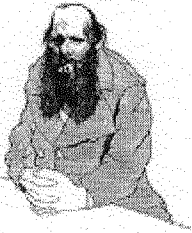


English 478: Studies in World Fiction
Spring, 2008



Professor: Dr. M. Douglas Krienke
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Office Hours: 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Monday & Wednesday
1:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M. Monday & Wednesday
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Course Description:

This course involves reading novels from a period of extraordinary invention and experimentation. We will be looking at the early history of the novel to see how and why it is shaped by history and culture. Since many of these books were bestsellers in their own day, they asked and posed questions that continue to engage us today: What gives us our identity? Why do people commit crimes? How do historical events affect individual lives?

In addition, since many of you may have more experience reading poetry, drama, or short fiction, we will also focus on narrative theory.

Course Objectives:

1. Demonstrate familiarity with representative examples of the novel during the period through quizzes and discussion
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the particular historical and cultural conditions that contributed to the rise and importance of the novel.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the novel in world fiction as a genre from its status as a popular, marginalized form to canonical status as literature.
4. Students will demonstrate the skills associated with the close reading of literary texts and the process of analysis and interpretation. Exactingly, students will demonstrate the ability to apply strategies, literary terms, and concepts for the study of narrative by developing questions for discussion.

Selected Readings:

Candide – Voltaire

Madame Bovary – Flaubert

Crime and Punishment – Dostoevsky

Tale of Two Cities – Dickens

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – Stevenson

The Red Badge of Courage - Crane

Course Requirements:

1. **3 to 4 Major Examinations** - These examinations emphasize literary analysis and topical discussions supported by factual and interpretive details and examples emerging from the readings and discussions.
2. **Reading Assignments & Reaction Papers** - Collectively this requirement will be evaluated as a major grade. There will be no make-ups for any assignment missed; however, the two (2) lowest grades will be dropped at the end of the semester.
3. **Research Project & Oral Presentation** - Details of this assignment will be discussed in class.
4. **Consideration will be given for class participation.**
5. **Final Examination/Project** - The final will be evaluated as two (2) major grades.

Absence Policy:

The University bulletin stresses the importance of punctuality and “regular” attendance. In order to adhere to their guidelines, I have adopted the following absence policy for my classes:

1. A student is allowed four (4) absences during the semester without any penalty being imposed. (This absence without penalty does not apply to any work missed.)
2. After the fourth (4th) absence, I will subtract five (5) points for each absence from your final grade, unless we have discussed your situation based on personal considerations.
3. If a student has maintained a perfect attendance record for the entire semester, he or she will have three (3) points added to his or her final grade in the course.

Grading System:

All grades are based on the 100 point scale: 100 - 90 = A, 89 - 80 = B, 79 - 70 = C, 69 - 60 = D, 59 - 0 = F. All work must be completed and turned in on time or you fail by default.

Your final course grade will be calculated and averaged as follows:

1. Average of reading assignments and writing will be one (1) component
2. 3 to 4 major exams will be three (3) to four (4) components
3. Project, if applicable, will be one (1) component
4. Final examination will be two (2) components

I add the grades of each component and divide by the final number of components to determine your final grade. The last consideration given for grade distribution is to include points for perfect attendance or to subtract points for lack of attendance.

Classroom Policies (very important):

1. **Academic Fraud** - The penalty for cheating or plagiarism is an automatic F for the course on the FIRST (1st) offense. DON'T CHEAT!!!
2. **Visitors** - No visitors without my prior consent.
3. **ALL** written work is to be done in INK. NO pencils in my classroom.

4. NO CELL PHONES ALLOWED!!! Try to make comfort calls BEFORE class begins; students are expected to remain in their seats for the duration of the class period.
5. You may bring coffee, water, sodas, or other non-alcoholic beverages for consumption in my class. You may not, however, consume candy, chips, or other victuals that may disturb the progress of the class. You are responsible to clean any mess that you leave.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:

Prior notice must be given to me. Refer to the guidelines found in the SHSU undergraduate catalogue.

Student Comments:
