

COURSE SYLLABUS Fall SEMESTER 2007

Eng 266(w.10): Readings In Literary Genres

MWF 11:00-11:50 (EV 258)

Instructor: Deborah Greene **Office:** Smith-Kirkley #231

Office Hours: MWF 10-11:00am; and 12-1 and by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

English 266 is an extensive reading and writing course that examines the various genres of literature. The basis of study rests largely on content, form, or technique, with emphasis on the conventions or usages which govern each type. The major genres of poetry, fiction, and drama will be covered.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- To learn and understand **literary terminology** in order to enhance understanding of assigned texts through frequent references to and discussions of terms.
- To develop **written, analytical, and critical skills** through oral communication (in-class discussions or Blackboard postings) and written (essay) assignments.
- To gain a **deeper appreciation of literary texts** and of the cultures in which they were written by exploring how these texts reflect larger historical contexts, theirs as well as our own, in light of current cultural trends.
- To understand the many metaphors by which we all structure our lives.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Kennedy, X.J. and Dana Gioia. Literature: An Introduction to fiction, Poetry, Drama and Writing. (10th Edition) ISBN 0-321-47692-1

Required novel:

O'Brian, Tim. The Things They Carried

GRADING: Percentages Due Dates

In-Class-Writings, or Quizzes: 20% Daily

Midterm-Essay Exam: 20% TBA

Abstract Assignment: 20% Mon, _____

Paper (w/ Thesis Assignment, Check List, & Peer Reviews): 20% Fri., _____

Final Exam (cumulative): 20% TBA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory. If a student misses more than three classes (excused or unexcused), the student's final grade will be penalized 2% per additional absence. Students are responsible for obtaining missed materials or assignments from their colleagues. Students should also check Blackboard for any announcements or handouts. Coming to class unprepared, sleeping, or doing work for another class all count as absences.

Reading: Learning how to read closely and critically is essential to understanding literature. Students should arrange their schedules to allow ample time for reading (and re-reading) all of the material by the appropriate due dates. Students are encouraged to write comments in the margins of books. Students are also strongly encouraged to keep an open mind when approaching these difficult texts and to make a genuine effort to appreciate them.

Writing: All papers must be typed, double-spaced, and free from grammatical errors and typos. Late assignments will not be accepted.

In-Class Writings and Portfolio: In-class writings will be both objective and subjective in nature. These are to be kept in a notebook, or portfolio. Everything that you write is to be kept and filed in the notebook. They comprise 20% of the final grade and cannot be made-up under any circumstances. The Peer-Review Session counts as an in-class writing.

Formal Papers: Students will submit a Thesis Assignment, or Abstract, (worth 20% of the final grade) that will inform the final paper. Failure to submit this assignment will result in a 0% on the assignment and a 0% on the final paper. For the final paper, students will engage in a Peer-Review Session, in which they will critique their colleagues' drafts. Those who fail to participate will receive an absence for the day and a 0% for an in-class essay. Going to the Writing Center in lieu of participating in the Peer-Review Session is not an option. Students will have the opportunity to revise their final papers, if they wish; those who do must submit the original graded paper in order to receive credit for the revision.

Writing Center:

Sam Houston's Writing Center, located at 114 Wilson, is open Mon.-Thurs. 8-7; Fri. 8-3, and Sun. 2-7. Writing tutors will work with students to help them generate, organize, or revise a draft of any assignment. Drop by or call 936-294-3680 to schedule an appointment. To learn more about their services, visit their website at <http://www.shsu.edu/~wctr/>. Students should utilize their "resources and handouts" link regarding any questions about the writing process.

Incompletes: University policy dictates that any student who seeks an incomplete for a course must have passed a minimum of 50% of the course requirements with a C or better and have extenuating circumstances (e.g., documented health problems) that prevent the student from completing the course. Incompletes cannot be given simply to keep a student from receiving an F for the course.

Classroom Rules of Conduct:

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. **Cellular telephones** must be turned **off before class begins**. Failure to do so, will result in an absence being recorded for that day. Students are prohibited from making offensive remarks, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, doing work for other classes, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Such inappropriate behavior in the classroom will result in a directive to leave class immediately, and the student will receive an absence for the day; those students who are especially disruptive will also be reported to the Dean of Students for immediate disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

Academic Dishonesty: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experience both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action, including a final grade of F in the class. The university and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. Put simply, plagiarism is the intentional or unintentional use of someone else's ideas or words without giving that person credit; plagiarism is also the purchasing or borrowing of a paper or assignment.

Visitors in the Classroom: Students who wish to bring visitors to class must discuss it with the professor well in advance. Visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance.

Professor Evaluations: Students may be asked to complete a course evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Americans with Disabilities Acts: Any student who has a disability that may adversely affect his or her work in this class is encouraged to register with the Counseling Center and to talk with the professor about any necessary accommodations. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. Note: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center. Contact the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or call 936-294-1720.

University Policy Regarding Student Absences for Religious Holy Days: Any student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day must make up any coursework (exam, assignments, et cetera) within a reasonable amount of time, to be determined by the professor; moreover, any student who will be absent for a religious holiday must inform the professor no later than September 9, 2007.

Tentative Reading Schedule for Fall 2007

8/20 Overview of syllabus, lecture on Reading a Story. Fable, Parable, Tale.

8/22 Chapter 2 "Point of View" pp. 23-72. Come prepared to discuss, and, or, write.

8/23 Chapter 3 "Character" pp. 73-111, prepared to discuss, and, or write.

8/27 Chapter 4 "Setting" pp.112-152 and Chapter 5 "Tone & Style" 153-188. CPTDAOW

8/29 Ch. 6 "Theme" pp.189-228. CPTDAOW