

OXFORD COLLEGE of Emory University

COURSE OUTLINE

English 185 – Critical Reading & Writing

Dr. Lucas Carpenter

Fall 2010 Semester (MWF, 9:35-10:25)

I. Objectives of the Course

Through class participation, the close reading of assigned literary texts, in-class writing exercises and tests, six formal essays (4-5 pages), a research paper (8-10 pages), an oral presentation and a final examination, the student will be graded on his/her ability:

- A. To construct outlines demonstrating that sufficient material has been gathered and organized prior to writing.
- B. To write college-level essays, both expository and argumentative, displaying clarity, organization, and adequate support and/or evidence.
- C. To demonstrate in writing a command of style, sentence structure, paragraph development, grammar, spelling, punctuation and vocabulary.
- D. To demonstrate a command of library research skills and proper research paper format.
- E. To read literary texts with insight and understanding.
- F. To recognize the characteristics of the major literary genres: poetry, fiction, and drama.
- G. To analyze and explicate a literary text.
- H. To define and employ in writing key terms in the vocabulary of literary study.

II. Student Requirements for Completing the Course

- A. Brief unannounced quizzes which will be factual in nature. There are no make-ups for missed quizzes.
- B. Possible exercises in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and vocabulary. There are no make-ups for missed exercises.
- C. Several in-class writing assignments, tests, and presentations. There are no make-ups for these assignments.

- D. Six formal critical essays (800-1000 words) to be assigned later. One letter grade will be deducted for each day a paper is late.
- E. A research paper (8-10 pages) to be assigned later. One letter grade will be deducted for each day a research paper is late.
- F. A final examination composed of factual and essay questions.
- G. Satisfactory participation in class discussion, which can only be accomplished if the attendance policy is rigorously observed.

III Grading Practices

The grade will be determined by an evaluation of the entire semester's work, with special emphasis on fulfillment of course objectives. Grading will generally adhere to the following:

Class participation	5%
Quizzes, exercises, and in-class writing	15%
Six essays	50%
Research paper	15%
Final examination	15%

IV. Attendance Policy

- A. Although attendance is not mandatory, it is to the student's distinct benefit to be present in class, and the student will be held responsible for any assignments made when he/she is absent. After two (2) absences, one point will be deducted from the final grade for each additional absence.
- B. Students who are late must assume personal responsibility to see that the record is altered at the end of class. This record will not be changed at a later date.

V. Textbooks:

Thinking and Writing About Literature, 9th edition, ed. Michael Meyer
 The Beacon Handbook, 6th edition, by Robert Perrin

VI. Weekly Outline of Topics to the Covered

Aug 25-27	Fiction & Writing About Fiction
Aug 30-Sept 3	Fiction Paragraph Due
Sept 6-10	Poetry & Writing About Poetry 1st Essay Due

VI. Weekly Outline of Topics to be Covered (continued)

Sept 13-17	Poetry
Sept 20-24	Drama 2nd Essay Due
Sept 27-Oct 1	Drama
Oct 4-8	Fiction 3rd Essay Due
Oct 11-12	Fall Break
Oct 13-15	Poetry
Oct 18-22	The Research Paper 4th Essay Due
Oct 25-29	Drama
Nov 1-5	Drama 5th Essay Due
Nov 8-12	Poetry
Nov 15-19	Poetry 6th Essay Due (in-class)
Nov 24-26	Thanksgiving Recess
Nov 29-Dec 3	Poetry Research Paper due
Dec 6	Last Class
Dec 15, 9am-12noon	FINAL EXAMINATION

VII. Office Hours

My office is located in Seney Hall, Room 115B, and my office hours are the following:

Monday through Friday 2:00-3:00 PM

If these hours are ever inconvenient, appointments can be arranged. Please do not hesitate to see me about anything that is of concern to you.

VIII. Honor Code

I assume that you are familiar with the Honor Code and that you know what plagiarism is.