

**ENG266W.12: Readings in Literary Genres
Syllabus fall 2007**

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Office Hours:	M – W – F 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Class meeting:	EV356

Course Description

ENG266W is a semester length study of the various kinds of literature on the basis of their 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. Readings will be taken from the required text, supplemented occasionally by material from other sources.

Prerequisite: Six hours of freshman English.

Course Objectives

- introduce students to the appreciation and experience of literature in its major forms
- develop the student's ability to think critically and communicate effectively through writing.

Required Texts

- *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Writing* 10th ed. X. J. Kennedy & Dana Gioia
- *Handbook of Literary Terms*

Attendance Policy

You are responsible for your success in this class, so regular, punctual attendance is important and required. If you are late for class (10+ minutes), you will receive a tardy. Three tardies will count as one absence. If you come to class late and I have already marked you absent, you will be counted absent. Also, if you are sleeping, eating, playing games, reading the newspaper, studying for another class, and/or being generally disruptive in class, you will be asked to continue that activity outside the classroom and I reserve the right to count you absent from that class meeting.

For each absence over five, you will be assessed a one-point deduction from your end-of-semester grade. Students who maintain perfect attendance with no absences and no tardies will have 3 points added to their end-of-semester grade. Students with 1 absence and no tardies will have 2 points added to their final grade, and students with 2 absences and no tardies will have 1 point added to their final grade.

Qualifying absences may only be excused after submitting prompt documentation to the Dean of Student Services. It is your responsibility to ensure that your absences are accurately recorded by the instructor.

Exams

There will be one 50 minute exam and a final two-hour exam. The midterm will be 50% objective (true/false, matching, multiple choice, etc) and 50% subjective (short answer and/or essay). The final will be totally objective.

Grading Plan

Course Assessment is as follows. There will be no opportunities for extra credit. Grades will be posted in the Blackboard Grade book during the course of the semester.

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| • Midterm | 15% |
| • Final | 20% |
| • Term Paper | 20% |
| • Reading Journal | 15% |
| • Card Reports/Analysis | 15% |
| • Daily Grades | 15% |

Late Work Policy

Reading journal responses should be submitted at the beginning of class on the due date, or will receive an automatic zero. Other late work may be submitted to Evans 458 up until 5 p.m. on the due date for a maximum 70 (C) grade. Assignments submitted after this time will not be accepted and will receive a zero. If you think you might get sick, or might have a family member be sick, or might have car problems, or might leave your flash drive at home 100 miles away, or might be in court, or might see the dentist, or might need to participate in required college activities, or might have printer problems, or might have an electrical storm destroy the contents of your hard drive with your paper on it, turn it in early.

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 their academic experiences 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. 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.

Americans With Disabilities Act

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center. Please contact the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s) within the first fifteen days of the semester.

“Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Visitors in the Classroom

It is entirely at the instructor’s discretion whether a visitor may be permitted to remain in the classroom. Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted in the classroom. Any such visits should be occasional and should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the educational process.

Instructor Evaluations

Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Term Paper

This should be a 5-7 page fully developed, insightful, critical analysis (text must be a minimum of 5 pp. without Works Cited page) using at least three secondary sources and carefully following MLA format for documentation and Works Cited page. More details will be provided.

Reading Journal

Every Monday, unless specified otherwise, a 3-500 word typed reading response is due at the beginning of class on one of the readings for the upcoming week. You may not turn these in after we have discussed the piece in class. This response should be a thoughtful (though short) commentary on some aspect of the work—not a plot summary, and not a simple thumbs-up or thumbs-down review. Sometimes I will suggest a focus for these; other times you will be free to come up with your own. Refer to the textbook, (p. 2057 and Ch. 48 “Reading as Discovery” pp. 2166-71), for further guidance on keeping a reading journal.

Card Reports/Analysis

You will submit two card reports (fiction and drama) and one analysis (poetry) towards the end of each unit. Specific due dates and requirements will be provided.

Daily Grades

These grades may consist of quizzes (both announced and unannounced), questions over reading assignments and/or lecture notes, and credit for class preparation and participation. There will be no make-up work for daily grades. In the event of a student’s absence on the day a daily grade is taken, a grade of zero will be recorded for that student. If a student notifies the instructor of an absence prior to its occurrence and a daily grade is recorded on that class day, the student will be allowed to count the following daily grade twice in order to get all her/his daily grades.

Materials

- a 2"-3" 3-ring binder and notebook dividers
- loose leaf notebook paper (available for each class meeting)
- for submitting formal essay: regular-sized manila folder or a large (10" X 13") envelope
- scantron cards for quizzes

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 and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students should refrain from using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom will result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.