ENGLISH 2100: LIFE/STYLE
Instructor: Dr. Beth Howells
This course will examine texts that consciously meditate on a particular phase of life (youth, adulthood, maturity) in a distinctive style. Each of the three units will discuss and account for how different and diverse writers in a range of genres address a common theme. All of the units will examine how form reflects and embodies meaning. Students will be required to submit daily focused free-writes on the reading, a short analysis, a longer research paper, and an exam.

Texts Include:

Open Educational Resources:
Wordsworth, “Tintern Abbey”
Ibsen, “A Doll’s House”
Eliot, “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”
Wilde, Picture of Dorian Gray

Handouts provided in class

Texts to be purchased:
Krakauer, Into the Wild
Eugenides, The Virgin Suicides
Sapphire, Precious
Coetzee, Disgrace
Bachelder, Abbott Awaits
Edson, W;t

REQUIREMENTS
1. Daily In-Class Responses. In order to encourage you to keep up with the reading and to ensure your preparedness to participate in class discussions, you should expect to be asked to respond to your reading in class every day. These in-class reading responses will sometimes take the form of quizzes, sometimes they will be a written response to a particular prompt, and sometimes they may be more creative or experimental. They will require that you read the assigned texts in order to be successful. This grade will be 25% of your final grade.
2. **UNIT I: Paper 1: Short Analysis.** Earlier in the term, you will be required to write an argument paper on a topic of your choosing relating to an approved text. This 4-5 page essay needs to be an argument using textual analysis to prove your thesis to be true. This grade will be 25% of your final grade.

3. **UNIT II: Exam.** At mid-term, you will be required to take an exam reflecting on your learning experience. You will want to address how you have synthesized your reading, writing, and thinking. A written assignment sheet and test map will follow. This grade will be 25% of your final grade.

4. **UNIT III: Paper 2: Research Paper.** Here, you will be researching and comparing a film adaptation of one of the works you read. You are to construct an argument using textual analysis along with secondary sources to prove your thesis to be true. This will necessitate outside research. We will turn to the library to understand strategies for research and will perfect our understanding of correct documentation. This grade will be 25% of your final grade.

**GRADE SCALE**

A=90-100  
B=80-89  
C=70-79  
D=60-69  
F=GRADES BELOW 59

**ATTENDANCE**

This is a class that depends on your being there. Your participation and daily writings cannot be made up. Therefore, you must be in class. After 4 absences, your grade will drop a letter until you have failed the course.

**WRITING CENTER**

The Writing Center located in 109 Gamble Hall can be a good resource for revising your essays if you would like a little extra help with your writing. It is a free service. Please consider taking advantage of it.

**PLAGIARISM**

Be aware that plagiarism can result in dismissal from the university, failure of the course, or failure of an assignment. Cite any sources you use at any time in this class whether you are quoting directly or paraphrasing. See me or consult the Armstrong Atlantic State University Handbook if you are ever uncertain about the issue. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. You will be required to take and submit the Plagiarism Tutorial to me by
midterm for two RR grades:
http://library.armstrong.edu/plagiarismtutorial.html

**SCHEDULE**

T 1.10 Introduction


T.1.17 Krakauer, Into the Wild (3-102: Chapters 1-10)
Th.1.19 Krakauer, Into the Wild (103-203: Chapters 11-Epilogue)

T.1.24 Eugenides, Virgin Suicides (3-140: Chapters 1-3)
Th.1.26 Eugenides, Virgin Suicides (141-249: Chapter 4)

T.1.31 Sapphire, Precious (1-66: Chapters 1 and 2)
Th.2.2 Sapphire, Precious (67-end)

T.2.7 WORKSHOP; DRAFT DUE

Th.2.9 UNIT II: Ibsen, A Doll’s House, Act I

Friday, February 10 PAPER 1 DUE BY NOON
(office Gamble 108b, mailbox Gamble 110d, beth.howells@armstrong.edu)

T.2.14 Ibsen, A Doll’s House, Act II
Th.2.16 Bachelder, Abbott Awaits (first half)

T.2.21 Bachelder, Abbott Awaits (second half)
Th.2.23 NO CLASS-begin exam review

T. 2.28 Coetzee, Disgrace (1-112: Chapters 1-13)
Th. 3.1 Coetzee, Disgrace (112-220: Chapters 14-24)

T.3.6 Exam Review
Th.3.8 UNIT II EXAM
T.3.13 SPRING BREAK
Th.3.15 SPRING BREAK

T.3.20 UNIT III: Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"
Th.3.22 LIBRARY DAY

T.3.27 Wilde, Picture of Dorian Gray (1-59: Chapters 1-5)
Th.3.29 Wilde, Picture of Dorian Gray (59-151: Chapters 6-15)

T.4.3 Edson, W;t (5-53)
Th.4.5 Edson, W;t (53-85)

T.4.10 CONFERENCES
Th.4.12 Research Day

T.4.17 Fox, Desperate Characters (1-71: Chapters 1-7)
Th.4.19 Fox, Desperate Characters (72-156: Chapters 8-12)

T.4.24 WORKSHOP DRAFT DUE
Th.4.26 UNIT III FINAL PAPER DUE; Review Discussion