



Undergraduate Course Syllabus

LIT 330: Gender and Text

Center: Online

Course Prerequisites

ENG 122 or ENG 120H

Course Description

This course examines gender in and through literary texts, and considers the ways in which categories of sexuality, sex, race, class, ethnicity, nationality, religion, and other factors influence writers' depictions of gender. The course analyzes historical conditions relevant to gender studies, and may address social and theoretical topics such as women's suffrage, feminisms, third-world feminism, the LGBTQ community, and queer theory. The course explores these topics through the lens of literature and asks: how is gender represented in literary texts? How do literary texts not only replicate but sometimes contest or imagine new realities for gendered subjects? What does it mean to write as a gendered subject? Readings may include works by authors such as Mary Wollstonecraft, Oscar Wilde, Virginia Woolf, Audre Lorde, Gloria Anzaldúa, and Michael Cunningham.

Course Outcomes

- Recognizes the complex relationship between literature and historical, social and cultural categories of race, class, and, in particular, gender (Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World)
- Construct critical positions on literature written by women based on close readings of primary sources, secondary sources, and contextual analysis (Critical and Creative Thinking)
- Compose a well-developed essay that incorporates secondary sources into a close reading of one or more literary texts (Communication)
- Develop an aesthetic appreciation for literature and understanding of the critical role it plays in culture and society

Required Materials

Using your learning resources is critical to your success in this course. Please purchase directly through the [SNHU Online Bookstore](#) rather than any other vendor. Purchasing directly from the bookstore ensures that you will obtain the correct materials and that the IT Service Desk, your advisor, and the instructor can provide you with support if you have problems.

The House on Mango Street

Cisneros, Sandra

1984

Vintage Books

ISBN: 978-0-679-73477-2

Raisin in the Sun

Hansberry, Lorraine

1988

Vintage Books

ISBN: 978-0-679-75533-3

Sula

Morrison, Toni

2004

Vintage Books

ISBN: 978-1-4000-3343-0

RubyFruit Jungle

Brown, Rita Mae

1973

Bantam Books, Inc.

ISBN: 978-0-553-27886-6

The Blue Jay's Dance

Erdrich, Louise

2010

Harper Collins Publishers

ISBN: 978-0-06-176797-5

Interpreter of Maladies

Lahiri, Jhumpa

1999

Mariner Books

ISBN: 978-0-395-92720-5

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

As indicated in our core values, SNHU is committed to “embrace diversity where we encourage and respect diverse identities, ideas, and perspectives by honoring difference, amplifying belonging, engaging civilly, and breaking down barriers to bring our mission to life.”

This may or will be reflected in SNHU’s curriculum as we embrace and practice diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) to provide the most transformative experience for our students, faculty, and staff. Because topics pertaining to DEI can be sensitive, please remember that embodying and practicing diversity, equity, and inclusion is one of our core values that you will encounter throughout the academic experience. In higher education, we are expected to think and engage critically. Use a growth mindset to embrace the diverse readings, course assignments, and experiences of your peers and faculty.

For more information about DEI at SNHU, please visit our website at the [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#).

Instructor Availability and Response Time

Your class interaction with the instructor and your classmates will take place on a regular, ongoing basis. Your instructor will be actively engaged within the course throughout the week. You will normally communicate with your instructor in the weekly discussions or the General Questions discussion topic so that your questions and the instructor's answers benefit the entire class. You should feel free, however, to communicate with your instructor via SNHU email at any time, particularly when you want to discuss something of a personal or sensitive nature. Your instructor will generally provide a response within 24 hours. Instructors will post grades and feedback (as applicable) within seven days of an assignment's due date, or within seven days of a late submission.

Grade Distribution

Assignment Category	Number of Graded Items	Point Value per Item	Total Points
Discussions	6	50	300
Homework	1	20	20
Short Papers	4	70	280
Final Project			
Milestone Two	1	50	50
Milestone Three	1	50	50
Milestone Four	1	50	50
Milestone Five	1	50	50
Milestone Six	1	100	100
Final Submission	1	100	100
			Total Course Points: 1,000

This course may also contain practice activities. The purpose of these non-graded activities is to assist you in mastering the learning outcomes in the graded activity items listed above.

University Grading System: Undergraduate

Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Points
A	93–100	4
A-	90–92	3.67
B+	87–89	3.33
B	83–86	3
B-	80–82	2.67
C+	77–79	2.33
C	73–76	2
C-	70–72	1.67
D+	67–69	1.33
D	60–66	1
F	0–59	0
I	Incomplete	

Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Points
IF	Incomplete/Failure *	
IP	In Progress (past end of term)	
W	Withdrawn	

* Please refer to the [policy page](#) for information on the incomplete grade process.

Grading Guides

Specific activity directions, grading guides, posting requirements, and additional deadlines can be found in the Assignment Guidelines and Rubrics section of the course.

Weekly Assignment Schedule

All reading and assignment information can be found within each module of the course. Assignments and discussion posts during the first week of each term are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. Assignments and discussion posts for the remainder of the term are due by 11:59 p.m. of the student's local time zone.

In addition to the textbook readings that are listed, there may be additional required resources within each module.

Module	Topics and Assignments
1	Three Waves of Feminism 1-1 Discussion: Gender Studies 1-2 Homework: Contemporary Feminism Sources 1-3 Final Project Milestone One: Review Final Project Directions, Milestones, and Rubric
2	Literary Lens Analysis 2-1 Discussion: Literary Lens Analysis 2-2 Short Paper: Literary Lens Analysis 2-3 Final Project Milestone Two: Define Your Theme
3	Women and Aspirations Reading: <i>The House on Mango Street</i> 3-1 Discussion: Wanting 3-2 Final Project Milestone Three: Theme Feedback
4	Women's Rights & Civil Rights Reading: <i>Raisin in the Sun</i> 4-1 Discussion: Changing Roles 4-2 Final Project Milestone Four: Annotated Bibliography
5	The Personal Is Political Reading: <i>Sula</i> 5-1 Short Paper: Angel/Whore Dichotomy 5-2 Final Project Milestone Five: Annotated Bibliography Feedback

Module	Topics and Assignments
6	LGBT Literature Reading: <i>Ruby Fruit Jungle</i> 6-1 Doing: Final Project Rough Draft Submission 6-2 Final Project Milestone Six: Rough Draft Review 6-3 Short Paper: Gender and Sexual Identity
7	Motherhood Reading: <i>The Blue Jay's Dance</i> 7-1 Discussion: "A Room of Their Own?" 7-2 Final Project Milestone Seven: Final Draft Submission
8	Women as Immigrants to America Reading: <i>Interpreter of Maladies</i> 8-1 Discussion: Psychological and Feminist Lenses 8-2 Short Paper: The Personal Is Political

Attendance Policy

Online students are required to submit a graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class. If a student does not submit a graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class, the student is **automatically dropped** from the course for non-participation. Review the [full attendance policy](#).

Late Assignments Policy

Meeting assigned due dates is critical for demonstrating progress and ensuring appropriate time for instructor feedback on assignments. Students are expected to submit their assignments on or before the due date. Review the [full late assignment policy](#).

SNHU Student Handbook

Review the [student handbook](#).

ADA/504 Compliance Statement

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is dedicated to providing equal access to individuals with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, as amended by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008.

SNHU prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability and takes action to prevent such discrimination by providing reasonable accommodations to eligible individuals with disabilities. The university has adopted this policy to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints regarding any action prohibited by Section 504, the ADA, or the ADAAA.

For questions about **support services, documentation guidelines, general disability issues, or pregnancy accommodations**, please visit the [Online Accessibility Center](#) (OAC).

As a student, you must complete an interactive intake process, with supporting documentation, in order to be granted accommodations. Once reasonable accommodations are approved by the OAC, you will receive an

accommodations letter. You are then responsible for sharing the letter with your instructor. Accommodations are not retroactive.

If you feel you've been subject to discrimination on the basis of disability, by any party, you may file a complaint or grievance. For more information on the ADA/504 Grievance Policy, go to the [Disability and Accessibility Services](#) website.

Academic Integrity Policy

Southern New Hampshire University requires all students to adhere to high standards of integrity in their academic work. Activities such as plagiarism and cheating are not condoned by the university. Review the [full academic integrity policy](#).

Copyright Policy

Southern New Hampshire University abides by the provisions of United States Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). Any person who infringes the copyright law is liable. Review the [full copyright policy](#).

SNHU Withdrawal Policy

Review the [full withdrawal policy](#).

Southern New Hampshire University Policies

More information about SNHU policies can be found on the [policy page](#).