Fall 2020
English 2341.001
Introduction To Literature
Department of English, SFASU
Professor: Aaron Milstead
E-mail: atmilstead@sfasu.edu
Office Phone: Phone: 468-2005
Office: Lan 261

Zoom Office Hours: TR Office Hours: 10:50-12:20
3:30-4:30

Meeting Times and Location: TR 2:00 LA 292

Description:
"Readings in literary genres, such as poetry, drama, short story, and novel. Prerequisite: six semester hours of freshman English." General Bulletin, 2012-2013.

General Education Core Curriculum Objectives:
In any given semester, one or more of the following Core Curriculum Objectives for the English Foundational Component Area in Language, Philosophy, and Culture may be assessed. These objectives are:
1. Critical Thinking: Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
2. Communication Skills: Effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
4. Personal Responsibility: The ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.

English Program Learning Outcomes
As ENG 200 is a core course, English Program Learning Outcomes do not apply; English majors or minors, seeking to fulfill sophomore-level literature requirements, should enroll in ENG 211, 212, 221, 222, 229, 230, or 233H.

Student Learning Outcomes for ENG 200:
By the end of the course, students should be able to:
1. Exhibit an understanding of and appreciation for key works in world literature, as evidenced in daily work and quizzes, course discussions, written assignments, and/or examinations (this outcome aligns to the Core objective of Critical Thinking and Communication);

2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of periodization, theme, genre, motif, and so on, in literature, as evidenced in daily work and quizzes, course discussions, written assignments, and/or examinations.
   Periodization, for example, is not merely an historical consideration, as defined by events, persons, or dates; furthermore, literature encompasses a spectrum of thematic, genre, and literary considerations. Thus, students will demonstrate an understanding that historical, cultural, spiritual, and ethical issues, among others, shape human experiences and impact motivations (this outcome aligns to the Core objective of Critical Thinking and Communication as well as Personal Responsibility and Social Responsibility);

3. Students will read literature with increased critical acumen, as evidenced in daily discussions of readings and responsive essays (this outcome aligns to the Core objective of Critical Thinking and Communication); and

4. Students will be able to respond to literature with facility, both orally and on paper, on important thematic considerations having to do with literary and historical milieu, culture, human responsibility, morality, ethics, and the manner and causes by which humans interact with one another (this outcome aligns to the Core objective of Social Responsibility and Personal Responsibility).

**Required Text:**

*Ender’s Game, Orson Scott Card.*

*The Watchmen, Alan Moore.*

Other reading materials will be posted online.

**Course Requirements:** ****

As noted before, this course is a fast-moving survey that requires your commitment to steady reading. Your reading of each day’s assignment will be explicitly tested during practically every session in some manner, whether through quizzes, written responses, or through course discussions. Grades will be computed in the following fashion.

**Two in Class Presentations/Board Posts and Participation:** 30% (each worth 15%)

- Short Story Exam: 20%
- Ender’s game Exam: 20%
- The Watchmen Exam: 20%
- Watchmen Essay/Final Exam: 10%

A large part of your in-class presentation grade is class participation. If you are called upon and offer no feedback or have not read then you will lose 5% of your grade if you are absent on a day that you are slated to present then you cannot make this up (unless it is an excused absence).

Your running points/grade will be available on D2L (http://d2l.sfasu.edu); please advise me ASAP if you see anything that seems amiss. The final course grade will depend on the points earned:
More information on the essays will be forthcoming. Essays will be graded both on substance (quality and accuracy of ideas) as well as expression (tone, style, syntax). Exams may include M/C, short answer, and essay formats.

**Grade Criteria and Policy:**
Overall, your grade will be based on a total of TBA points. To be fair to all students in the class, I have not given more weight to any one assignment or exam. As such, to figure your grade out at any point in the semester, simply add up the number of points that you have and divide that by the number of points possible. This will give you an overall percentage.

**Grading Standard:**

- **A:** 90-100: Students earning the grade of an A on any assignment will have completed work that obviously demonstrates a more than average understanding of the course material and completion of all aspects and requirements of the assignment. The grade of an A is reserved for that work which expertly displays one’s ability to engage the ideas at hand, recognize and dialogue about the complications of such ideas, and translate such dialogue into clear, academic prose that is free of stigmatized errors.

- **B:** 80-89: Students earning the grade of a B on any assignment will have completed work that demonstrates a more than average understanding of the course material and completion of all aspects and requirements of the assignment. The grade of a B is reserved for that work which adeptly displays one’s ability to engage the ideas at hand, recognize and dialogue about the complications of such ideas, and translate such dialogue into clear, academic prose that is free of stigmatized errors. However, the level of thought, while still above average, may fluctuate in terms of analytic abilities and expression.

- **C:** 70-79: Students earning the grade of a C on any assignment will have completed work that demonstrates an average understanding of the course material and completion of all aspects and requirements of the assignment. The grade of a C is reserved for that work which displays one’s ability to engage the ideas at hand (more so through summary and response rather than analysis), recognize and dialogue about the complications of such ideas (however, the complications recognized will focus more on surface level issues rather than the greater whole), and translate such dialogue into clear, academic prose that is free of stigmatized errors. As can be seen from this description, the level of thought will be acceptable and display that a student has read the assignment, but his/her analytic abilities and level of expression will not be nearly as complicated nor developed. Instead, C work will display a student’s hold to traditional methods of expression (simpler construction of sentence and paragraph development) and a struggle to develop complex, critical thinking skills.

- **D:** 60-69: Students earning the grade of a D on any assignment will have completed work that demonstrates a below average understanding of course material and a lack of completion of all aspects and requirements of the assignment. The grade of a D is reserved for that work which displays one’s struggle or refusal to engage the ideas at hand, simply summarizes the work under study with no actual recognition of or dialogue about the complications of such ideas, and the translation of ideas into writing is completed in such a convoluted manner that the audience will have difficulty following the conversation.

- **F:** 0-59: Students earning the grade of a F on any assignment will either not have completed the assignment, will have completed the assignment but not followed the guidelines, or will have completed the assignment and demonstrated a complete misunderstanding of the course material. In this case, it will be obvious that the
student has either not completed the required reading and/or given him/herself enough time to develop the work. The grade of a F is reserved for that work which does not engage the issues at hand, offers a base (not complete) summary of the work at hand with no critical engagement, and the translation of ideas into writing is either incomplete or the audience will be unable to follow the conversation. It is important to remember that a student can receive 0 out of 100 points. In the case that a student only partially completes an assignment or completes a work (in terms of page length, but not purpose) s/he may receive 0 points.

**Attendance:** The attendance policy for this course is the official SFASU policy as stated at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class_attendance_excused_abs.asp; i.e., regular and punctual attendance is expected for all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which a student is registered. Valid excuses are limited to health, religious observation, family emergencies, and participation in certain SFASU-sponsored events. Students are responsible for providing written documentation for EVERY absence, from which a decision will be made regarding the absence’s excusability. Without written documentation, the absence will automatically be considered unexcused. Students with acceptable excuses may be permitted to make up work for absences to a maximum of three weeks of a semester when the nature of the work missed permits. However, no absences beyond the six that may be excused will be excused, and **no student shall be allowed to pass the course whose unexcused absences exceed three (3)—this is not a correspondence course!** Whether an absence is excused or unexcused, or in the case of a late add, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Note also that you must turn in both essays and take both exams to pass the course.

**Contacting Me:**
The best way to contact me is during your set class times, or during my Zoom office hours, however, due to the limitations of our class meetings you can also contact me through my email (atmilstead@sfasu.edu). Understand that I will attempt to answer emails as promptly as possible and always within 24 hours, however, I do not read emails during the weekend or after 4:30 PM.

**Acceptable Student Behavior:** Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance available to help SFA students succeed.

**Student Academic Dishonesty** Original Implementation: Unpublished Last Revision: January 31, 2017
Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members must promote the components of academic integrity in their instruction, and course syllabi are required to provide information about penalties for cheating and plagiarism, as well as the appeal process. Definition of Academic Dishonesty Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: ♦ using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam; ♦ falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment; ♦ helping or attempting to help other student(s) in an act of cheating or plagiarism.
Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to: submitting an assignment as one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person; submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit. Penalties for Academic Dishonesty Penalties may include, but are not limited to, reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, resubmission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university. Procedure for Addressing Student Academic Dishonesty A faculty member who has evidence and/or suspects that academic dishonesty has occurred will gather all pertinent information and initiate the following procedure: 1. The faculty member will discuss all evidence of cheating or plagiarism directly with the student(s) involved. 2. After consideration of the explanation provided by the student(s), the faculty member will determine whether academic dishonesty has occurred. The faculty member may consult with the academic unit head and/or dean in making a decision. 3. After a determination of academic dishonesty, the faculty member will inform the academic unit head and submit a Report of Academic Dishonesty with supporting documentation to the office of the dean of the student’s major. This report will become part of the student's record and will remain on file with the dean's office for at least four years even if the student withdraws prior to receiving a grade. 4. For a serious first offense or subsequent offenses, the dean of the student’s major will determine a course of action, which may include dismissal from the university. The dean may refer the case to the college council for review and recommendations before making this determination.

Withheld Grades Policy (A-54):
The following is taken from SFASU’s Policy Manual (2012), “Semester Grades Policy” (A-54):
At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Students with Disabilities: To obtain disability-related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Mask Requirement Guidelines and FAQ
Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.
Will students face consequences for not wearing face coverings on campus?
If a student refuses to wear a face covering when requested, they may face consequences. The student should be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for “failure to comply”.

What should faculty do if a student refuses to wear face coverings in class?
If a student refuses to wear a face covering when requested, they should be asked to leave. If the student does not have a mask, they can receive a disposable mask at the information desk in the Baker Pattillo Student Center or from the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs. If this happens more than once, or if the student’s conduct warrants it, the student should be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for “failure to comply”.

What if the student refuses to leave?
If a student refuses to leave the classroom, faculty should contact UPD from any campus phone by calling 911. When calling from a cellphone, call (936) 468-2608.

How severe will these consequences be for students found responsible?
Consequences will match the level of severity of the offense. A one-time occurrence where the student expresses remorse is likely at a lower level of severity than a willfully defiant, repeat offender. Students who refuse to leave classes or who become threatening or violent will face more severe consequences – even for a first offense. A student who knowingly and recklessly puts others health and/or safety at risk through their conduct will face the most severe consequences.

Schedule of Readings/Topics

Week One
Class 1 Tuesday/August 27/ Introduction to the course and course policies. Assign Students their teaching dates (Part of your teaching assignment is that you will also prepare a test for your classmates over the material).
Discussion on how to read texts critically.
HW Read: Charlotte Perkins Gilman “The Yellow Wallpaper” and “The Fly” by Katherine Mansfield & “Incarnations of Burned Children” by David Foster Wallace.
Class 2 Thursday/August 29/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson & “Man From the South” by Roald Dahl & “Track” by Nicole Flattery

Week Two
Class 3 Tuesday/September 3/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: “The Rocking Horse Winner” by D.H. Lawrence & “A Very Old Man With Enormous Wings” by Gabriel Garcia Marquez
Class 4 Thursday/September 5/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: “The Snows of Kilimanjaro” by Ernest Hemingway & “Evil Robot Monkey” by Mary Robinette Kowal

Week Three
Class 5 Tuesday/September 10/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: “Pastoralia” by George Saunders & “Symbols and Signs” by Vladimir Nabokov

Class 6 Thursday/September 12/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: “A Good Man is Hard to Find” by Flannery O’Connor & “The Second Bakery Attack” by Huraki Murakami & “Then Later, His Ghost” by Sarah Hall

Week Four
Class 7 Tuesday/September 17/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: “The Green Zone Rabbit” by Hassan Blasim & “The Emerald Light in the Air” by Donald Antrim

Class 8 Thursday/September 19/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW: Prepare for Exam over all covered materials.

Week Five
Class 9 Tuesday/September 24/ Exam
HW Read: Read Ender’s Game Ch. 1 & 2

Class 10 Thursday/September 26/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: Read Ender’s Game Ch. 3 & 4

Week Six
Class 11 Tuesday/October 1/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: Read Ender’s Game Ch. 5 & 6
Class 12 Thursday/ October 3/*Class and office hours are cancelled and this will be used as a day to get ahead on our reading*
HW Read: Read Ender’s Game Ch. 7 & 8

Week Seven
Class 12 Tuesday/October 8/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: Read Ender’s Game Ch. 9-10

Class 13 Thursday/ October 10/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: Read Ender’s Game Ch. 11 & 12

Week Eight
Class 15 Tuesday/ October 15/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
HW Read: Read Ender’s Game Ch. 13-14

Class 16 Thursday/ October 17/ Discussion/Student Teaching.
Homework: Read Ender’s Game Ch. 15/ Prepare for Ender’s Game Exam.

Week Nine
Class 17 Tuesday/ October 22/ Discussion/Student Teaching/Class Review of entire text
Homework: Prepare for Ender’s Game Exam.

Class 18 Thursday/ October 24/ Lesson on How to Read Comic Books/Ender’s Game Exam
Homework: Read entire Watchmen graphic novel/Next week is conference week (no class)

Week Ten
Conference Week (no class)
Week Eleven
Class 21 Tuesday/ November 5/ Discussion Ch. 1 & Ch. 2/Student Teaching.
Homework: Determine a theme within the Watchmen that you wish to write an essay about.
Class 22 Thursday/ November 7/ Discussion Ch. 3 & Ch. 4/Student Teaching.

Week Twelve
Class 23 Tuesday/ November 12/ Discussion Ch. 5 & Ch. 6/Student Teaching.
Class 24 Thursday/ November 14/ Discussion Ch. 7 & Ch. 8/Student Teaching.
Homework: Have essay turned in online before the next class (November 19).

Week Thirteen
Class 25 Tuesday/ November 19/ Discussion Ch. 9 & Ch. 10/Student Teaching.
Class 26 Thursday/ November 21/ Discussion Ch. 11 & Ch. 12/Student Teaching.

Week Fourteen
Off for Thanksgiving

Week Fifteen Dead Week
Watch the movie.
HW: Prepare for final cumulative exam with an emphasis on the Watchmen.
Watch the movie.
HW: Prepare for final cumulative exam.

Week Sixteen Final Exam Week