

**English 102 – Tentative Syllabus**  
**Fall Semester 2011**

**Instructor:** Mike Harutunian

**Office:** C-306-D

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**Pre-requisite:**

Successful completion of English 101  
English 102 meets UC and CSU transfer requirements.

**Course Description:**

English 102 is a 3-unit course which offers instruction and practice in writing strong analytical arguments, using literature as subject matter. Critical thinking and writing is accomplished through close reading, discussion, and interpretation of literary works in the genres of short fiction, poetry, drama, and the novel.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

Upon completion of English 102, the student should be able to:

1. Analyze the relationship between literary genre and meaning.
2. Analyze the effect of point of view, character, diction, tone, imagery, figurative language, plot, and structure on the theme of the literary work.
3. Relate the text's values and assumptions to the social, historical, ethical, psychological, philosophical, or religious context of the work.
4. Compare one's own values and assumptions to those of the text, and debate the extent to which the literary work's values and assumptions challenge those of the reader.
5. Evaluate the formal and stylistic aspects of the literary work.
6. Create a thesis that argues and assembles the reader's interpretation of a literary work or works and assemble supporting evidence to validate that interpretation.
7. Assess the strengths and weaknesses of one's own arguments about literary works.
8. Examine logical fallacies in literary works and in the interpretations of those works.

**Course Objectives:**

- Write essays which demonstrate ability to organize and develop ideas
- Apply critical thinking techniques to *analyze and interpret literature*
- Identify the theme and other ideas in a literary work
- Show how the elements of literature relate to the ideas in literature
- Develop and express, in writing and orally, argument to support Interpretations
- Demonstrate a growing command of English usage, mechanics, style, tone, and diction

**Textbooks:**

- Kelly, The Seagull Reader: Stories, Plays and Poetry
- Browne, Asking the Right Questions, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. ISBN# 978-0205506682
- Palahniuk, Fight Club

**Attendance:**

Regular class attendance assures that students will not miss assignments, will receive assignments and instructions firsthand, and will be able to participate in the various communication activities during the semester. The instructor may drop students after the fourth hour of absence. Non-attendance does not constitute withdrawal. Students who wish to withdraw should consult Admissions and Records for deadlines.

**Assignments:**

There will be at least four out-of-class papers (5-7 pages each), numerous in-class exercises, and a final exam. The number of short writing exercises and exams may differ with each instructor. All out-of-class essays are to be typed on a word processor and are due at the beginning of class (see instructor for due dates).

Class time will be used for discussion, analysis, and evaluation of assigned readings and for writing and speaking activities concerning various rhetorical concepts and strategies. Class participation is necessary for student understanding and progress.

Students are expected to have read the assignments BEFORE class discussion of them and to participate in the discussions.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is a very serious infraction. If a paper has been plagiarized, it will automatically receive a grade of 0 and be referred to the dean.

**Grading:**

Assignment	Due Date	Value
Reader Notebook: At least a full page in a separate notebook that can be collected on demand.	With each reading. Collected at random.	All Assignments carry equal weight, roughly 15% of your grade.
Paper 1: Short Story	Week 4	15%
Paper 2: Drama	Week 7	15%
Paper 3: Novel	Week 13 and 17	15%
Paper 4: Poetry	Week 17	15%
Midterm	Week 10	15%
Final	Week 17	15%

**Schedule:**

Week	Date	Readings	Assignments
1	8/23	Intro	Reading Notebook
2	8/29	Cathedral, Sonny's Blues	Reading Notebook
3	9/5	A Good Man is Hard to Find, Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?	Reading Notebook Rough Draft of Paper 1
4	9/12	INTRODUCTION: ON FICTION The Bases of Literature Writing About Literature Fiction as Narrative The Art of Narration: Giving Meaning to Action	Paper 1
5	9/19	Death of A Salesman	Reading Notebook
6	9/26	Death of A Salesman	Rough Draft of Paper 2
7	10/3	Reading Drama	Paper 2
8	10/10	<i>Asking the Right Questions</i>	
9	10/17	<i>Asking the Right Questions</i>	Midterm
10	10/24	<i>Fight Club</i>	Reading Notebook
11	10/31	<i>Fight Club</i>	Reading Notebook
12	11/7	<i>Fight Club</i>	Reading Notebook Rough Draft Paper 3

13	11/14	<i>Fight Club</i>	
14	11/21	A. E. Housman, "Terence, This Is Stupid Stuff..." Gerard Manley Hopkins, "Heaven-Haven;" Emily Dickinson, "There's a Certain Slant of Light;" Emily Dickinson, "Tell All the Truth but Tell It Slant"	Reading Notebook
15	11/28	T. S. Eliot, The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock	Reading Notebook
16	12/5	Lawrence Ferlinghetti, "The pennycandystory beyond the El;" Allen Ginsberg, "A Supermarket in California;" Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones), "W.W."	Reading Notebook Final Drafts Due

### **Assignment Guidelines:**

All papers must be submitted for a grade to be received. Late papers are penalized one grade per day. The papers must include all required drafts and peer edits. Any missing portion will result in a grade penalty of one grade per missing element. Papers must be in MLA format and must be typed (word processed).

### **Reader Response Notebook:**

For every assigned reading, students should complete at least one hand-written page of response in a spiral bound notebook. This will be collected at various times during the semester. All writing must be completed before the reading is discussed in class. Any missing responses will be penalized one letter grade per missing response.

For help in doing a reader response, consult the following:

<http://utminers.utep.edu/omwilliamson/engl0310link/readerresponse.htm>