

English 102: Literature and Composition
Three Rivers Community College
Spring, 2008
Instructor:

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Course Description (from the College Catalog)

"Students learn how to read serious literature, how to develop an interpretation, and how to explain and support their ideas in writing. Through the study of selected works of fiction, poetry, and drama, students learn the elements of textual analysis and become familiar with the ways in which critical approaches affect interpretation. In addition to continued instruction in composition, students are required to read and write frequently."

Texts

Meyer, Michael. *Thinking and Writing about Literature*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2001. (We will call this book MEYER.)
Bradbury, Ray. *Fahrenheit 451*.

Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is an important part of this course. To miss even one class is to significantly decrease your chances of benefiting from the course. Attendance records will be strictly kept and may affect your final grade. Plus, quizzes will be given each night, *and these may not be made up by absentees*. So...if at all possible, be here for each class.

Course Requirements

The requirements for the course include the following:

1. Essay #1, due Wednesday, April 9

Topic: Discuss how the authors of the following stories use irony to convey meaning: "The Hand" (163), "Popular Mechanics" (169), and "A Sorrowful Woman" (189).

* *Three body paragraphs, each with a clear topic sentence, three pieces of supporting evidence (quotes or paraphrases), and a total of approximately 11 sentences.*

Value: 33% of final grade

2. Essay #2, due Monday, Monday, April 21

Topic: Compare and/or contrast the tone of the following three poems: "The Chimney Sweeper" (987), "Restaurant" (999), and "Dinner Guest: Me" (1286).

* *Three body paragraphs, each with a clear topic sentence, three pieces of supporting evidence (quotes or paraphrases), and a total of approximately 11 sentences.*

Value: 33% of final grade

3. Reader's Journal for *Fahrenheit 451* (completed journal due Monday, April 14).

Value: 13%

4. Memorization Test (Wednesday, April 30). We will memorize a passage from Shakespeare's *As You Like It*. (See p. 4 of syllabus.)

Value: 9%

5. Nightly quizzes on literary terminology.

Value: 6%

6. Rehearsed oral reading, 1-3 minutes. (Monday, May 5.) *Choose something to read that moves you*. No restrictions, except it must be something written for adults. No Dr. Seuss, Shel Silverstein, etc.

Value: 6%

Class Schedule and Assignments

Monday, March 24

6:30 Instructor's introduction

6:40 Class roster, attendance

6:50 Syllabus, introduction to the course

7:10 Break

7:20 Reader's Journal for *Fahrenheit 451*

7:35 MEYER, Chapter 1, "Reading and Responding"

8:00: Break (open for conferences)

8:10 Literary terminology for quiz

8:20 Reading from *As You Like It* and April Poetry Madness Tournament

Homework: Begin reading *Fahrenheit 451* and doing reader's journal...review for quiz.

Wednesday, March 26

6:30 Questions, reviews, etc.

6:40 MEYER, Chapter 2, "Writing and Revising"

7:10 Break (open for conferences)

7:20 Review, 11-sentence and 4-sentence paragraph

7:35 Quiz on lit terms

7:45 New lit terms for quiz

7:55 Discuss requirements for Essay #1

8:05 Break

8:15 Reading from *As You Like It* and April Poetry Madness Tournament

Homework: Continue reading *Fahrenheit 451* and doing reader's journal...begin work on Essay #1...review for quiz.

Monday, March 31

6:30 Questions, reviews, etc.

6:40 MEYER, Ch. 3, "Applying a Critical Strategy"

7:10 Break (open for conferences)

7:20 Quiz on lit terms

7:30 New lit terms for quiz

7:40 Discuss assignment for Essay #1...study model essay
8:05: Break (open for conferences)
8:15 Reading from *As You Like It* ... April Poetry Madness Tournament
Homework : Continue reading *Fahrenheit 451* and doing reader's journal...begin work on Essay #1...review for quiz.

Wednesday, April 2

6:30 Questions, reviews, etc.
6:40 discuss assignment for Essay #1
7:00 MEYER, Ch. 5, "Reading and Writing about Fiction"
7:20 Break (open for conferences)
7:30 Continue with MEYER, Ch. 5
7:50 Quiz on lit terms
8:00 New lit terms for quiz
8:10 Break (open for conferences)
8:20 Reading from *As You Like It* ... April Poetry Madness Tournament
Homework: Continue reading *Fahrenheit 451* and doing reader's journal... work on Essay #1...review for quiz.

Monday, April 7

6:30 Questions, reviews, etc.
6:40 Final reminders for Essay #1, and discuss Essay #2
7:00 MEYER, Ch. 6, "Reading and Writing about Poetry"
7:20 Break (open for conferences)
7:30 Continue with MEYER, Ch. 6
7:50 Quiz on lit terms
8:00 New lit terms for quiz
8:10 Break (open for conferences)
8:20 Reading from *As You Like It* ... April Poetry Madness Tournament
Homework: Finish Essay #1...review for quiz.

Wednesday, April 9

6:30 TURN IN ESSAY #1
Questions, reviews, etc.
6:40 discuss assignment for Essay #2
7:00 MEYER, Ch. 7, "Reading and Writing about Drama"
7:30 Class dismissed early.
Homework: Finish *Fahrenheit 451* and reader's journal. Work on Essay #2... review for quiz.

Monday, April 14

6:30 TURN IN READER'S JOURNAL
Questions, reviews, etc.
6:40 discuss assignment for Essay #2
7:00 DISCUSSION: Fahrenheit 451
7:20 Break (open for conferences)
7:30 Continue with Fahrenheit 451
7:50 Quiz on lit terms
8:00 New lit terms for quiz
8:10 Break (open for conferences)
8:20 Reading from *As You Like It* ... April Poetry Madness Tournament

7:20 Break (open for conferences)
7:30 Continue with MEYER, Ch. 13
7:40 MEMORIZATION QUIZ
7:50 Quiz on lit terms
8:00 Break (open for conferences)
8:10 April Poetry Madness Tournament
Homework: Prepare and rehearse oral reading

Monday, May 5

FINAL CLASS
6:30 Questions, reviews, etc.
6:40 ORAL READINGS
8:00 Professor evals

College Withdrawal Policy

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course once a class has met should complete the withdrawal form in the registrar's office, or send a written request to withdraw from the course. Students may withdraw from class anytime during the first ten weeks (or until completion of two-thirds of a summer session or module course) without being in good standing or obtaining prior approval of the instructor. After that period, a student must request written permission from the instructor (using the official withdrawal form) to withdraw from the class, and must have maintained a C- average. Withdrawals are recorded with a 'W' grade on the student's permanent record, and *carry no penalty*. Students who merely stop attending but fail to formally withdraw are assigned 'NC' grades, signifying "No Credit."

Disabilities and Learning Differences

If you have a hidden or visible disability or learning difference which may require classroom modifications, please see me as soon as possible. If you have not already done so, please register with the Disabled Student Services office, at 886-1931, Ext. 2931.

Memorization Passage

from Shakespeare's *As You Like It*:

Now, my co-mates and brothers in exile,
Hath not old custom made this life more sweet
Than that of painted pomp? Are not these woods
More free from peril than the envious court?
Here feel we but the penalty of Adam,
The seasons' difference, as the icy fang
And churlish chiding of the winter's wind,
Which, when it bites and blows upon my body,
Even till I shrink with cold, I smile and say
'This is no flattery: these are counsellors
That feelingly persuade me what I am.'
Sweet are the uses of adversity,
Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head;
And this our life exempt from public haunt
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in stones and good in every thing.

.....
pomp: ceremonial splendor; self-importance

court: palace

churlish chiding: rude insults

counsellors: friends

exempt: free of

public haunt: crowds of people