ENGL 2100: Literature and Humanities Online

Phone: (912) 344-2607
Email: Nancy.Remler@Armstrong.edu
Office: Gamble 205

Course Dates: January 12-May 1, 2014
Each week begins on Monday and ends on Friday with assignments due by noon on each deadline.

Tech Support: (912) 344-2518

Course Description: The AASU catalog describes Literature and Humanities as “an examination of world literature as an expression of the humanities through study of several complete works from at least two historical periods, two genres, and two cultures/countries.” You will exercise your abilities to read literature critically and share your conclusions about literature with others. Also, because of the online nature of this course, you will also use computer technologies as a communications, writing and research tool.

Prerequisite: ENGL 1102 or its equivalent

Dr. Remler’s Instructional Note:

This course will be offered completely online. While the online delivery of this course may seem attractive because of convenience, you should remember that taking online courses requires strict personal discipline, time management, and independent study. This course requires extensive reading and writing. It requires you to be proficient in using computer technologies, particularly Desire2Learn, Armstrong’s learning management system.

Many students work while going to college, which also necessitates much time management. If you are in that situation, be aware that an online course—depending on your learning style—can sometimes be more time consuming than a face-to-face course. Yes, it is convenient, but convenience does not make a class easy. If you feel at all uneasy about taking this online course, you should speak to Dr. Remler before continuing with it.

Because many of you will do your work late at night, Dr. Remler will regularly sign on to D2L early in the morning to respond to your messages and check your work. First thing in the morning she will post messages to the news feed. The first thing you should do when you log on to the class is check that news feed.
**Texts and Materials:**
Some of the shorter texts for this course will be available in our Desire2Learn (D2L) folders. You will also need the following textbooks:

- *Daisy Miller* by Henry James
- *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets* by Stephen Crane
- *Passing* by Nella Larsen

Copies of these texts are available at the campus bookstore, but you can also purchase them at local book sellers or check them out at local libraries. It doesn’t matter to me which edition of the book you read as we will not be referring to specific page numbers. Electronic versions of the above-listed texts are also available, but if you go that route, I recommend Kindle, Nook, or other ebook editions, not reading them online from the web. These books are a little too lengthy to read while sitting at a computer.

You will also need ready access to online technologies. Such technologies are available to you at no charge in university computer labs. I will communicate with you regularly using our D2L newsfeed. If I email you, I will do so through D2L or by e-mail using your student e-mail address.

**Performance Objectives:** As a result of taking ENGL 2100, students should be able to do the following:

- Analyze and interpret fiction, drama, and poetry from a diverse range of authors.
- Compare and contrast themes, characters, plots and other literary devices among various texts.
- Apply literary principles and use literary terms in writing and in discussion.
- Use computer technology as a writing, research and communications tool.
- Evaluate the reliability of works of literary criticism.
- Correctly use current MLA documentation style.

**Attendance Verification:** In order to distribute Title IV funding (federal student aid), student attendance verification is required. In an online course, I cannot take attendance in the traditional manner, so in order to verify your attendance, you must complete the several activities by **Thursday, January 15, 2015**.

- Complete the quiz about the syllabus
- Complete the plagiarism tutorial
- Post an introduction in our initial discussion thread

Students who do not complete these activities will be dropped from the class for nonattendance and will not receive credit or a grade for the class.

**Attendance Policy:** Once I verify your attendance, I will monitor your participation in class as you discuss the literature and complete assignments. Every discussion in our class is graded, as are our quizzes. So in that respect your “attendance” is necessary. If you miss discussions/quizzes, that will affect your grade. Aside from that aspect of the course, my attendance policy is as follows: **Any student who fails to log in to D2L for**
two consecutive weeks will be withdrawn for non-attendance. Such withdrawal will take place without prior communication to the student.

Assignment Policies
All assignments are due by noon, eastern time, on the designated deadline. I do not accept late work.

Any information coming from secondary sources should document those sources in MLA documentation style as outlined in the Little Penguin Handbook. This policy applies to all written assignments and discussions taking place in this course. Failure to document sources will be considered plagiarism, a violation of AASU’s honor code. Because all students and faculty are required to be familiar with and abide by the honor code and code of conduct, I will address cases of plagiarism according to the code as outlined in the university catalog and on the university web site at http://www.armstrong.edu/Departments/office_student_affairs/student_affairs_honor_code

Technical difficulties are not a valid reason for missing deadlines. Keep in mind that hard drives crash, viruses abound, and computer labs get crowded. In the Savannah area, the power goes out frequently. Therefore, it’s imperative that you save multiple copies of your work and do so often. If you choose to do your work at the last minute, that’s your business, but you should deal with Murphy’s Law on your own.

The University System of Georgia conducts regular system updates every other Friday from 10:00PM until 7:00 AM Saturday. During those times D2L is unavailable. You should manage your time and work so that you avoid these system updates. You are still responsible for completing work on time.

Assignments
You have several kinds of assignments to conduct this semester. Those assignments are categorized below with the percentage of the course grade each category comprises. I will give you more specific guidelines for each assignment as the appropriate time comes this semester:

- **Quizzes:** These assignments are assigned for each module during the semester. All quizzes are designed to evaluate your comprehension of the concepts covered during each module. These informal assignments constitute 25% of your course grade.

- **Midterm and Final Exam:** These exams are comprehensive. The midterm covers content up to that date. The final covers content from midterm until the end of the semester. These exams comprise 25% of your final grade.

- **Research Assignments:** These assignments require you to access reliable, relevant, and appropriate secondary sources about works of literature or authors we have studied this term. They will require you to write précis of the
works of literature and cite them in MLA style. These assignments constitute 25% of your grade.

- **Discussions:** Your discussions are how you participate in the class. They’re also a way that you demonstrate how you make meaning of the literature and how you express your analysis in written form. I take attendance in the class by way of these discussions (see the attendance policy), but you will also earn course credit through them. Your discussions are 25% of your course grade.

I take great effort to grade work in a timely manner so that you will always be aware of your status in the class. If you ever wish to discuss your grades, I invite you to contact me via phone or email (see my contact information above). If you’re a local student, you’re welcome to visit me by appointment in my office.

**Grades**

Your work will be graded on a percentage scale, which corresponds to letter grades in the following manner:

- 90% - 100% = A
- 80% - 89% = B
- 70% - 79% = C
- 60% - 69% = D
- 50% or lower = F

Also take note of the following with respect to grades:

- It is **my** responsibility to grade your work in a timely manner.
- It is **my** responsibility to communicate your grades to you in a timely manner.
- It is **my** responsibility to communicate to you specific feedback on your work so that you understand why your work earned the grade it did.

At the same time...

- It is **your** responsibility to check your grades once you’ve received them.
- It is **your** responsibility to keep up with your progress in the class.
- It is **your** responsibility to let me know if you don’t understand something about your grades.
- If you want to know what your average is during the course, it is **your** responsibility to do the math and figure that out on your own.

The grades tool in Desire2Learn is a nice convenience, but it’s just that. In the past students and I have discovered some small glitches in D2L’s grading tool. Your grades appear on all the assignments I return to you. You will be smart to keep track of those grades on your own. I keep a hard copy grade book in my office, and that grade book is the official copy of your grades.
You’d be surprised how many students don’t check their grades at all during the term. Some of them are surprised at their course grade at the end of the semester. Don’t be one of those students. Check your grades regularly and let me know if you have concerns.

**Important Information for Students**

**Students with Disabilities:** According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with disabilities may request accommodations for those disabilities (including extended time on tests or in-class writing assignments) by contacting Kelly Woodruff in Student Affairs at 344-2744. Ms. Woodruff can assist you with obtaining an advocacy letter, which permits you to receive accommodations for those disabilities. If you have any questions about such accommodations, you may consult me.

This course may include website links and electronic documents to support teaching, learning, and engagement. If any of the website links or electronic documents are inaccessible to you because of a disability, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Military Personnel:** If you are military personnel, and you are called to active duty, you may suffer a conflict between your profession and your academic commitments. If such an occasion arises, I cannot excuse you from coming to class or doing the work. If you want to earn credit for the class, you must do what is expected. However, you also have some options available to you to make your decision easier. Should you find yourself unable to complete a course because of your military service, you could apply for a military withdrawal, which will enable you to withdraw from a course without penalty and receive a refund of the tuition you paid. For more information, contact our Military and Veterans Affairs Office: 344-2848.

**Technology Services:** Student technology services is available to assist you with computer applications. The help desk is located in the Academic Computing Center. The local phone number is 344-2518.
Course Schedule

The following is a sketch of what we’ll accomplish this term. For a detailed course schedule, view the lesson plans provided in the appropriate folders of D2L.

- **First day of class:** January 12
- **Last Day of class:** May 1
- **Midterm:** March 4
- **Holidays:** January 19, March 16-20

During this short term, we will learn about several literary periods and the social/ political/ economic/ theoretical contexts characterizing them. In short, we’ll learn about a few literary “isms.” We’ll go in this order:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Theoretical Context</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 12-16</td>
<td>Introductions</td>
<td>“Start Here” document, Syllabus, Discussion Guidelines</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 20-23</td>
<td>Literary Research</td>
<td>How to write an abstract Conducting literary research online and in library</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 26-February 9</td>
<td>Romanticism</td>
<td>“Rime of the Ancient Mariner” (Coleridge)  “Strange Fits of Passion Have I Known” (Wordsworth) “The World is Too Much With Us” (Wordsworth) “Hymn to Intellectual Beauty” (Shelley)</td>
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<td>February 9-23</td>
<td>Realism</td>
<td><em>Daisy Miller</em> (James) “Fenimore Cooper’s Literary Offenses” (Twain) “The House on the Hill” (Robinson) “Miniver Cheevy” (Robinson) “Mr. Flood’s Party” (Robinson)</td>
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<td>February 23-March 2</td>
<td>Work on abstracts Take Midterm</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 3-13</td>
<td>Naturalism</td>
<td><em>Maggie: A Girl of the Streets</em> (Crane) “The Man Who was Almost a Man” (Wright) “To Light a Fire” (London)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 23-April 6</td>
<td>Modernism</td>
<td>“The Odour of Chrysanthemums” (Lawrence) “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place” (Hemingway) <em>Passing</em> (Larsen)</td>
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<td>April 6-14</td>
<td>Post Colonialism</td>
<td>“Girls at War” (Achebe) “Dead Men’s Path” (Achebe) “Amnesty” (Gordimer) “When Mr. Pirzada Came to Dine” (Lahiri)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14-24</td>
<td>Post Modernism</td>
<td>“The Swimmer” (Cheever) “At the End of the Mechanical Age” (Barthelme) “Harrison Bergeron’ (Vonnegut)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27-May 1</td>
<td>Literary Research</td>
<td>Take Final Exam</td>
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Each module has a folder in D2L. It will include several works of literature, screencast lectures, at least one discussion assignment, and one quiz. Specific details about each module appear in a lesson plan, which appears in its respective folder. **Do not consult the D2L calendar for daily activities.** Follow the lesson plan.