

English 181: Writing About Literature

Dr. Gretchen Schulz

Office: 103 Humanities Hall

Office Hours: 2:00-4:00 T, W, Th, and by appointment

Office Phone: 4-8372

Home Phone: (770) 784-8269

Texts:

Literature: Reading, Reacting, Writing. 3rd ed. Ed. Kirszner and Mandell

The Bedford Handbook for Writers. 5th ed. Diana Hacker

a good dictionary

Aug. 26 introduction to course; introduction to poetry

28 poetry

31 poetry

Sept. 02 preparation for essay

04 draft due

07 Labor Day

09 poetry essay due (10%); poetry

11 poetry

14 poetry

16 poetry

18 preparation for essay

21 poetry essay due (10%); introduction to drama

23 Much Ado About Nothing

25 Much Ado About Nothing

28 Much Ado About Nothing

30 Much Ado About Nothing

Oct. 02 King Lear

05 King Lear

07 King Lear

09 King Lear

12 Fall Break

14 King Lear

16 King Lear

19 drama essay due (15%); introduction to research paper

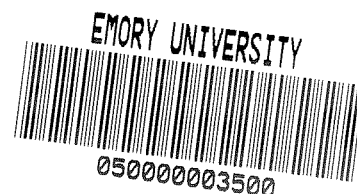
21 introduction to fiction

23 fiction; tentative r.p. topics due

26 fiction

28 fiction; final r.p. topics due

30 library visit (for r.p.)



Nov. 02 fiction; final final r.p. topics due
04 fiction
06 fiction essay due (15%)

09 fiction; bibliography cards for r.p. due
11 fiction
13 fiction

16 fiction
18 fiction; thesis statement and sentence outline for r.p. due
20 fiction

24 fiction essay due (15%); more poetry

THANKSGIVING

30 poetry
Dec. 02 poetry conferences on r.p. all week (draft due)
04 poetry

07 research paper due (20%); poetry; preparation for final exam

Final Exams (10%):
for 11A: Wednesday, Dec. 16, 9:00-12:00
for 01A: Monday, Dec. 14, 9:00-12:00

Course Requirements:

The successful completion of English 181 will require the following of each student enrolled in the course:

1. close reading of the literary texts assigned
2. exercises on these texts
3. discussion of these texts, in class and on-line
4. discussion of ways to write about these texts
5. preparation of five critical essays on these texts
6. preparation of a substantive research paper (as the culmination of a full-fledged research process)
7. taking of a final exam applying and demonstrating the critical techniques and writing skills developed during the semester

Course Objectives:

By the end of the semester, the successful student should have developed his or her ability to read closely and analytically, to think critically and creatively, and to write persuasively, selecting, organizing, and presenting evidence sufficient to support meaningful theses in clear, correct, and effective prose, acknowledging any sources used with appropriate documentation. Class discussion will develop each student's ability to articulate his or her views aloud, as well.

Policy on Attendance:

You may have two absences with no penalty (though you will be considered responsible for work done or due in class on any day you miss for any reason and responsible for informing yourself about any assignments or announcements made on days which you miss). Absences three and four will count 1 point each off of your final grade in the course. Absences five and six will count 2 points each off. Further absences will count 3 1/3 points each off.

Only significant illness, major emergency, or required religious observance will excuse an absence (and note that students should inform me of the latter ahead of time).

Students who come to class late (after I have taken attendance) are responsible for asking me to correct the attendance record right after class. That record will not be adjusted at a later date. Frequent tardiness will result in a penalty (more points taken from the final grade).

Policy on Late or Missing Work:

Only significant illness or major emergency will excuse a late essay or research paper. Work whose lateness is unexcused will lose one letter grade for each calendar day it is late. After four days, unexcused late work will not be accepted at all and will receive a zero.

Only significant illness or major emergency will excuse a missing draft (and/or other required preliminary material for an essay or research paper). Should a draft (and/or other required preliminary material) not be ready for class discussion and/or discussion in conference on the day it is due, the paper will be penalized a letter grade (or a portion of a letter grade) when it is handed in.

Only significant illness or major emergency will excuse late or missing homework assignments or in-class quizzes or exercises. If the lateness of such work is not excused, it may not be submitted at all and will receive a zero.

Determination of Final Grade:

first poetry essay.....	10%
second poetry essay.....	10%
drama essay.....	15%
first fiction essay.....	15%
second fiction essay.....	15%
research paper.....	20%
final exam.....	10%

The final 5% of your grade will reflect the frequency and quality of your contribution to in-class discussion and on-line discussion of class-related topics.

I will be grading the work you submit to me-- and assigning your final grade in the course-- using the plus/minus grading system.