Course Syllabus

English 2341:
Introduction to Literature

Section 005
Fall 2023

Instructor: Ms. Laura Osborne
Department: English
Office: Steen Library, Room 218A
Office phone: (936) 468-5832
Email: Use Brightspace (D2L) email

Class meeting time and place: Online

Office Hours

Available to meet online via Zoom on Mondays from 6:00-7:30 PM. Also available for Zoom-based appointments by request, Monday-Friday.

Prerequisite

Six hours of Freshman English (ENGL 1301 and 1302 or equivalents), completed with a grade of C or better.

Official Course Description

This is the official course description that appears in the SFA course catalog:

Readings in literary genres, such as poetry, drama, short story and novel.

Credit Hour Justification

ENG 2341 “Introduction to Literature” (3 credits; fully online) meets online for 15 regular weeks during the semester, and also meets for the final week of the semester for a 2-hour final examination online. Students have weekly literary readings, including poetry, short fiction, a novel, and drama. Students are expected to read and participate in weekly discussions and write journal entries based
both on their reading assignments as well as on the content modules in the course which include
terminology, contextual information, notes, outside sources, explanations, and provided links to
enrich their understanding of the selections. In addition to discussions and journal entries, students
will complete one more quizzes per module, and will submit three paper assignments plus one short
creative work. These activities average at a minimum 8-10 hours of work each week to prepare for
and fully participate in this course.

Course Overview

This course will introduce you to the sublime stuff known as literature, including short stories,
poetry, a novel, and a selection of plays. You will learn, together, how to become better readers of
literature, understanding how the process of reading works. You will, through the employment of
attentive reading and the application of critical thinking skills, learn to delve beyond the surfaces of
literary texts – to appreciate and understand them in ways more complex than "what happens in it" or
"what it means." We will begin to explore the complex sets of interactions that go into the
composition and the consumption of a literary work.

You will also gain an understanding of literary techniques, structures, and terminology, and hone the
necessary skills of communication to talk and write intelligently and coherently about what you read.
If all goes well, we will all become better readers, better writers, and better thinkers.

Required Books

There are two required books for the course. The campus bookstore should carry them, but you can
also order them elsewhere online. You will need the first book in the list by no later than the 2nd
week of classes. (Additional required readings will be freely available online.)

The Art of the Short Story
Edited by Dana Gioia and R.S. Gwynn
Published by Pearson Longman

The Dinner
By Herman Koch
Published by Hogarth
ISBN 978-0385346856

Official Course Outcomes and Objectives

Program Learning Outcomes

This is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for
this major are addressed in this course. English majors or minors seeking to fulfill sophomore-level
literature requirements should enroll in ENG 2332, 2333, 2322, 2323, 2327, or 2328.
General Education Core Curriculum Objectives

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six core learning objectives: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives.

By enrolling in ENGL 2341, you are also enrolling in a Core Curriculum Course that fulfills the Language, Philosophy, and Culture requirement. In any given semester, one or more of the following Core Curriculum Objectives may be assessed. These objectives are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>How the Core Objective will be addressed</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
<td>Reading journal posts, discussion posts, quizzes, and writing assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
<td>Reading journal posts, discussion posts, and occasional Zoom meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Responsibility</td>
<td>To include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.</td>
<td>Reading journal posts, discussion posts, and writing assignments</td>
</tr>
<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>Capstone essay assignment</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Student Learning Outcomes for English 2341

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Exhibit an understanding of and appreciation for key works in 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 discussions of readings and in 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).

**Communication, Attendance, and Zoom Meetings**

Course communication will occur primarily through Brightspace email, course news, discussions, and Zoom meetings. I will check my Brightspace email at least once a day, Monday through Friday. Course content will be delivered both in the content modules and in the Zoom meetings.

Some modules will include scheduled online Zoom meetings with pre-announced topics, designed to allow students to actively discuss the assigned readings with each other and with their instructor. See the Course Timeline for the schedule; there will be 3 Zoom meetings during the semester, and students are required to attend and participate in any 1 of them (not all 3).

**Attendance**

As this is an online course, there is no standard attendance policy. However, students are expected to log into Brightspace at least 4 to 5 times per week to check their course email, read any recent news announcements, and to stay on top of upcoming due dates.

**Phone Messages and Email**

During regular "workday hours" (8 to 5, Monday through Friday), I am employed full-time in the Center for Teaching & Learning. While you may reach me by phone during those hours if you have a quick question, be aware that I am sometimes conducting faculty workshops, attending meetings, and otherwise away from my desk.

When in doubt, try contacting me by email. You are strongly encouraged to email me in Brightspace rather than through Jacks/campus email. I will be more likely to see and respond to your message sooner in Brightspace. If you send me email from your Jacks/campus account, please include "ENGL 2341" somewhere in the subject line. Otherwise, your message may be easily lost amongst the large volume of email I receive each day.

**Deadlines and Late Work**

This is not a self-paced course. You are expected to turn in all assignments on time. For a list of all due dates in the course, refer to the Course Timeline within the Getting Started module in Brightspace.
• Quizzes must be completed by the due dates and times; they cannot be taken late, and they will not be re-opened.

• Discussion posts and reading journal posts will be accepted no more than 24 hours late, and will earn no more than 1/2 credit if posted late. After 24 hours, they will not earn any credit.

• Writing assignments (i.e. dropbox assignments) include a 24-hour grace period during which the assignment will be accepted late with no grade penalty. If a writing assignment is submitted late (past the 24-hour grace period), it will be subject to a grade deduction of 10 percentage points per day. Writing assignments will not be accepted more than 4 days late.

All assignments must be completed in the order in which they are given. No work or assignments will be accepted after 11:59 PM on Monday, December 11. (Fall classes end on Friday, December 8).

If you experience extenuating circumstances at any point and are unable to meet a deadline, please contact your instructor before the due date to explain the problem and request a short extension.

Writing Assignments

All writing assignments must be typed and submitted as a Microsoft Word document online through Brightspace. All assignments will be graded for proper format, soundness of content, organization, smooth and effective use of source material, writing style, grammar, and mechanics.

Assignments submitted in an incorrect file type will be counted as late (and a grade deduction made accordingly) until an acceptable file type is submitted. After submitting an assignment, it is the student's responsibility to double-check and verify that the correct file was submitted.

There will be 3 writing assignments in this course, as follows:

• A medium-length response paper in Module 3, worth 85 points
• A medium-length response paper in Module 5, worth 85 points
• A capstone essay in Module 8, due on the last day of classes, worth 85 points

Paper Format

All papers should be in MLA format, with one-inch margins, and—if specified by the instructions—a Works Cited page. Text should be either Cambria or Times New Roman 12 point and uniformly double-spaced. Pages should not be right or full justified. Pages should be numbered at the top right-hand side of all pages, along with your last name. Papers that don't adhere to the formatting requirements will be subject to grade deductions.
Grading Standards

All work submitted in this course, including discussions and reading journal posts, should be carefully proofread to catch mistakes in spelling, punctuation, capitalization, syntax, and grammar. Sloppy proofreading will negatively affect your score on any discussion or assignment.

For the writing assignments, you will be given specific instructions and a grading rubric ahead of time, so that you will know in advance what your instructor is expecting and how your assignment will be evaluated.

Discussions and Reading Journals

In each module, students will be required to participate in discussions (via the Brightspace discussion topics) about some of the assigned readings and related concepts. These discussions will be open to the whole class. Students are encouraged to participate in each discussion not only by starting a thread, but also by replying to their classmates and responding to questions from their instructor.

In addition to the class-wide discussions, each module will also include a specified number of reading journal posts which are private to each student and can be read only by the individual student and their instructor.

Quizzes and Final Exam

Each module will include one or more quizzes which can be taken online from any location. All quizzes will be "open book" in that students are welcome to use their textbooks while completing the quizzes. However, collaboration between two or more students is not permitted during any quiz or exam; it is considered cheating.

The final exam will be available for a limited, pre-determined period during Finals Week and can be taken online from any location. It will be timed to two hours, and will draw on material from the quizzes, discussions, and readings from the entire semester.

Grade Determination

(If changes become necessary due to unforeseen circumstances, an announcement will be posted in the course.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 writing assignments (85 points each)</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 quizzes (20 points each)</td>
<td>180</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion posts</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>(6 posts @ 10 points each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading journal posts</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(18 posts @ 10 points each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning agreement</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introductory post | 5 points
---|---
Zoom meetings | 5 points
(attend any 1 of the scheduled meetings, not all of them)
Final exam | 100 points

**Total possible points** | **790 points**
---|---
Minimum points required for an A | 711
Minimum points required for a B | 632
Minimum points required for a C | 553
Minimum points required for a D | 474

*Any score below 474 points will result in an F for the course; scores will not be curved.*

**Extra Credit**

There will be two opportunities to earn extra credit, available to everyone equally, as follows:

- **Participate in an additional Zoom meeting (1 pt)** – Participating in one Zoom meeting is required, but if you participate in any additional meetings, you’ll earn 1 point of extra credit (per extra meeting). You must be present and participating for the full duration of the meeting to earn the extra credit.
- **Complete the official course evaluation (1 pt)** - Complete the official course evaluation in mySFA and you will earn 1 point of extra credit.

Additional extra credit opportunities may be announced during the semester.

**Technical Support**

If you experience technical difficulties in Brightspace, I encourage you to contact the Brightspace Support team on campus; they are experts at assisting students in online courses. You can reach them by email at d2l@sfasu.edu, by phone at 936.468.1919, or in the virtual support lab (the link and the current hours are posted in the purple box on the Brightspace homepage).

Also, please let me know immediately about any technical issues you encounter. A technical glitch in Brightspace does not excuse you from completing and submitting assignments on time. If you ever find yourself unable to submit an assignment through Brightspace, for example, you should submit it as an email attachment instead. And if the email tool in Brightspace isn't working, then send me your assignment through regular Jacks/campus email (my address is osbornel@sfasu.edu).
Other Course Policies

Academic integrity and policy on recycled work

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course 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.

Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation are not tolerated in this course. Documented proof of any cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and/or misrepresentation may result in a failing grade (of zero) on the assignment, and possibly also a failing grade in the course. All assignments you submit will be checked for originality via Turnitin.

In addition, all work submitted in this course must be 1) written by YOU and 2) written THIS semester, for THIS specific section of this course (not recycled from any other course you've taken, here or elsewhere, and not recycled from any previous time you may have attempted this course). If it is discovered that you have turned in a "recycled" assignment, the most typical penalty is an F (zero) for that assignment.

Use of ChatGPT or any other A.I. (artificial intelligence) tools, websites, apps, or similar aids is not permitted in this course, at any time, for any assignments, discussions, quizzes, or other activities.
Students with disabilities

Here is the official SFA policy regarding 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, 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/.

Withheld grades

A grade of WH (for Withheld) will be granted only in rare circumstances. Here is the official SFA policy on withheld grades:

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 coursework 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 to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

Student wellness and well-being

SFA values students’ overall well-being, 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

SFA 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 St.
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

www.sfasu.edu/thehub
936.468.4008
thehub@sfasu.edu

Crisis Resources:
- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
- National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

Course Timeline and Due Dates
For a complete timeline of assignments and due dates, refer to the Course Timeline in the Getting Started module of the course.
# Course Timeline

**Fall 2023**

Timeline last updated on August 27, 2023.

**Note:** All due times are 11:59 PM unless otherwise specified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Getting Started</th>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Monday, August 28</th>
<th>Begin the Getting Started module.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Sept. 3</td>
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<td>Due date for the following:</td>
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<td>• Introduce Yourself discussion</td>
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<td>• Learning Agreement quiz</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 1 Responding to Literature</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Monday, Sept. 4</th>
<th>Begin Module 1</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Start reading the module content and assigned readings.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Quiz #1 (Responding to Literature) becomes available.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Sept. 10</td>
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<td>Due date for the following:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• All Module 1 reading journal posts (#1-3)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Quiz #1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Monday,</td>
<td>Begin Module 2</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sept. 11</td>
<td>Start reading the module content and assigned readings from the textbook.</td>
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<td>Quiz #2 (Short Stories terminology) becomes available.</td>
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<td>Sunday, Sept. 17</td>
<td>Due date for the following:</td>
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<td>• Module 2 discussion post</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Quiz #2 (Short Stories terminology)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sept. 18</td>
<td>Continue working on completing the assigned readings and activities.</td>
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<td>Quiz #3 (Module 2 readings) becomes available.</td>
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<td>Sunday, Sept. 24</td>
<td>Due date for the following:</td>
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<td>• All Module 2 reading journal posts (#4-6)</td>
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<td>• Quiz #3 (Module 2 readings)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Monday, Sept. 25</td>
<td>Begin Module 3</td>
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<td>Start reading the module content and assigned readings from the textbook.</td>
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<td>Quiz #4 (Module 3 readings) becomes available.</td>
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<td>Sunday, Oct. 1</td>
<td>Due date for the following:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Module 3 discussion post</td>
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<td>• Quiz #4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Short Stories, Part 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, Oct. 2</td>
<td>Continue working on completing the assigned readings and activities.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Wednesday, Oct. 4 | **Zoom Meeting #1: 7-7:50 PM**  
(Receive, you only need to attend 1 out of the 3 Zoom meetings during the semester) |
| Sunday, Oct. 8 | Due date for the following:  
- Module 3 response paper assignment  
- All Module 3 reading journal posts (#7-9) |
| Monday, Oct. 9 | “Grace period” window for submitting the Module 3 response paper without late penalty closes at 11:59 PM |

| Week 7 | Module 4  
Poetry, Part 1 |
|--------|-----------------|
| Monday, Oct. 9 | **Begin Module 4**  
Start reading the module content and assigned poems in the textbook.  
Quiz #5 (Poetry terminology) becomes available. |
| Sunday, Oct. 15 | Due date for the following:  
- Module 4 discussion post  
- Quiz #5 |

| Week 8 | Module 4  
Poetry, Part 1 |
|--------|-----------------|
| Monday, Oct. 16 | Continue working on completing assigned readings and activities.  
Quiz #6 (Module 4 readings) becomes available. |
| Sunday, Oct. 22 | Due date for the following:  
- All Module 4 reading journal posts (#10-12)  
- Quiz #6 |
| Week 9 | Monday, Oct. 23 | Begin Module 5  
Start reading the module content and assigned poems in the textbook.  
Quiz #7 (Module 5 readings) becomes available |
|-------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|       | Sunday, Oct. 29 | Due date for the following:  
• Module 5 discussion post  
• Quiz #7 |
| Module 5 | Monday, Oct. 30 | Continue working on completing the assigned readings and activities. |
| Poetry, Part 2 | Wednesday, Nov. 1 | Zoom Meeting #2: 7:00-7:50 PM |
| Week 10 | Sunday, Nov. 5 | Due date for the following:  
• Module 5 response paper assignment  
• All Module 5 reading journal posts (#13-15) |
|       | Monday, Nov. 6 | “Grace period” window for submitting the Module 5 response paper without late penalty closes at 11:59 PM |
| Module 6 | Monday, Nov. 6 | Begin Module 6  
Start reading the module content and The Dinner. |
| Novel: The Dinner | Sunday, Nov. 12 | Due date for the following:  
• Module 6 discussion post |
<p>| Week 12 | Monday, Nov. 13 | Continue working on completing assigned reading and reading journal posts. Take Quiz #8 this week. Quiz #8 (The Dinner) becomes available. |
| Week 12 | Thursday, Nov. 16 | Zoom Meeting #3: 7:00-7:50 PM |
| Week 12 | Sunday, Nov. 19 | Due date for the following: - All Module 6 reading journal posts (#16-17) - Quiz #8 |
| Week 13 | Nov. 20-24 | Thanksgiving Break |
| Week 14 | Monday, Nov. 27 | Begin Module 7 Start reading the module content and assigned readings. Quiz #9 (Module 7 readings and terminology) becomes available. |
| Week 14 | Sunday, Dec. 3 | Due date for the following: - Module 7 discussion post - Module 7 reading journal post (#18) - Quiz #9 |
| Week 15 | Monday, Dec. 4 | Begin Module 8 Start reading the module content and drafting your Capstone Essay. There’s no quiz or discussion in this module. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, Dec. 10</td>
<td></td>
<td>Due date for the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Capstone Essay assignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Dec. 11</td>
<td>Grace period for submitting</td>
<td><em>Grace period for submitting the Capstone Essay without late penalty closes at 11:59 PM</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the Capstone Essay without</td>
<td><em>ABSOLUTE CUT-OFF DATE -- No late work accepted past 11:59 PM on this date</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>late penalty closes at 11:59 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>Comprehensive final exam opens at 8:00 AM on Monday, Dec. 11 and remains available through 8:00 PM on Wednesday, Dec. 13. Timed to 2 hours.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday, Dec. 11</td>
<td>Required of all students -- no exceptions.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday, Dec. 13</td>
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