ENGLISH 2307  
INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE AND CREATIVE WRITING  
Summer I 2018

Literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become.

C.S. Lewis, author of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*

The writer interweaves a story with his own doubts, questions, and values. That is art.

Naguib Mahfouz

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CATALOGUE DISCRIPITION

“A sophomore literature course also serving as an introduction to creative writing with structured practice in the reading, analyzing, and responding to literature, as well as the production of short fiction and poetry.” This class satisfies the 3-SCH ASU and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board core Humanities requirement for Language, Philosophy, and Culture.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The most important objective is that students learn to read and respond to literature with pleasure and insight, practicing techniques in literary analysis that will enable them to find meaning in sophisticated texts. In addition, students should

- understand and articulate the role of literature as an expression of values and an interpretation of human experience;
- understand and articulate the interactive relationship among history, culture, and literature;
- understand and articulate the form, function, scope, and variety of literature, including specialized literary terminology;
- understand and apply various methods of responding to literature analytically;
- understand and practice the craft of literary production, specifically the writing of short fiction and poetry.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS


GRADING

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<tr>
<th>Daily Work</th>
<th>25%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Projects</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
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**Daily work** includes reading quizzes, responses, group activities, workshops, writing practices. **Writing Projects** are based on the concepts and strategies in *The Practice of Creative Writing*. Use the “Practices” and the “Writing Projects” at the end of each chapter to generate ideas for writing. **Exams** are a mixture of objective and essay. The literary terminology and creative writing principles covered on the midterm will be included on the final exam.

PERSONAL CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In this and all college courses, you should conduct yourself with professionalism and collegiality, and you should take responsibility for your own learning and performance. Excellent students are motivated, dedicated, and self-reliant; they have a positive attitude and a good work ethic. You will improve your chances of succeeding in this class by following these rules:

- **Stay focused.** Attend class and be actively involved. Pay attention and participate in discussions. Ask questions when you have them and consult your professor when you have concerns.
- **Be prepared every day.** Critically read all assignments. Conscientiously complete homework and class activities. Keep up with your work.
- **Follow instructions carefully,** especially those on assignment prompts, and prepare assignments according to the guidelines provided.
- **Encourage learning and collaborate** with classmates and support the instructor in the goal of learning.
- **Be courteous.** To avoid distracting others, arrive on time and leave when class is dismissed.
- **Avoid talking in class except when appropriate.** While it is sometimes acceptable and even desirable to question opinions and even facts offered by others (including the teacher), you should do so respectfully and thoughtfully, with learning goals in mind.
- **Silence and put away cell phones.** Do not use any personal electronic devices unless invited to do so as part of the lesson. If you believe your smartphone or tablet would be helpful to you during class, ask permission to use it.
- **Take good care of your body and mind.** Keep yourself nourished and rested.

ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP POLICY

The following attendance policy is consistent with University OP 10.04 (“Academic Regulations Concerning Student Performance”).

- **This is a face-to-face class.** Regular attendance is essential for success in the class.
Attendance will be taken daily at the beginning of the period. Students who arrive late should see the instructor after class to be sure they are counted present. Students who enter during a quiz will not receive extra time to complete the quiz.

- **Be prepared for class each day.** An absence does not excuse the student from being prepared for the next class. Thus, students who miss class should contact a classmate or the instructor to be sure of the assignment for the next class.
- **All assignments are due when called for.** Being permitted to accept work after the deadline gives students an advantage over those who turn work in on time; thus **late work will be accepted without penalty only in the case of excused absences.** The penalty for an unexcused late assignment is one-half letter grade for each day late.
- **Students must present credible documentation to receive an excused absence.** Absences are excused for school travel, religious holidays, illness, or personal or family emergency. Contact the instructor as soon as possible (before a school trip or personal travel) to excuse the absence and arrange make-up work.
- **Daily grades for quizzes and other in-class activities cannot be made up.** Two daily grades will be dropped at the end of the term.
- **E-mailed assignments will be accepted only at the request of the instructor.**

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES**

The Dean of Student Life has issued the following statement: “Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.”

**DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions (www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf) of the Student Handbook.
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

The following schedule lists readings, major assignments (exams and writing projects), and discussion topics. Be sure to read the biographical notes for each assigned author in *Literature: A Portable Anthology*, beginning on p. 1361. There may be some changes in the schedule, so if you miss a class, always check with a classmate or with the instructor to make sure of the assignment.

*PCW*=Practice of Creative Writing  
*LIT*=Literature: A Portable Anthology  
D&P: =Discussion and Practice

### Week 1

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>M 6/4</strong></td>
<td>Introduction: Course Policies and Procedures</td>
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| **T 6/5** | *PCW* “Introduction” and Ch. 1, “Finding Focus”  
| **W 6/6** | *PCW* Ch. 2, “Creative Reading”  
“Asking Critical Questions of Literature” (*LIT* 1226-1232)  
Richard Wright, “The Man Who Was Almost a Man” (*LIT* 180-190)  
D&P: Finding Meaning in Literature: Four Approaches |
| **R 6/7** | *PCW* Ch. 3, pp. 83-95 (Building Blocks: Parts of Narrative)  
D&P: Plot |
| **F 6/8** | *PCW* Ch. 3, pp. 95-109 (“Building Blocks: Parts of Poems”)  
William Stafford, “Traveling through the Dark” (*LIT* 539)  
Walt Whitman, from *Song of Myself*, Section 6 (*LIT* 473-474)  
D&P: Syntax, Lines, and Stanzas |

### Week 2

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| **M 6/11** | Writing Project 1 due  
*PCW* Ch. 4, “Images”  
William Carlos Williams, “The Red Wheelbarrow” (*LIT* 511)  
Yusef Komunyakaa, “Facing It” (*LIT* 604)  
D&P: “No ideas but in things.” |
| **T 6/12** | *PCW* Ch. 7, pp. 280-291 (“Pattern: Pattern by Ear”)  
William Butler Yeats, “Lake Isle of Innisfree” (*LIT* 499)  
D&P: Fundamentals of Prosody |
| **W 6/13** | *PCW* Ch. 7, pp. 291-299 (“Pattern: Pattern by Eye”)  
Ernest Hemingway, “Hills Like White Elephants” (*LIT* 176-179)  
D&P: Metaphor and Motif |
R 6/14 Literature and Values: A Brief Lecture
Wilfred Owen, “Dulce et Decorum Est” (*LIT* 521)
Patricia Lockwood, “Rape Joke” (*LIT* 676-679)

F 6/15 Nathaniel Hawthorne, “Young Goodman Brown” (*LIT* 3-13)

**Week 3**
M 6/18 Review

T 6/19 **Exam 1**

W 6/20 *PCW* Ch. 5, “Energy”
D&P: Persona and Point of View

R 6/21 **Writing Project 2 due**
*PCW* Ch. 6, “Tension”
Susan Glaspell, “Trifles” (939-950)
D&P: Characterization and Conflict

F 6/22 *PCW* Ch. 8, “Insight”
Charlotte Perkins Gilman, “The Yellow Wallpaper” (*LIT* 64-77)

**Week 4**

T 6/26 *A Doll House* Act II (*LIT* 851-870)

W 6/27 *A Doll House* Act III (*LIT* 870-888)

R 6/28 **Writing Project 3 due**
*A Doll House*


**Week 5**
M 7/2 Review

T 7/3 **Exam 2**