

INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE 2011 FALL

Instructor: Dr. Pei-Ju Wu

Office: 綜合大樓 Room 739

Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:10-3pm or by appointment

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Class/Location: Y307

Class Hours: Mon 10:10-12:00

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Required Textbook

1. Booth, Alison & Mays, Kelly J. (2010) The Norton Introduction to Literature: Shorter Tenth Edition. New York: W. W. Norton.
2. You should also have the following:
 1. Access to a college-level dictionary (e.g. Webster, Longman, OED...etc.)
 2. A flashcard on which you'll save copies of all your presentation scripts and writing materials.
 3. Access to LitWeb: <http://wnorton.com/litweb>
 4. Access to E-Campus: <http://ecampus.nchu.edu.tw/eCampus3P/Learn/Default.aspx>

Course Description

Introduction to Literature is designed to guide students how to read, analyze and appreciate short stories, poetry, drama and fiction in English. This course aims to address many humanistic concerns about the nature of literature as well as the practice of literary criticism. By close-reading texts, we will explore some of the compelling reasons for reading and studying literature. This course offers a forum in which students are motivated with a sense of the issues and opportunities that lie ahead as they continue their study of literature within historical and cultural context. First semester will focus on cultivating interests in reading short stories and poetry. Second semester will continue exploring genres such as drama, play production in film, theatre as well as multimedia performances.

Grading

I grade on a 10-point scale (A=90-100; B+=88-89; B=80-87; C+=78-79; C=70-77; D+=68-69; D=60-67; F=59 and below). **If you have a question about a grade you receive on an assignment, please feel free to discuss it with me.**

The weights for grading are as follows:

- **Class Participation, Quiz, Attendance (10%)**
- **Monthly Reflection Notes (20%)**
- **Group Presentation (20%)**
- **Mid-Term Exam (20%)**
- **Final Exam (30%)**

Attendance

This is a semi-lecture/semi-discussion course. I will spend time to talk about our readings. However, we will also be working together to explore various literary approaches. This means that you will need to come to class regularly and participate actively in discussions. If you are absent, you are responsible for learning material we cover in class and, except in the case of emergencies, for arranging beforehand to submit any assignments due on that day.

In accordance with university policy, I will penalize your course grade. If you miss more than **3** classes, you will automatically **fail** this course.

While the University's absence policy doesn't differentiate between "excused" and "unexcused" absences, I understand that emergencies can happen. Under such extenuating circumstances, I will not allow these absences to affect your grade if you meet **all** of the following requirements:

- You notify me as soon as possible about the absences (preferably before they happen).
- You provide a clear and reasonable explanation for the absences (and, when appropriate, documentation).
- You have been attending class and keeping up with your work before the absences in question.
- You attend class and complete all work in a timely manner after the absences in question.

Tardiness

Our class starts and ends at the scheduled times. On most days, I'll begin class with an intro or some other kind of graded exercise. If you arrive more than **10** minutes late, it will be considered as one tardiness.

Three tardiness will be considered as one absence.

Office Hours and Email

You must have a working email address so that I can send you announcements and answer any questions that come up between class periods. Please feel free to drop by during my office hours or to make an appointment for other times. If you can't drop by, I check my email regularly, so don't hesitate to send me a message if you have questions or concerns about the class.

Weekly Schedule

09/19: Introduction: Course Design (What is Literature? Norton 1-9)

09/26: **Fiction** (Elements of Fiction)
 "The Cask of Amontillado" & *Hills Like White Elephants* (Norton 96-106)

10/03: "Cathedral" (Norton 12-43)

10/17: "Sonny's Blues" & "Roman Fever" (Norton 50-85)

10/24: "A Good Man Is Hard to Find" & Flannery O'Connor (Norton 294-343)
 Assignment: Monthly Reflection Note 1 Due

11/07: Group Presentation I: Story of Your Choices

11/14: Mid-Term Exam

11/21: Comparison & Contrast: "The Yellow Wallpaper" (Norton 344-354)

11/28: Comparison & Contrast: "A Rose For Emily" (Norton 389-421)
 Assignment: Monthly Reflection Note 2 Due

12/05: **Poetry** (Element of Poetry)

Love & Marriage (Norton 618-622)

12/12: Voice (Norton 672-696)

Group Presentation II: Poetry Recitation

12/19: Situation, Setting, Sound (Norton 700-728)

Group Presentation III: Poetry Recitation

12/26: Symbol (Norton 761-771)

Assignment: Monthly Reflection Note 3 Due

01/02: Poetic Language (Norton 730-750)

Group Presentation IV: Poetry Recitation

01/09: Final Exam



Have fun & Good Luck!