



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



SYLLABUS SPRING 2018 – 12 WEEK COURSE  
FEBRUARY 12, 2018 – MAY 12, 2018

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  
B.A., M.A., Ph.D.

**Email:** [rebeccaevanko@unm.edu](mailto:rebeccaevanko@unm.edu)

**Tel:** (505) 585-1958

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

**Online Availability**

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Monday                       | Online throughout the day |
| Tuesday                      | Not Available/Not Online  |
| Wednesday                    | Online throughout the day |
| Thursday                     | Not Available/Not Online  |
| 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, March 18  | 1; 2; 3; 4        |
| Lyric/Poetry Assignment               | 15 %         | Sunday, April 15  | 1; 2; 4           |
| Analysis Essay                        | 25 %         | Sunday, May 6   | 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, February 25   |                   |
| Quiz 2: Elements of Fiction           |              | Sunday, February 25   | 2                 |
| Quiz 3: Paul's Case                   |              | Sunday, March 4   | 2                 |
| Quiz 4: Style and Writing             |              | Sunday, March 11  | 2                 |
| Quiz 5: Hills and Letter To You       |              | Sunday, March 25  | 2                 |
| Quiz 6: Hollow Men and Convergence    |              | Sunday, April 1   | 2                 |
| Quiz 7: Viet Nam                      |              | Sunday, April 8   | 2                 |
| Quiz 8: Identity                      |              | Sunday, April 15  | 2                 |
| Quiz 9: Literary Theory and Modernism |              | Sunday, April 22  | 2                 |
| Quiz 10: Death of a Salesman          |              | Sunday, April 29  | 2                 |
| Final Exam                            | 25 %         | Monday-Wednesday, May 7-9   | 1; 2; 3; 4        |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                         | <b>100 %</b> | <b>Note: Final exam opens 11:00 a.m. May 7<br/>Final exam closes 11:00 a.m. May 9</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."

**"MEANINGFUL" DISCUSSION POSTS**

To gain credit when responding to peers on the discussion forums, the writing must be "meaningful." This means posting in complete sentences while also *demonstrating understanding or engaged awareness of the topic and contributing to the discussion* in a meaningful way. Writing something like, "I agree with everything you said" or "You wrote a really great post and helped me understand" is, by itself, NOT "meaningful." Merely agreeing or pointing out your understanding has reached a higher level is insufficient to gain credit. Instead, if you agree with a post's points, say so – but *explain why* you agree using *examples of your own* to illustrate your agreement. The same goes for disagreeing. Seek to show how your response reflects the post to which you are responding and also adds something new to the discussion.

**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 (Weeks 7, 8, and 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. Essays submitted in other types of formats that cannot be opened will be returned and late penalties will be levied for follow-up submissions.
- 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: **Late work is NOT accepted.**
- Quizzes: **Late work is NOT accepted.**
- Final Examination: **Late work is NOT 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. Amnesty is NOT a right or a given. 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 English Department Chair 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>A</b>  | 94-96 %  | <b>B</b>  | 84-86 % |
| <b>A-</b> | 90-93 %  | <b>B-</b> | 80-83 % |

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| <b>C+</b> | 77-79 % |
| <b>C</b>  | 74-76 % |
| <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 13**. 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, **at the end of Week 6 (March 25) 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.

### **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*

*February 4, 2018*

## ENGLISH 150 SEMESTER PLAN

| WEEK |  | READ<br>(FROM COURSE CONTENT)  | WRITE<br>(IN BLACKBOARD)   | DO<br>(SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)   | IMPORTANT DATES  |
|------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1    | <b>STARTS</b><br>FEBRUARY 12<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>FEBRUARY 18 | <b>READ:</b> Introduction: English 150<br><b>READ:</b> Syllabus<br><b>READ:</b> English 150 FAQs   | <b>WRITE:</b> Introductions Forum<br><br><b>WRITE:</b> Any questions in the Questions Forum  | <b>DO:</b> Carefully review the English 150 FAQs reading   | <b>FIRST CLASS DAY</b><br>MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12  |
| 2    | <b>STARTS</b><br>FEBRUARY 19<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>FEBRUARY 25 | <b>READ:</b> Elements of Fiction<br><b>VIEW:</b> <i>Harry Potter and The Elements of Fiction</i>   | <b>WRITE:</b> Elements of Fiction Forum<br><br><i>Credit Eligible Forum (1/10)</i>   | <b>DO:</b> Quiz 1 – Syllabus<br><b>DO:</b> Quiz 2 – Elements of Fiction                          | <b>QUIZ 1 DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25<br><br><b>QUIZ 2 DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 |
| 3    | <b>STARTS</b><br>FEBRUARY 26<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>MARCH 4     | <b>READ:</b> Theme and Symbolism Paul's Case<br><b>READ:</b> "Paul's Case"<br><b>VIEW:</b> <i>Paul's Case</i>  | <b>WRITE:</b> Theme and Symbolism Forum<br><br><i>Credit Eligible Forum (2/10)</i>   | <b>DO:</b> Quiz 3 – Paul's Case  | <b>QUIZ 3 DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, MARCH 4   |
| 4    | <b>STARTS</b><br>MARCH 5<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>MARCH 11        | <b>READ:</b> Theme and Symbolism Essay<br><b>READ:</b> Style and Writing<br><b>READ:</b> Format an Essay to MLA<br><b>VIEW:</b> <i>Persuasive Writing</i><br><b>VIEW:</b> <i>Avoiding Plagiarism</i><br><b>VIEW:</b> "Jessie's Girl" | <b>WRITE:</b> Style and Writing Forum<br><br><i>Credit Eligible Forum (3/10)</i>   | <b>DO:</b> Quiz 4 – Style and Writing<br><b>DO:</b> Write Theme and Symbolism Essay draft        | <b>QUIZ 4 DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, MARCH 11  |
| 5    | <b>STARTS</b><br>MARCH 12<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>MARCH 18       | <b>READ:</b> Theme and Symbolism Essay Peer Review Checklist<br><b>READ:</b> Sample Analysis Essay   | <b>WRITE:</b> Theme and Symbolism Essay Peer Review Forum<br><br><i>Credit Eligible Forum (4/10)</i><br> <b>BONUS POINTS!</b> | <b>DO:</b> Revise Theme and Symbolism Essay draft<br><b>DO:</b> Submit Theme and Symbolism Essay | <b>THEME AND SYMBOLISM ESSAY DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, MARCH 18<br><br><b>UNM SPRING BREAK</b>  |

| WEEK |  | READ<br>(FROM COURSE CONTENT)   | WRITE<br>(IN BLACKBOARD)   | DO<br>(SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)  | IMPORTANT DATES   |
|------|--|---|--|---|---|
| 6    | <b>STARTS</b><br>MARCH 19<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>MARCH 25 | <b>READ:</b> Reflections<br><b>READ:</b> "Hills Like White Elephants"<br><b>READ:</b> "Letter to You"<br><b>VIEW:</b> <i>Hills: Dir. Schiebel</i><br><b>VIEW:</b> <i>Hills: Dir. Daniels</i>                | <b>WRITE:</b> Reflections Forum<br><br><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><br>SUNDAY, MARCH 25   |
| 7    | <b>STARTS</b><br>MARCH 26<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>APRIL 1  | <b>READ:</b> The Modern Age<br><b>READ:</b> "The Hollow Men"<br><b>VIEW:</b> The Hollow Men (Reading)   | <b>WRITE:</b> Modern Age Forum<br><br><i>Credit Eligible Forum (6/10)</i>      | <b>DO:</b> Quiz 6 – The Hollow Men and Convergence                        | <b>QUIZ 6 DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, APRIL 1  |
| 8    | <b>STARTS</b><br>APRIL 2<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>APRIL 8   | <b>READ:</b> Viet Nam<br><b>READ/VIEW:</b> "Khe Sanh"<br><b>READ/VIEW:</b> "The Movie in My Mind"<br><b>READ:</b> Lyric/Poetry Assignment   | <b>WRITE:</b> Modern Age Forum<br><br><i>Credit Eligible Forum (7/10)</i>      | <b>DO:</b> Quiz 7 – Viet Nam<br><b>DO:</b> Draft Lyric/Poetry Assignment  | <b>QUIZ 7 DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, APRIL 8  |
| 9    | <b>STARTS</b><br>APRIL 9<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>APRIL 15  | <b>READ:</b> Identity<br><b>READ/VIEW:</b> "No Aphrodisiac"<br><b>VIEW:</b> <i>The DNA Journey</i>  | <b>WRITE:</b> Modern Age Forum<br><br><i>Credit Eligible Forum (8/10)</i>      | <b>DO:</b> Quiz 8 – Identity<br><b>DO:</b> Submit Lyric/Poetry Assignment | <b>QUIZ 8 DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, APRIL 15<br><br><b>LYRIC/POETRY ASSIGNMENT DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, APRIL 15<br><br><b>LAST DAY TO DROP WITH "W":</b> FRIDAY, APRIL 13 |
| 10   | <b>STARTS</b><br>APRIL 16<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>APRIL 22 | <b>READ:</b> On Literary Theory<br><b>READ:</b> The Whitney Sentence<br><b>READ:</b> Analysis Essay<br><b>VIEW:</b> <i>The Princess Bride (excerpt)</i><br><b>VIEW:</b> WoLF (on the Literary Theory Forum) | <b>WRITE:</b> Literary Theory Forum<br><br><i>Credit Eligible Forum (9/10)</i> | <b>DO:</b> Quiz 9 – Literary Theory and Modernism                         | <b>QUIZ 9 DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, APRIL 22   |

| WEEK |  | READ<br>(FROM COURSE CONTENT)  | WRITE<br>(IN BLACKBOARD)  | DO<br>(SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS)   | IMPORTANT DATES   |
|------|--|--|---|--|---|
| 11   | <b>STARTS</b><br>APRIL 23<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>APRIL 29                     | <b>READ:</b> The Salesman's Death<br><b>READ:</b> <i>Death of a Salesman</i><br><b>VIEW:</b> <i>Death of a Salesman</i><br><b>VIEW:</b> <i>DOAS: Thug Notes</i><br><b>READ:</b> Amnesty Petition | <b>WRITE:</b> Death of a Salesman Forum<br><br><i>Credit Eligible Forum (10/10)</i> | <b>DO:</b> Quiz 10 – Death of a Salesman<br><b>DO:</b> Write Analysis Essay draft<br><b>DO:</b> Request Amnesty (if desired) | <b>QUIZ 10 DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, APRIL 29<br><br><b>AMNESTY PETITION DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, APRIL 29                                       |
| 12   | <b>STARTS</b><br>APRIL 30<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>MAY 6                        | <b>READ:</b> On the Final Exam   | <b>WRITE:</b> Final Exam Forum  | <b>DO:</b> Submit Analysis Essay<br><b>DO:</b> Prepare for Final Exam  | <b>LAST CLASS DAY</b><br>FRIDAY, MAY 4<br><br><b>AMNESTY DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, MAY 6<br><br><b>ANALYSIS ESSAY DUE</b><br>SUNDAY, MAY 6 |
| 13   | <b>STARTS</b><br>MAY 7 @ 11:00 A.M.<br><br><b>ENDS</b><br>MAY 9 @ 11:00 A.M. | <b>FINAL EXAMINATION</b><br><b>MONDAY, MAY 7 @ 11:00 A.M. – WEDNESDAY, MAY 9 AT 11:00 A.M.</b>   |   |  | <b>FALL SEMESTER ENDS</b><br>SATURDAY, MAY 12   |