

ENG 336: Studies in Women's Literature.
Spring 2008. 3 Credits

10:00 MWF

Evans 258

Dr. Phelps

Office: Evans 461

Office Hours: MWF 10:00-11:00, 1:00-4:00 and by app.'t

To contact: call 294-1403 or email ENG_DLP@SHSU.EDU

Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to a variety of texts written by women. The course will move chronologically through the Middle Ages to the 20th century, but also thematically, discussing the literature within a range of contexts. We will examine women's fiction (the novel and short story), poetry, drama, and non-fiction prose with the aim of not only broadening the student's knowledge of this area, but also of strengthening their critical thinking and composing skills. Students will have taken six hours of English courses as prerequisite. This course is conducted in a lecture-discussion format. Students are required to bring the relevant text to each class period. Students are expected to read the texts before class and be ready to answer questions about them in class. Exams based on the readings are given twice a semester in short-answer format. A critical research paper on an approved topic is also required/.

Course Objectives

- Read widely in a variety of genres and literary texts in women's literature
- Learn to analyze poetry, fiction and drama in a scholarly fashion
- Demonstrate facility with the course literature in regular exams
- Think and write critically about literature in a variety of theoretical modes

Required Text

Gilbert and Gubar. The Norton Anthology of Literature by Women. 2 Vols. Third Ed...

Attendance Policy: Three unexcused absences are allowed, after which your grade drops 10 pts. Please bring documentation of authorized absences (illness, death in family, unavoidable personal emergencies). Authorized absences DO NOT include non-University scheduled vacations or three-day weekends, job attendance or work-related events, court appearances (unless jury duty), weddings, reunions, Mardi Gras, Easter Monday, or Cinco de Mayo. Attendance is taken every day at the beginning of class.

Religious Holidays: An excused absence. Please inform me if you will be absent on any religious holidays not observed by the University.

Grade Distribution

2 Exams: 25 pts each

1 10-15 page research paper on approved topic using MLA documentation: 40 pts.

Attendance: 10 pts.

Please turn off mobile phones during class time.

JANUARY

- 18: Introduction to course.
- 23 Medieval Women: Julian of Norwich: "A Book Of Showings"
- 25 Margaret Kempe: "The Book of Margaret Kempe"
- 28 Renaissance Women: Anne Askew: "Ballad," Queen Elizabeth I: "Speech"
- 30 Whitney: "Will and Testament", Moulsworth: "The Memorandum"

FEBRUARY

- 4 Bradstreet: all poems.
- 6 Phillips: all poems, Rowlandson: "A Narrative of the Capture and Restoration"
- 8 Chudleigh: all poems, Killigrew: all poems
- 11 Ingram: "An Epistle to Mr. Pope," Barbaud: "The Rights of Women," "Washing Day," "Espistle..."
- 13 Adams: Letters.
- 15 Wollstonecraft: A Vindication of the Rights of Women
- 18 Wollstonecraft.
- 20 Exam 1
- 22 Discussion of research paper
- 25 19th Century women writers: Romanticism: Dorothy Wordsworth: From "Grasmere Journals"
- 27 Austen: "Love and Friendship"
- 29 Shelley: Introduction to Frankenstein

MARCH

- 3 Barrett Browning: "Cry of the Children," "The Runaway Slave at Pilgrim's Point," "A Curse for a Nation"
- 5 Barrett Browning: "Mother and Poet," "To George Sand".
- 7 Barrett Browning: From Aurora Leigh
- 10-14 Spring Break
- 17 Bronte: Jane Eyre
- 19 Jane Eyre.
- 24 Jane Eyre.
- 26 Jane Eyre
- 28 20th century women: Wharton: "The Other Two"
- 31 Woolf: "A Room of One's Own" "Jane Eyre and Wuthering Heights"

APRIL

- 2 Woolf: "Professions for Women" "A Woman's College from the Outside"
- 4 Nin: "Birth"
- 7 McCarthy: "Memories of a Catholic Girlhood"
- 9 Stone: all poems

11 Brooks: all poems
14 Kizer: "Pro Femina"
16 Poetry Exam
18 Angelou: "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings"
21 Rich: Aunt Jennifer's Tigers," "Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law"
23 Atwood: all poems, "The Little Red Hen Tells All"
25 Kingston: "No Name Woman"
28 Boland: all poems, Walker: In Search of Our Mother's Gardens"
30 Duffy: all poems

MAY

2 Meehan: all poems
5 Edson: "Wit"
7 Exam review. Papers due