Spring 2024   Lizbeth Axelrod, MFA
English 1410-501   Office: Arts & Sciences Bldg CU 113
Introduction to Literature   Phone: **505-633-8259**
Online   E-mail: Laxelrod@unm.edu
CRN: 50018 (16 -Week Course)   Office Hours by Zoom Weds 1-2pm
Dates: 1/15/2024-5/11/2024   and by appointment

Welcome to **English 1410-501**. I look forward to introducing you to some of my favorite forms of literature. We will read and analyze Gothic & Contemporary Fiction and Poetry. We will learn close reading techniques, how to analyze various texts and literary devices. This will not be an easy-breezy class. I will make you read and I will make you write. My goal in this class is to build your confidence as a writer and thinker. If this works for you, stick with me and we will explore new genres of writing and communication together.

Course Description:

An introduction to literature continues the attention to effective composition and improved reading skills developed in previous English courses. The reading in this course will examine three major literary genres (Fiction, poetry, and drama) and possibly some aspects of film as it relates to literature. We will work together to improve your analytical and critical reading and writing skills. Prerequisite: ENG 1120

Required Texts and Materials
- *The Autobiography of Red,* Anne Carson
- UNM email address and access to UNM Canvas Learn
- Access to Zoom (preferably a zoom account)
- Access to internet and Microsoft Office (available on UNM-VC computers)

Instructor Biography: Lizbeth Axelrod, MFA teaches Writing & Rhetoric, Writing & Literature, Composition 1&2, Technical Communication 1 & 2, Contemporary Literature, and Creative Writing. She has held previous academic appointments at State University of New York, Westchester Community College, City Tech, The New York City College of Technology, and she currently teaches at CNM as well as UNM Valencia. Liz received her MFA from the New School for Public Engagement, NYC in 2013. She was Managing Editor of the New School's Literary Journal - 12th Street. Her work has been widely published. Her first book of poetry, *Go Ask Alice* (June 2016) was a finalist (5th Place) in the Finishing Line Press New Woman's Voices Competition. She also writes book reviews, and her work has been published in The Brooklyn Review, Boog City Press, Kirkus Reviews, and Publisher's Weekly. She was founder, co-host and curator of the Cedarmere Reading Series in the home of William Cullen Bryant (2014-2018). You can find more about my creative writing life here: www.yourmoonsmine.com

For assistance with course-related questions, I am available to meet with you during regular Zoom office hours. (See office hours above) If you cannot meet during these times, let me know and we can schedule an appointment. You can also reach me by e-mail at laxelrod@unm.edu during normal business hours from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, M-F. Please allow 24 hours for a response.

Course Objectives

In English 1410, you will progress toward the following student learning outcomes:

1. Write thesis-driven, evidence-based literary arguments, using literature as a primary source and relying on textual support.
2. Analyze various genres of literature, including but not limited to poetry, fiction, or drama.
3. Analyze works by authors who represent diverse world cultures, including non-western perspectives and values.
4. Discuss the connections between literature and its historical, cultural, ethical, or political content.
5. Critique literature using key literary terminology.
6. Apply appropriate formal conventions when writing about literature.

Some important stuff to keep in mind:
- The assignment syllabus is a tentative schedule. All work will be in our Canvas class, and the assignments will be posted in our Canvas Weekly Learning Modules
- Most assignments will be due on Sundays at 11:59pm.
- No emailed essays will be accepted, all assignments will be posted on Canvas
- Late essays will be docked 5 points per day after due date.

Required Work and Grading

All formal writing assignments must follow MLA format and be typewritten, double-spaced in a 12pt, Times New Roman font.

Grades will be determined on a traditional percentage system, with the appropriate plus or minus sign: 100-90% = A (1000-900 points); 89-80% = B (890-800 points); 79-73%= C (790-730 points); 69-60% = D (690-600); and below = F. You need a "C" (73% or 730 points) to pass this course.

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 900-1000
B = 800-899
C = 700-799
D = 600-699
F = 599 or Below

Assignment Name Points For Grade
Writing Assignment #1: Gothic Fiction Analysis 100
Writing Assignment #2: Poetry Analysis 100
Writing Assignment #3: Contemporary Fiction Analysis 100
Final Project: Portfolio 300
Weekly Discussions 400
Total Points Possible 1000

EXPLANATION OF ASSIGNMENTS

Weekly Discussions/Participation: (30% of course grade)
Weekly Discussion: Students will post in the weekly class discussion boards and comment on 2-3 classmate's posts. There will also be weekly discussion posts that cover one or more of the readings for the week. These discussion posts should be well-thought-out and be at least 150 words.

Gothic Literature Analysis (10 % of course grade)
Students will choose one of the dramatic works covered in class or one approved by the instructor and write a 3-4 page paper that addresses at least one major component or grouping of components of this genre (character; plot and structure; stages, sets, and setting; tone, language, and symbol; or theme).

Short Fiction Analysis (10% of course grade)
Students will choose one of the short stories covered in class or one approved by the instructor and write a 3-4 page paper that addresses at least one major component of this genre (plot, narration and point of view, character, setting, symbol and figurative language, or theme).

Poetry Analysis (10 % of course grade)
Students will write a 3-4 page paper that analyzes The Autobiography of Red and one or two more of the poems studied in class. Students will address at least the major components of this genre (speaker, situation and setting, theme and tone, language, visual imagery and figures of speech, symbol, sounds, internal structure, or external form).

Final Project: Portfolio: (30% of course grade)
Your final project will be a portfolio that demonstrates the knowledge gained over the course of this semester. This portfolio will consist of two parts.
(1). Students will write a 3-4 page introduction that reflects over what you have learned this semester and how the analysis essay you've chosen demonstrates that understanding.
(2). Students will choose one of their analysis essays to deeply revise.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

In order to participate and succeed in this class, you will need to be able to perform the following basic technical tasks:

- Use Canvas (https://canvasinfo.unm.edu/students/index.html)
- Use email – including attaching files, opening files, downloading attachments
- Copy and paste within applications including Microsoft Office
- Open a hyperlink (click on a hyperlink to get to a website or online resource)
- Use Microsoft Office applications
    o Create, download, update, save and upload MS Word documents
    o Create, download, update, save and upload MS PowerPoint presentations
    o Create, download, update, save and upload MS Excel spreadsheets
    o Download, annotate, save and upload PDF files
- Be open to using software programs that may be new to you. **While these aren't required, you may want to use different programs to design your projects.**

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Access to a computer (laptop, desktop, iPad, etc.), basically something that you can use to access the online class and complete your work.
- A high speed internet connection is highly recommended.
- Supported browsers include: Internet Explorer, Firefox, and Safari.
- Any computer capable of running a recently updated web browser should be sufficient to access your online course. However, bear in mind that processor speed, amount of RAM and Internet connection speed can **greatly** affect performance. Many locations offer free high-speed Internet access including UNM's Computer Pods.
- For using the Kaltura Media Tools inside Canvas, be sure you have downloaded and installed the latest version of Java and Mozilla Firefox. They may not come preloaded.
- Microsoft Office and Adobe products are available free for all UNM students (more information on the UNM IT Software Distribution and Downloads page: http://it.unm.edu/software/index.html)

For external Canvas Technical Support: Click the "Help" icon at the bottom of the left-hand sidebar in Canvas.

Online Class Policies

Class Participation. We will have discussion boards in this class that require your participation. Make sure you respond to peers according to the directions in the discussion boards.

Students who participate in **university-sanctioned activities** and / or who will be unable to meet the first-week participation requirements for a particular section should move to another section where their activity schedules will not interfere with their English 1410 obligations (students can

freely switch sections during the <u>drop / add period</u> of the semester). We have asked advisors across campus to help students enroll in appropriate sections. If you think that this course may conflict with a university-sanctioned activity in which you are involved—athletics or the debate team or another—please email me immediately.

Late and Missing Work. I cannot accept late work on discussion boards or peer review. These are considered participation, and your work in these boards directly has an effect on others in the class; therefore, it is important to post in these sections on time. For assignments besides discussion boards or peer review, in the event of an emergency, exceptions can be made on case-by-case basis. If the UNM Canvas system is down for scheduled maintenance, late work will be accepted. In the case of emergencies that bar you from turning in any assignment(s) on time, email me **as soon as possible before or after the emergency**, and we can work out an alternative.

Public Nature of the Classroom. Please consider <u>all</u> writing for this class to be "public." Part of becoming an effective writer is learning to appreciate the ideas and criticisms of others; in this course, our purpose is to come together as a writing community. Remember that students will often be expected to share writing with others. Avoid writing about topics that you may not be prepared to subject to public scrutiny or that you feel so strongly about that you are unwilling to listen to perspectives other than your own. Additionally, the feedback that is provided is intended to help improve your writing; be open to suggestions from other writers.

Resources to support study skill and time management are available through:

[UNM-Valencia Learning Commons (Tutoring)](#)
Tutoring is available to you in math, science, writing, and other subjects through the Learning Commons: Learning and STEM Centers and Writing Center. In person tutoring is in these centers in the LRC (the building that also has the library). Tutoring in Zoom and, for writing, through email, is also available.
Making use of tutoring is a fantastic way to use your resources and set yourself up to learn deeply and well in your courses. **To schedule an appointment, please go to**: [Learning Commons Bookings](#) If you are making an email appointment with the Writing Center, email your draft to tutor@unm.edu after you fill out the form above. If you have difficulty with the scheduling link above, would like an appointment in a subject not listed at that link, or have a question, email tutor@unm.edu. You'll get answers during business hours Monday through Friday.   The webpage, with more details about available hours, is here: [Learning Commons: Tutoring Services webpage](#).

[Center for Academic Program Support](#) (CAPS). Many students have found that time management workshops can help them meet their goals (consult ([CAPS](#)) website under "services").

PLAGIARISM POLICY:
Any form of plagiarism including using *AI* to write your papers is unacceptable and the paper in question will receive a failing grade. Plagiarism means using language and/or ideas without acknowledging their source, copying directly from websites and AI Generated writing.

Plagiarism includes such activities as copying another student's papers or ideas, downloading and turning in papers from the Internet, or copying passages from outside sources without proper documentation. We will have a class discussion and assignment on Plagiarism. There will be additional resources on Canvas as well. Plagiarism may also result in failure of the entire course or disciplinary action by the University.

To learn how to avoid plagiarism, students can speak to me, consult a tutor, or refer to http://library.acadiau.ca/sites/default/files/library/tutorials/plagiarism/.

NETIQUETTE STATEMENT:

Netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly in an online class.

In our class we will follow the following rules: Be considerate of your fellow students. No swearing or hate speech in the forums. All opinions are welcome, but they must be backed up by facts and reliable sources. No one is allowed to inflame or coerce another student's beliefs, ideas, or assumptions. Everyone has different points of view and debate is a large part of the discussions in this class. Speeches & Debate must be respectful, collegiate, informed and constructive – and it must stay in our class. Proper use of MLA format, grammar, and tone is required in all formats of this class (discussion boards, email, messages, written responses, workshops and writing assignments).

Title IX Statement

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 page 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). **Our classroom is a designated "Safe Space."** For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html

E-Mail Etiquette

In general, e-mails that you write to me during the semester should include professional language, addressed with a subject heading including the type of question you are asking. For example, "Essay 1" would be an appropriate subject heading for a question regarding the first essay. E-mails should also include a salutation. For example, "Dear Professor Axelrod" would be an appropriate salutation for an electronic message. Be sure to sign your first and last name, and proofread your e-mail for grammatical errors. Please avoid text-speak. Learning to write professional e-mails early on is a skill you need as you progress to higher academic levels and further career pursuits.

UNM Covid 19/Heath & Accommodations Information

COVID-19 Health and Awareness. UNM is a mask friendly, but not a mask required, community. If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please do not come to class. If you do need to stay home, please communicate with me at [ ]; I can work with you to provide alternatives for course participation and completion. Let me, an advisor, or another UNM staff member know that you need support so that we can connect you to the right resources. Please be aware that UNM will publish information on websites and email about any changes to our public health status and community response.

Support:

PASOS Resource Center (505) 925-8546, mailto:pasos@unm.edu. The Resource Center is an on-campus center that serves as a "one-stop" for all non-academic needs of UNM-Valencia students.

Student Health and Counseling (SHAC) at (505) 277-3136. If you are having active respiratory symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, sore throat, etc.) AND need testing for COVID-19; OR If you recently tested positive and may need oral treatment, call SHAC.

LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center (505) 277-2911 can offer help with contacting faculty and managing

Accommodations: UNM is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for students with documented disabilities. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an inclusive classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity to participate. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact Accessibility Resource Center at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone at 505-277-3506. The UNM-Valencia Equal Access Services (Sarah Clawson, Coordinator), at (505) 925-8840 or by email at sjclawson@unm.edu.

Support: Contact me via email (laxelrod@unm.edu) or Canvas messaging or in office/drop-in hours. Or Contact the UNM-Valencia Equal Access Services (Sarah Clawson, Coordinator), at (505) 925-8840 or by email at sjclawson@unm.edu., Or Accessibility Resource Center (https://arc.unm.edu/) at mailto:arcsrvs@unm.edu (505) 277-3506.

Assignment Policy
Unless otherwise specified, all formal writing assignments must follow MLA format and be typewritten, double-spaced in a 12pt, Times New Roman font. Essay length requirements are 750-1000 words each, or 3-4 pages. MLA specifications and help are available on our Canvas in the Course Content and Resources, and Grammar Goodies section.

As this is an online course all your assignments will be listed in the weekly modules on Canvas. Each week you will read a short story or poems or chapters from *The Autobiography of Red* and then do short various short literary analysis, discussion board posts, and look at the literary devices used by the writers.

Week One: Intro to Gothic Literature. Edgar Allen Poe – "The Black Cat" Readings and Literary Analysis

Week Two: Edgar Allen Poe: "The Mask of The Red Death" Readings, Discussion Board. Vocabulary, Literary terms and analysis.

Week Three: H.P. Lovecraft – "The Alchemist" Intro to Lovecraftian Fiction and Philosophy, Readings and Literary Analysis

Week Four: H.P. Lovecraft – "The Call of the Cthulhu" Readings, literary terms and analysis.

Week Five: H.P. Lovecraft – "The Dreams in the Witch House" Readings, Discussion Board, literary terms and analysis. Literary Analysis Paper #1 introduced

Week Six: Flannery O'Connor "A Good Man is Hard to Find" Readings, literary terms and analysis. Literary Analysis Paper #1 Due

Week Seven: Shirley Jackson "The Possibility of Evil" Readings, Discussion Board, literary terms and analysis

Week Eight: Joyce Carol Oates "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been" Readings, Discussion Board, literary terms and analysis

Week Nine: Contemporary Dystopian Fiction: George Saunders "Escape From Spiderhead" Readings, literary terms and analysis. Paper #2 Due

Week Ten: Begin Poetry Module, Social Justice Poetry, Contemporary Poetry. Begin reading "The Autobiography of Red" by Anne Carson. Readings, Discussion Board, literary terms and analysis

Week Eleven: "The Autobiography of Red" by Anne Carson. Readings, Discussion Board, literary terms and analysis

Week Twelve: "The Autobiography of Red" by Anne Carson. Readings, Discussion Board, literary terms and analysis

Week Thirteen: Creative Writing Poetry Pack #1 "The Autobiography of Red" by Anne Carson. Readings, Discussion Board, literary terms and analysis

Week Fourteen: Contemporary Poets, Literary analysis terms and discussion of final paper options

Week Fifteen: Review Literary terms and analysis discussion board, Final Paper Due