

LIT 2000

Introduction to Literature

Course Description:

This course introduces students to key terminology, concepts, and methodologies for the study of complex literature. Students are guided in the practice of close reading and analysis by considering a selection of diverse texts and their use of literary elements such as plot, character, setting, genre, style, figurative language, argument, and the like. Students will also examine how the meanings of a text relate to its various contexts of authorship, publication, adaptation, reception, and scholarship. The course provides a groundwork in literary types for non-majors and is also strongly recommended as a preparation for upper-level (3000- or 4000-level) coursework in the field.

Course Learning Objectives:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Read, discuss, and draw meaning from complex literature and other texts at the levels of content, language, and form
- Understand and analyze how elements of language and storytelling interact with cultural and historical contexts
- Identify the basic terms, conventions, and scholarly methods for literary, cultural, and media studies that form the core of English studies.
- Understand the basic methods and goals of humanities-based scholarly research, including using primary and archival sources, secondary sources and databases, and incorporating both into evidence-based, thesis-driven arguments
- Develop an argument with a thesis statement; use close-reading skills, analysis, peer-reviewed research, and contextual interpretation of texts to support the argument

Possible graded assignments typically include some combination of the following:

Participating in class discussion (in person)
Leading in-class discussion
Discussion posts (on Canvas)
Weekly quizzes
Textual annotations (on Canvas using Hypothesis)
Short reading response papers (500 words)
Mid-term paper (1500 words)
Final research paper (2500 words)
Final exam

LIBERAL STUDIES STATEMENT

This course has been approved to meet FSU's Liberal Studies Humanities and Cultural Practice requirements and helps you become a thoughtful patron of and participant in cultural practices. By the end of this course, students will:

1. Interpret intellectual or artistic works within a cultural context.
2. Use a cultural, artistic, or philosophical approach to analyze some aspect of human experience.

This course has been approved to meet FSU's Liberal Studies "W" (State-Mandated Writing) requirement and helps you become a clear, creative, and convincing communicator.

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Compose for a specific purpose, occasion, and audience.
2. Convey ideas in clear, coherent prose that utilizes the conventions of a standard language.

In this course, you will compose as a process, including drafts, revision, and editing. The writing cultivated by this process conforms to FSU's definition of "college-level writing", which is writing that:

1. presents a clearly defined central idea or thesis;
2. provides adequate support for that idea;
3. is organized clearly and logically;
4. is presented in a format appropriate to the purpose, occasion, and audience;
5. utilizes standard conventions appropriate for study in English.

As such, this course requires the completion of two or more substantial writing assignments or the equivalent. Instructors will provide criteria for evaluating your performance on writing, feedback on your writing (including instructor response), and opportunities for revision.

To demonstrate college-level writing competency as required by the State of Florida, the student must earn a "C-" or higher in the course, and earn at least a "C-" average on the required writing assignments. If the student does not earn a "C-" average or better on the required writing assignments, the student will not earn an overall grade of "C-" or better in the course, no matter how well the student performs in the remaining portion of the course.

UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE POLICY

Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those

expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and... [to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at <http://fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy>)

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Florida State University (FSU) values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. Our goal is to create learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming. FSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities in a manner that is consistent with academic standards of the course while empowering the student to meet integral requirements of the course.

To receive academic accommodations, a student:

(1) must register with and provide documentation to the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS); (2) must provide a letter from OAS to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type; and, (3) should communicate with the instructor, as needed, to discuss recommended accommodations. A request for a meeting may be initiated by the student or the instructor.

Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from the Office of Accessibility Services has been provided.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the

Office of Accessibility Services

874 Traditions Way

108 Student Services Building

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167

(850) 644-9566 (voice) (850) 644-8504 (TDD)

oas@fsu.edu

<https://dsst.fsu.edu/oas>

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Your academic success is a top priority for Florida State University. University resources to help you succeed include tutoring centers, computer labs, counseling and health services, and services for designated groups, such as veterans and students with disabilities. The following information is not exhaustive, so please check with your advisor or the Dean of Students office to learn more.

CONFIDENTIAL CAMPUS RESOURCES

Various centers and programs are available to assist students with navigating stressors that might impact academic success. These include the following:

Victim Advocate Program
University Center A, Room 4100
(850) 644-7161 Available 24/7/365
Office Hours: M-F 8-5
<https://dsst.fsu.edu/vap>

Counseling & Psychological Services
Askew Student Life Center, 2nd Floor
942 Learning Way
(850) 644-8255
<https://counseling.fsu.edu/>

University Health Services
Health and Wellness Center
(850) 644-6230
<https://uhs.fsu.edu>