ENGLISH 2341: Introduction to Literature – Fall 2023

Instructor: Mrs. Jerri Miller
Course number and section: ENGL 2341.003
Office hours: 10-12 MW, 4-5 TR (see note at end of syllabus)
Email: bourrousjd@sfasu.edu / jerri.miller.class@gmail.com (see note at end of syllabus)
Department: Liberal Arts
Class meeting: Zoom @ 7:30 TR

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Readings in literary genres, such as poetry, drama, short story, and novel. Prerequisite: six hours of freshman English.

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES

This course has been selected to be part of Stephen F. Austin State University’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. Four of them apply to this course.

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<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>How the Core Objective will be addressed</th>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information</td>
<td>Active reading assignments</td>
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<td>Writing process(es) activities</td>
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<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication</td>
<td>Interpretive writing assignments</td>
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<td>Small-group discussion activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities</td>
<td>Daily work assignments and quizzes that consider cultural elements of assigned readings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Responsibility</td>
<td>To include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making</td>
<td>Analytical writing assignment that applies ethics in research</td>
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ENGLISH PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for this major are addressed in the course.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the various forms of literature. Students will read selections from short fiction, novels, poetry, songs, and plays so they can gain a deeper appreciation of the many types of literature generated from all around the world over the past several centuries. Students will learn about events that shaped authors and their works, as well as relevant terms and techniques.

CREDIT HOUR JUSTIFICATION

ENGL 2341 "Introduction to Literature" (3 credits) typically meets three times each week in 50-minute segments or twice each week in 75-minute segments for 15 weeks, and also meets for a 2-hour final examination. Students have theme-based weekly literary readings, including poetry, short fiction, non-fiction, and drama. Students are expected to read these literary selections and prepare for weekly discussions; they will take short quizzes, and discussions and other activities will take place during the week. In addition to quizzes and discussions, students will write essays over reading and prepare a multimodal presentation of some sort. These activities will average at a minimum 6-8 hours of work each week to prepare for and full participate in the course.

REQUIRED TEXTS

None. Anything required for the class will be provided by me.

GRADES AND EVALUATION

I do not accept late work without documentation. You cannot disappear for weeks and then expect me to let you make up the work you missed unless you have documentation to show for it. You cannot avoid doing your work all semester and then try to get it in at the last minute. If you need an extension or to make up work, email me and tell me what’s going on, provide documentation, and you’ll be able to turn in any missed assignments for the period listed on that documentation.

Essays – each assignment is due by the time we begin class on the due date. You must submit all major essays online to D2L. There will be a separate Dropbox folder in D2L for each major essay assignment. Late essays will be given -10 points for each day they are late; extensions may only be granted if you have an excusable absence. Instructions for each essay will be given as they are assigned.

Quizzes – There will be quizzes on D2L. They must be turned in by the due date to be graded unless you have an excused absence or have been granted an extension.

Daily Work – There will be discussions and weekly work. They must be turned in by the due date to be graded unless you have an excused absence or have been granted an extension.
Final Exam – Using the skills you’ve acquired over the course of the semester, you will write a final essay. Details and materials will be discussed as the date approaches. The final exam must be turned in by the due date to receive credit.

Extra Credit – A substantial visit to the AARC will award you five extra points to one major essay grade. If you aren’t on campus or don’t feel comfortable meeting a tutor face-to-face, you may use the online feedback tool on their D2L page. You must show me proof of your visit or online interaction in order to receive credit (a screenshot will be sufficient). Utilization of the resources available to you are an important part of your education. Throughout the semester, there will be other opportunities to gain extra credit. At any point in the semester, you may e-mail me the cutest photo of an otter you can find. That will award you 5 points on any essay of your choosing. I will keep a tally of who has sent it, and when you’re ready to cash in those 5 points, just let me know.

Breakdown of Grades:
Attendance – 5%
Quizzes – 5%
Daily Work – 5%
Essays – 70%
Final Exam – 15%

ALL ASSIGNMENTS must adhere to MLA guidelines unless specified otherwise, meaning 1-inch margins on all sides, appropriate headers, double-spaced, written in 12-point Times New Roman, with Works Cited (if required) attached. Each assignment must meet the assignment requirements for page length and source requirement. Failing to do so will result in a SIGNIFICANT drop in your grade. Individual assignment sheets will be provided with further details.

According to university policy, your final grade for the course will consist of a letter grade only; if you are a concurrent student, you will receive a number grade. Here is a general description of each letter grade:

A – Student meets and exceeds the expectations for the assignment. Writing demonstrates an understanding of all the key concepts needed to effectively complete the essay. Few, if any, grammatical and/or syntactical errors.

B – Student meets the expectations for the assignment. Writing demonstrates an understanding of most of the key concepts needed to effectively complete the essay. Few grammatical and/or syntactical errors.

C – Student meets the expectations for the assignment. Writing demonstrates a basic understanding of some of the key concepts needed to effectively complete the essay. Several grammatical and/or syntactical errors.

D – Student does not meet at least one expectation for the assignment. Writing demonstrates little understanding of the key concepts needed to effectively complete the essay. Many grammatical and/or syntactical errors.

F – Student does not meet most or all expectations for the assignment. Writing demonstrates little to no understanding of most of the key concepts needed to effectively complete the
essay. Pages are missing or plagiarism may have occurred. Writing is incomprehensible with many grammatical and/or syntactical errors.

Grade evaluation may be discussed 48 hours after essays have been returned. I will not discuss it with you until the two-day window has passed.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory. In order to be successful, you will need to attend class regularly, arrive prepared and on time, and stay for the duration. Five (5) tardies will count as one absence. Since this is a Zoom course, you are required to keep your camera on and participate. You are allowed four (4) unexcused absences before your grade is affected. After the fourth absence, you will be docked 5 points from your final grade. Absences will be excused at my discretion (with adequate documentation), according to the University Policy and Procedures Manual. If you are absent, you are responsible for determining what you missed. Our classes will be recorded and posted the same day. For specific information regarding attendance and excused absences, see policy 6.7.

WITHHELD GRADES – SEMESTER GRADES POLICY (5.5)

Ordinarily, 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. For additional information, go to https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy. Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations,
structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

**ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

A recent policy from the Provost’s Office states, “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 that is available to help SFA students succeed.”

You will conduct yourselves in a respectful, professional manner. I don’t think I have to tell you this but be kind to your fellow students when you interact with them (and me).

**DISCRIMINATION/SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

At Stephen F. Austin State University, no faculty, staff, or student may discriminate against another on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, disability or disabled veteran status, and such acts will not be permitted in this class. For additional information, consult Human Resources for Policy E-46.

**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, and Room 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/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).
AARC

The AARC provides a variety of free academic support programs for students at SFA. Their services include 1:1 appointments, walk-in tables, online tutoring (through Zoom), learning teams, and SI. They also provide academic skills workshops upon request. They are available in-person Monday through Thursday, 8 am to 7 pm on the first floor of the library. For more information, visit sfasu.edu/aarc. Their contact information is as follows: (936) 468-4108, email aarc@sfasu.edu.

STUDENT WELLNESS & WELL-BEING

SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc. If you are experiencing concerns and seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:

The Dean of Students Office (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents
936-468-7249
dos@sfasu.edu

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic (Human Services, room 202)
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
936-468-1041

The Health and Wellness Hub "The Hub"
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet Street
www.sfasu.edu/thehub
936-468-4008
thehub@sfasu.edu

To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person -- mind, body, and spirit. Services include:

- Health Services
- Counseling Services
- Student Outreach and Support
- Food Pantry
- Wellness Coaching
- Alcohol and Other Drug Education

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1(800) 392-8343
If you need to contact me, please e-mail me through your SFASU email address. If, for some reason, our server is down, and SFASU email is unavailable, email me at the Gmail account from your personal account; this should be used only if SFASU email is unavailable. Please put your class and section number somewhere in the email so that I know which class you're in.

Office hours are listed at the top of the page, but if you need to meet with me at another time, let me know, and I will be happy to oblige.