review Forum  <i>Credit Eligible Forum</i> <b>BONUS POINTS! (5)</b>	<b>DO:</b> Revise Essay 2 draft <b>DO:</b> Submit Essay 2	<b>ESSAY 2 DUE</b> SUNDAY, APRIL 2
8	APRIL 3 – 9	<b>READ:</b> The Modern Age <b>READ:</b> “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” <b>READ:</b> “The Hollow Men” <b>VIEW:</b> Prufrock (Reading) <b>VIEW:</b> The Hollow Men (Reading)	<b>WRITE:</b> Modern Age Forum <i>Credit Eligible Forum</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 6 – The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock and The Hollow Men	<b>QUIZ 6 DUE</b> SUNDAY, APRIL 9
9	APRIL 10 – 16	<b>READ:</b> Viet Nam <b>READ:</b> Identity <b>READ:</b> Lyric/Poetry Assignment <b>READ/VIEW:</b> “Khe Sanh” <b>READ/VIEW:</b> “The Movie in My Mind” <b>READ/VIEW:</b> “No Aphrodisiac” <b>VIEW:</b> <i>The DNA Journey</i>	<b>WRITE:</b> Modern Age Forum	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 7 – Khe Sanh and The Movie in My Mind <b>DO:</b> Quiz 8 – No Aphrodisiac	<b>LAST DAY TO DROP (W)</b> <b>FRIDAY, APRIL 14</b>  <b>QUIZ 7 DUE</b> SUNDAY, APRIL 16  <b>QUIZ 8 DUE</b> SUNDAY, APRIL 16
10	APRIL 17 – 23	<b>READ:</b> On Literary Theory <b>READ:</b> The Whitney Sentence <b>READ:</b> Essay 3: Analysis <b>VIEW:</b> <i>The Princess Bride (excerpt)</i>	<b>WRITE:</b> Literary Theory Forum <i>Credit Eligible Forum</i>	<b>DO:</b> Submit Lyric/Poetry Assignment <b>DO:</b> Quiz 9 – Literary Theory and Modernism	<b>LYRIC/POETRY ASSIGNMENT DUE</b> SUNDAY, APRIL 23  <b>QUIZ 9 DUE</b> SUNDAY, APRIL 23

WEEK		READ (FROM COURSE CONTENT)	WRITE (IN BLACKBOARD)	DO (SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)	IMPORTANT DATES
11	APRIL 24 – 30	<b>READ:</b> The Salesman's Death <b>READ:</b> <i>Death of a Salesman</i> <b>VIEW:</b> <i>Death of a Salesman</i> <b>VIEW:</b> <i>DOAS: Thug Notes</i> <b>READ:</b> Amnesty Petition	<b>WRITE:</b> Death of a Salesman Forum <i>Credit Eligible Forum</i>	<b>DO:</b> Quiz 10 – Death of a Salesman <b>DO:</b> Write Essay 3 draft <b>DO:</b> Request Amnesty (if desired)	<b>QUIZ 10 DUE</b> SUNDAY, APRIL 30  <b>AMNESTY PETITION DUE</b> SUNDAY, APRIL 30
12	MAY 1 – 7	<b>READ:</b> On the Final Exam	<b>WRITE:</b> Final Exam Forum	<b>DO:</b> Submit Essay 3 <b>DO:</b> Prepare for Final Exam	<b>LAST CLASS DAY</b> FRIDAY, MAY 5  <b>AMNESTY DUE</b> SUNDAY, MAY 7  <b>ESSAY 3 DUE</b> SUNDAY, MAY 7
13	MAY 8 – 14	<b>FINAL EXAMINATION</b> <b>MONDAY, MAY 8 – WEDNESDAY, MAY 10</b>			<b>SPRING SEMESTER ENDS</b> FRIDAY, MAY 12