

English 181: Writing About Literature

Fall 2002
Dr. Lemons

Office: Few 104
Hours: Daily 2:30-3:30

Texts: Perrine's Literature: Structure, Sound and Sense, The Taming of the Shrew, a good dictionary

Objectives

To improve abilities in

- Understanding literature
- Written expression
- Group discussion
- One-on-one peer editing

Methods

- 5 formal out-of-class paper, 3-4 pgs
- 1 research project, 7-10 pgs
- Mid-term and Final essay exams
- class discussion of literary works
- individual class presentations
- group work, peer editing
- individual conferences

Class General Guidelines

1. You need to be in class every day. Each absence will result in one point off the final grade per absence. After the first five absences, each additional absence will result in two points off the final grade per absence. However, you may miss two classes without penalty, if you wish. They could be used for illness or whatever you believe important—you don't need to get permission for these for me.

2. The Mid Term and Final In-class Essay Exams, covering readings and discussion, will consist of short in-class essays, graded for writing ability and content. The Mid Term will cover the first half of class; the Final, the second half. The Final is your opportunity to see improvement in writing and analysis of great literature. You will not see the exam questions beforehand.

(Over)

3. The 5 papers should be 750 words in length (about 3 pages). Workshop Day will precede the due date for each paper; complete rough drafts will be due then. Papers will relate to readings from the text. They are due at the beginning of class. Late papers will be marked down one letter grade per day, beginning at the time due; this includes late complete rough drafts for Workshop Day. After the first paper is returned, make an appointment with me so we can see how you are doing. The HONOR CODE is always in effect.

4. For the research paper (7-8 pages) the grade earned will include work on topic selection, thesis, outline, notes, and drafts, and the paper itself. A sheet of requirements will be distributed. This should be an exciting project for you.
5. Homework consists of paragraphs, readings, corrections of papers, and unannounced quizzes (brief and factual). Since they are usually related to the work we do in class on a particular day, they cannot be made up if you miss class or are late. However, homework may be turned in early. If you are late, you will miss a quiz entirely
6. Class participation includes attendance, attention in class, discussion and, for those who wish, participation in the LearnLink conference (Lemons 181 found under “class conferences”) for this class.
7. No plus (+) or minus (-) will be recorded with your final grade.
8. Keep your syllabus handy; it as an agreement between us. It will be posted on our LL conference.

Grading Policy

Papers 40%, Final 15%, Research Project 15%, Mid Term 10%,
Homework & Quizzes 10%, Class Participation 10%

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Schedule of Assignments

Aug	28	Introduction
	30	Connell
Sep	2	Labor Day
	4	Writing About Lit 1-24; Hemingway
	6	Hemingway
	9	Greene
	11	Taming of the Shrew
	13	Taming of the Shrew (field trip)
	16	Draft Due
	18	Paper 1 due; Lahiri
	20	Walker
	23	Mansfield
	25	Wolff
	27	Draft Due
	30	Paper 2 Due; Joyce
Oct	2	Welty
	4	Jackson
	7	Melville
	9	Trifles
	11	Mid Term Essay Exam
	14	Fall Break
	16	The Sand Box
	18	Glass Menagerie
	21	Paper 3 Due Glass Menagerie
	23	Naomi in the Living Room
	25	Dolls House
	28	Dolls House
	30	Othello
Nov	1	Othello
	4	Paper 4 Due
	6	Poetry
	8	Poetry
	11	Poetry
	13	Poetry
	15	Poetry
	18	Poetry
	20	Paper 5 Due
	22	Poetry
	25	Poetry
	27 ñ 29	Thanksgiving
Dec	2	Poetry

- 4 Poetry
- 6 Poetry
- 9 Research Project Due
- 17 9-12noon: Final Exam