

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Literature and Composition

Course #: Eng. 102

Course Description: Further practice in composition based on analysis of short stories, poetry, and drama. Includes an introduction to the literary genres and the topics of literary criticism.

Pre-requisite/Co-requisite: Completion of Eng. 101 with a C- or better.

Goals:

- To enhance the students' awareness and understanding of human experience through the study and interpretation of literary works.
- To introduce the topics and vocabulary of literary analysis and criticism.
- To provide further practice in critical thinking and writing.
- To further refine the student's skill in expository writing.
- To lead students to independent reading.

Outcomes: By the end of English 102, students will be able to demonstrate:

- Ability to comprehend various readings in the genres of fiction, poetry and drama.
- Acquisition of a vocabulary suited to analyzing and writing about literature.
- Competence in writing critical essays that utilize this vocabulary on a variety of specific literary works. These essays will include, but are not limited to, explication, analysis, comparison and contrast, and response.
- Independent critical thinking directed at the comprehension and criticism/analysis of literature.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Course Title: Literature & Composition

Number: 102 **Course Type:** Lecture/Discussion

Instructor: Dr. April Michele Dolata

E-Mail: adolata@nwcc.commnet.edu

Office telephone #: (860) 738-6341 (**email strongly preferred**)

Text/Course Materials:

The Bedford Introduction to Literature

Ed. Michael Meyers, 7th Edition

Bedford/St. Martin's Publishers

ISBN # 0-312-41242-8

Grading Policy and Assignment Summaries:

The semester grade will be figured as follows:

Discussion Board Posts	25%
Homework Assignments	50%
Research Paper	25%
	Total 100%

Discussion Board

Weekly participation in the Discussion Board is expected. You should make a minimum of **two** substantive posts each week. Your first post should summarize the reading briefly and then include a discussion of something you found interesting, confusing, disappointing, or exciting about the text. Provide examples to support your points. Then, in your second post, provide a substantive response to one of your classmates with a question and/or comment. Discussion Board posts will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis, but active participation will make up 25% of your grade.

Homework Assignments

In each unit, there will be a Homework Assignment of approximately 2 pages in length. Please work carefully on these assignments to learn more about the texts and authors. The Homework Assignments as a group count for 50% of your total grade.

Research Paper

There will be a Research Paper which will be due at the end of the term. This paper will be 5-7 pages in length and will require in depth research on a specific topic in literature. See the assignment area for more details. This paper will constitute 25% of the total grade.

Attendance and Timeliness:

Because of the emphasis on collaboration, all students are expected to login regularly and participate actively in the online discussion.

All work is due on the date specified. **No late work** will be accepted without a documented emergency. If you have a legitimate reason for needing an extension, please contact me immediately via email.

Other Policies:

1. All essays submitted for grading will be typed in a standard-sized 12 point font, double-spaced, and employ MLA conventions.
2. An important part of the class is constructive criticism of your classmates' work as well as discussion of the readings. Full participation is expected.
3. Another important part of the class is the on-line discussion of class topics and exchange of ideas. Weekly discussion questions will be posted via WebCT Vista. Students should answer the questions as well as read and respond to the answers of their classmates. Full participation is expected. This is not a chat room, so proper grammar and appropriate academic tone are expected.
4. Always pay attention to your tone in your online postings. People cannot see your body language or facial expressions, so you should be as clear and polite as possible. Also use proper grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. Always write in an academically appropriate style.
5. Grades for essays will be given on the basis of clarity, focus, development, structure, understanding and analysis of readings, and adherence to assignment guidelines. Explanatory comments will be provided.

6. Discussion Board postings should NOT be attached. If you need help editing your work with the grammar and spelling check, then type your posts in Microsoft Word first; then copy and paste them into the Discussion Board.
7. All Assignments MUST be attached in either .doc or .rtf file fomats. WebCT Vista is not compatible with Microsoft Word 2007 files, .docx. However, if you have Word 2007, when you choose Save As, you can select the old format of .doc from the file type menu. I can ONLY open .doc or .rtf files. I cannot open other attachments. Please make a note of this and ask any questions you need to before submitting your work.

A Few Words about Format and Academic Integrity

For the purposes of clarity, I think I should say a few words about format and expectations up front.

All papers for this course should follow the same format. They should be typed in a standard 12 point font such as Arial or Times New Roman (not Courier New), and they should be double spaced.

At the top of the first page in the center, you should include an underlined title to introduce your paper. In the header on the top right hand side you should add your name and the page number - nothing else.

The paper should have margins of no more than 1.25" all around.

All papers should be formatted in MLA style, and you must give credit for any outside ideas or quotations included. If you have any questions about documenting your sources, please use <http://owl.english.purdue.edu> and let me know if you need additional help.

Claiming the work of others as your own is plagiarism, which is a serious offense that can result in failure or even expulsion.

Each assignment should follow the length specifications which are stated. You should stay focused on your topic, presenting and supporting a clear thesis in response to the assignment.

CALENDAR

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
<p><u>All Assignments are always due by Sunday at midnight. No late work will be accepted.</u></p> <p>Week ending 1/27</p>	<p>Familiarize yourself with the text, and ask any questions you may have.</p>	<p>Post your introduction in the Discussion Board</p>
<p>Week ending 2/3</p>	<p>Flannery O'Connor "A Good Man is Hard to Find"</p>	<p>Discussion Board Posts</p>

	p. 423-441	Homework Assignment #1 Due
Week ending 2/10	Ernest Hemingway "Soldier's Home" Beginning on p. 169	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #2 Due
Week ending 2/17	Joyce Carol Oates "Three Girls" Beginning on p. 73	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #3 Due
Week ending 2/24	Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni "Clothes" Beginning on p. 250	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #4 Due
Week ending 3/2	Dagoberto Gilb "Love in L.A." Beginning on p. 297	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #5 Due
Week ending 3/9	Susan Glaspell <i>Trifles</i> Beginning on p. 1247	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #6 Due
Week ending 3/16	Langston Hughes "Harlem" and Lorraine Hansberry <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> Beginning on p. 1731	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #7 Due
Week ending 3/23	--	Spring Break
Week ending 3/30	Langston Hughes "Harlem" and Lorraine Hansberry <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> Beginning on p. 1731	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #8 Due
Week ending 4/6		

	Theodore Roethke "My Papa's Waltz"	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #9
Week ending 4/13	Sylvia Plath "Mirror" and "Daddy" p. 828 & 1219-21	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #10 Due
Week ending 4/20	Wisława Szymborska "Nothing's a Gift" p. 1186-8	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #11 Due
Week ending 4/27	Jimmy Santiago Baca "Green Chile" p. 797-9	Discussion Board Posts Homework Assignment #12 Due
Week ending 5/4	"The Literary Research Paper" Beginning on p. 2096	Work on Research Paper Annotated Bibliography Due
Week ending 5/11	"The Literary Research Paper" Beginning on p. 2096	Final Draft of Research Paper Due
Week ending 5/18	--	No Final Exam