

English 2326.030
Fall 2019
10:00-10:50 MWF
A007
SYLLABUS

Instructor: Terence A. Dalrymple

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Office Hours: 8:00-9:00 & 11-12 MW; 8:30-9:30 & 11:00-12:00 TR; and by appointment

Course: English 2326--Readings in American Literature

Course Description: A study of diverse works by American writers. Emphasis on reading, comprehending, appreciating, and thinking critically about the selected works within the context of American culture and literary history.

Purposes: This course introduces students to selected works of imaginative literature by a variety of American authors. It is designed to provide enhanced appreciation of the literary arts and practice in analyzing literary works in order to better understand how they reflect truths of human experience. It will introduce, as appropriate to course objectives, selected information about and insights into literary terminology as well as biographical, historical, formalistic, stylistic, cultural, political, analytical, and thematic matters related to the selected readings.

Major Objectives: Students will make progress in the following areas:

- Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends) (IDEA #21)
- Gaining a broader understanding and appreciation of intellectual/cultural activity (music, science, literature, etc.) (IDEA #27)
- Learning to *analyze* and *critically evaluate* ideas, arguments, and points of view (IDEA #31)

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completing sophomore literature, students should be able to

- understand the role of literature as an expression of values and interpretation of human experience (see IDEA objective #27);
- understand and apply methods of responding to literature analytically(see IDEA objectives #27 and #31);
- understand the form, function, scope and variety of literature, including specialized terminology (see IDEA objective IDEA objectives #21 and #27);
- understand the interactive relationship between history, culture, and literature (see IDEA objective #27).

Assessment Procedures: Student learning outcomes will be assessed via reading quizzes, major exams, and group and class discussions.

Student Activities: Students' major activities during the semester will include reading, listening

to and taking notes on lecture material, discussing course material in class and group discussions, writing both informal and formal responses to course material, completing quizzes and exams.

Course Grade: Your final course grade will be determined as follows:

Daily Grade.....	10%
Reading Quiz and Terms Quiz Average.....	60%
Analytical Quiz Average (first two).....	20%
Final Analytical Quiz.....	10%

Grading Scale: 90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; 59 & below = F

Major Assignments and Deadlines:

--**Reading assignments** are continual throughout the semester; students are expected to complete each assignment by the deadline specified on the Daily Assignments sheet. Should any changes in the daily assignments be necessary, the professor will announce them in class as far in advance as possible.

--**Daily Assignments** will determine your Daily Grade. They will include (but are not limited to) attendance and participation in class discussions, group work, and informal writing assignments. Although “informal,” this work should be thoughtful and grammatically correct. **NO LATE OR MAKE-UP DAILY ASSIGNMENTS**, but three Daily Assignments grades will be dropped at the end of the semester.

--**Reading Quizzes** typically consist of ten to twenty questions about the reading assignment for the day. Quiz dates are unannounced; students should be prepared for a quiz every day a reading assignment is due. **NOLATE OR MAKE-UP QUIZZES WILL BE GIVEN**, but two Reading Quiz Grades will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Literary Terms Quizzes will consist of objective questions over literary terminology discussed prior to the quizzes. **One of the four quizzes may be a make-up quiz**, which must be completed the day you return to class and must be completed in my office that day at a time we establish. However, to take a make-up quiz, a student must provide **evidence of the illness, family emergency, or university business** that required an absence.

--**Analytical Quizzes** will require short essay responses to questions about course material. **One of the first two quizzes may be a make-up quiz**, which must be completed the day you return to class and must be completed in my office that day at a time we establish. However, to take a make-up quiz, a student must provide **evidence of the illness, family emergency, or university business** that required an absence.

--The **Final Analytical Quiz** will require short essay responses to questions about course material. It **must be taken at the time specified on the University calendar**.

Required Texts: Beverley Lawn, 40 Short Stories: A Portable Anthology, 5th ed.

NOTE: Students must bring the book or other reading material (provide by professor) to class when that material is scheduled for discussion. Students who do not bring reading materials to class may be counted absent and receive a zero daily grade.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend every class meeting. They are expected to arrive on time and remain in class for the entire class period. Typically, the only valid reasons for missing class are illness, family emergency, and University business. Except in cases of emergency, doctor appointments should be scheduled for times other than class times. Students requesting make-up work or permission to submit late work must provide evidence of a valid reason for missing class. Students who know in advance that they will miss a class should consult with the professor in advance. **Any student who accumulates nine (9) absences will receive an F for the semester. Students who are habitually late to class, habitually leave class early, or habitually leave and then return during class time will be counted absent for every two occurrences.** Please note that I do not distinguish between “excused” and “unexcused” absences. An absence is non-attendance of any regularly scheduled class time. While I sincerely hope (as I’m sure you do) that you will not experience any extreme cases of illness or family emergency, they do occasionally happen. **Any student who must miss three weeks or more of classes for any reason should seriously consider withdrawing from the course.**

Observances of Religious Holidays: A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to me prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within **what the instructor deems** a reasonable time after the absence.

Honors Statement: 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 available on the web at <http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf>. **Students caught cheating on a quiz or exam will receive a zero for that assignment; if caught a second time, they will fail the course. Students submitting plagiarized written assignments will receive an F for the course.**

Common Courtesy: Students are expected to exhibit common courtesy toward their professor and their classmates at all times. A few guidelines for common courtesy follow:

- arrive on time and remain for the full class time
- if late arrival or early departure is unavoidable, sit near the door to avoid distracting others
- remain seated unless class assignment requires otherwise
- do not hold individual conversations unless directed to do so by the professor
- stay awake

- work on this course material only
- do not eat
- do not pop gum
- do not begin packing prior to the official end of class
- do not wear any sort of head phones
- prior to entering the classroom, turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices that might create a distraction.

--NOTE: Formal, professional studies have demonstrated that no matter how good we think we are at multi-tasking, activities such as texting during class lecture/discussion significantly diminish our attention to lecture/discussion material and, therefore, our comprehension and understanding of that material. For your own sake, then, you may not use electronic equipment (e.g., head phones, cell phones, computers) in the classroom without the express permission of the teacher. Any student using such devices during class for any reason will be asked to leave the classroom and will be counted absent.

Students' Special Requirements: 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.

Student-Professor Communication: Other than class time, you may consult with me in person during the office hours specified at the beginning of this syllabus or during another specified time on which we have agreed in advance. You may also contact me via e-mail or telephone. However, I neither check nor respond to telephone messages as regularly as I do e-mail messages. In addition, I do not check or respond to e-mail or phone messages after I have left my office for the day (usually between 4 and 5 p.m.).

Please Note: Your syllabus for this class lists class policies and deadlines for all major assignments. Please consult the syllabus before e-mailing or calling with questions that are answered there.

Please Also Note: A college education includes learning to communicate appropriately with individual audiences. To help you practice effective communication, I require that e-mails to me be designed and written appropriately for your purpose and audience. All e-mails must begin by addressing me (e.g., Dr. Dalrymple,); they must be written following the conventions of standard written English (e.g., complete sentences, capitalization where necessary, punctuation where necessary, correct spelling); they must end with your first and last name and the course and section number (unless the course and section # are included in the text of the message). **I will not respond to e-mails that do not follow these easy guidelines.**

Student Success: This course is designed so that all students with college-level skills in reading,

writing, note-taking, and study skills can pass with a C or higher, so long as they complete all assignments on time, attend class regularly, and remain attentive during class time. More specifically, successful students will

- attend every class meeting on time and remain for the full time;
- regularly consult the syllabus for assignment deadlines and course policies;
- complete all reading assignments on time and bring reading materials to class;
- remain attentive during class and follow guidelines of common courtesy;
- take notes on class material, particularly on terminology discussed and on other major topics of discussion;
- review notes regularly;
- participate in class and group discussions;
- ask questions about material that remains unclear;
- study for exams as suggested by the professor;
- write essay exam answers as suggested by the professor (a separate handout of these suggestions will be provided).

Daily Assignments

M 8-26	Introduction to course
W 8-28	General discussion of literature
F 8-30	Continue discussion
M 9-2	HOLIDAY
W 9-4	Before class read "Reading Short Stories Closely," p. 481-487; in the Glossary of Literary Terms read entries for elements of fiction, plot, conflict, protagonist, antagonist, rising action, climax, denouement, epiphany, flashback, and foreshadowing. We will also talk about exposition (not in the glossary).
F 9-6	Before class read "A&P," pp. 227-233
M 9-9	Before class, read "The Lesson," pp. 274-281
W 9-11	Before class, read "The House on Mango Street," pp. 346-347
F 9-13	Literary terms quiz
M 9-16	Before class, read about characterization and characters in the Glossary of Literary Terms. We will also talk about round, flat, dynamic, and static characters (not in the glossary).
W 9-18	Before class, read "Cathedral," pp. 244-257
F 9-20	Before class, read "A Good Man is Hard to Find," pp. 205-219
M 9-23	Before class, read "A Man Like Him," pp. 402-416
W 9-25	Literary terms quiz
F 9-27	TBA
M 9-30	Before class read "The Lottery," pp. 166-174
W 10-2	Before class, read about first-person narration, narrator, omniscient narrator, point of view, third-person narrator, and tone (during discussion we will add information to this material)
F 10-4	Before class, read "The Cask of Amontillado," pp. 14-20
M 10-7	Literary terms quiz
W 10-9	Discuss drama
F 10-11	Analytical quiz
M 10-14	Before class, read <i>True West</i> , Scenes 1-5 (pp. 1-34)

W 10-16 Before class, read *True West*, Scenes 6-9 (pp. 34-63)

F 10-18 Watch *True West* film in class

M 10-21 Watch *True West* film in class

W 10-23 Watch *True West* film in class

F 10-25 Discuss *True West* text and film

M 10-28 TBA

W 10-30 TBA

F 11-1 Irony

M 11-4 Before class, read "The Story of an Hour," pp. 56-58

W 11-6 Before class, read "Greasy Lake" (provided by teacher)

F 11-8 Literary Terms quiz

M 11-11 Before class, read "Fiesta, 1980," pp. 389-401

W 11-13 Analytical quiz

F 11-15 Before class, read *Crimes of the Heart*, Act I

M 11-18 Before class, read *Crimes of the Heart*, Acts II-III

W 11-20 Watch *Crimes of the Heart* film in class

F 11-22 Watch *Crimes of the Heart* film in class

M 11-25 Watch *Crimes of the Heart* film in class; discuss *Crimes of the Heart* text and film

W 11-27 HOLIDAY

F 11-29 HOLIDAY

M 12-2 Continue discussion

W 12-4 Review

F 12-6 Review

M 12-9 Final Exam, 10:30-12:30