Novel Considerations

The rise of the novel as a literary form dates back to well before the 18th century. But the form as we know it took shape during the next century and never looked back. Stories of adventure, longing, plight, horror, and lost love continue to entertain, amaze, and —yes — instruct readers.

Have you considered novels as catalysts for change? For centuries, men and women delivered treatises to lobby for social, political, or religious change. In the years following the invention of the printing press, the written word became more available to the common man or woman. This meant that voices for change became more and more powerful as the “common man” became better informed.

From the printed word's humble beginnings as flyers nailed to public bulletin boards to electronic notes pinned to modern websites, the written word has matured from one with an audience of a few people on a street corner to billions across a shrinking globe.

Today, its format ranges from essays to novels, poetry to musical lyrics, blogs to online news sites. Content may be as innocuous as the dress Jennifer Lopez wore to an awards ceremony or as controversial as a cartoon that incited an attack against a magazine in Paris.

In one keystroke, our words are conveyed in nanoseconds and as a result, have the potential to influence lives all over the world.

Our Theme

Do you recognize any of these: *King Arthur*, *Oedipus Rex*, *Othello*, *Wuthering Heights*, *The Great Gatsby*, or *The Scarlett Letter*? What do they have in common? Heroes and heroines are involved in love triangles. These great tales of love still captivate readers. But there is more to the greatness of these works than good love stories. Dig deeper and you are engaged in tales that reveal many things about the human condition.

Our course is inspired by a few examples of Love Triangles in Literature. We will explore novels from the perspective of those involved in the love triangles, the writers, and the cultural and sociological influences that inspired these men and women. In doing so, we will embrace a variety of critical perspectives.

As students of humanities, we will embrace literature as the venue through which we may become better informed and more tolerant of one another. It is a venue through which we can express our likes, dislikes, positions, and fears and even in the guise of a great love story, know that it is a powerful vehicle for awareness.
Our Texts

These are our texts for the term. From time to time, I will provide additional reading in the form of handouts, usually posted in D2L.

This is the order in which we will explore the texts: Shakespeare followed by Brontë, Hemingway, Márquez and See.

Good writers read. Reading expands our experience and offers ideas and models that serve to influence our critical thinking and writing skills. This course is as reading intensive as it is writing intensive. It is impossible to catch up if one gets behind. Keep up with the reading in order to participate and respond in an informed manner. We will explore a variety of critical perspectives as we discuss our texts. Expect to produce essays, responses to assigned reading, free writing, and presentations. Discussions will take place in our classroom as well online in our D2L classroom.

Communication

I am on campus only on class days; therefore, email is our primary means of communication. It is up to you to check your email regularly. Equally important is the “News” column on our D2L Course Home. Check that daily for assignment updates, class news, and important announcements.

If you have an unusual situation or emergency, email me as soon as possible. We’ll communicate via email, telephone, or in person. I will be glad to meet with you to work through your individual circumstances and am available for meetings by appointment. I will acknowledge your emails as quickly as possible. Should you not receive a response to an email within 48 hours, please send me another email.

Exchange contact information with a classmate for sharing notes and information you may have missed in class.

Submitting Your Work

Upload assignments to the appropriate drop box in D2L as a Word document (.doc or .docx) or a Rich Text File (.rft). Do not submit pdf files or files from freeware you may be using. When submitting assignments, please do not name the file you attach something generic like “essay 1” or “my assignment.” Include your name, the assignment, and the date submitted in the file name.

Use this format to name your documents:
Last Name_Assignment Name_Date  example: Thompson_Analysis Essay_012515

During the drafting stage of an assignment, you will be required to bring a printed copy of your draft to class for workshops; otherwise, drafts uploaded in D2L (as assigned) are an efficient means through which I can provide feedback to you. If you are having a problem with an assignment, you may email me or schedule a time to discuss your issues with me.
Online Learning

Ours is a hybrid class. That means that we will meet face-to-face (FTF) once each week. Our other class meetings occur in Desire2Learn (D2L). Completion of this course will require your attendance and participation both in the classroom and online.

Sometimes students tend to pay less attention to their online time. Online learning requires discipline. Here are some tips:

- Online success requires good time management skills and motivation. Set a schedule and stick to it.
- Your presence in discussion forums is critical; this is our classroom where you should participate in the conversation about the texts.
- Use D2L email to communicate with me and your classmates.
- Check D2L and student email daily.
- There is a chat feature so we can conference online, too.
- **Pay attention to deadlines!** I bolded that because of its importance. If you miss a deadline for a post, quiz, or essay submission, D2L is completely unforgiving.
- All formal assignments and quizzes will be posted on D2L. I will post your grades in D2L; however, I have the official grade book and a spreadsheet for calculation. You may email me anytime with questions about grades.
- Log into the Port of Armstrong to access our online class.
- Note: Desire2Learn Supported Browsers are Firefox, Google Chrome, Internet Explorer 9 or 10, Safari 5.1 or 6. Internet Explorer 11 is not supported. Click on System Check if you have not previously used D2L.
- If you anticipate difficulties with D2L, contact: Armstrong Information Systems Help Desk at 912.344.2518. or via email at: helpdesk@armstrong.edu

I wonder what the Bard would think of all this technology?

Netiquette ~ Conduct & Technology

Our class discussions will provide a venue for self-expression and honesty, both of which may be communicated respectfully. Refer to the “Welcome” message in D2L for a discussion of Netiquette. Some of that includes: Network etiquette or “netiquette” is a set of guidelines for how we communicate online. Our online discussions provide a venue for self-expression and honesty, both of which should be communicated respectfully.

Appropriate conduct and respect for one another is expected of everyone in this class.

Please remember the faceless environment of online conversations makes respectful communication even more important.

Deadlines

You are responsible for turning in your work on time. **With the exception of emergencies, I do not accept late assignments.** If you suffer an emergency, you must contact me as soon as possible and explain the nature of the emergency.

Technology issues are not valid excuses for late or missing assignments. Save your work in more than one manner (flash, Google docs, CD). Plan ahead. Draft early. Revise in a timely manner. Expect the unexpected where technology is concerned. “I was uploading two minutes before the D2L deadline” is not an acceptable excuse for missing a submission.

If you miss a deadline, do not email the assignment to me unless you have obtained **prior** permission.
Academic Integrity
Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Familiarize yourself with ASU’s Student Code of Conduct and understand that intentionally pirating someone else’s intellectual property is not tolerated. Your ASU handbook states, “All students at ASU must agree to abide by the Honor Code and Code of Conduct.” Remember, it is far easier to cite a source correctly or spend a little time composing your own work than fail your 2100 English class. If you are not sure how or whether to cite something or if you need assistance integrating your research into your writing, I am here to help as is our Liberty Center Tutor, Marcy James. If you are on the main campus, you may make an appointment with the staff in the University Writing Center in Gamble Hall.

All assignments submitted in the D2L drop box will be run through Turnitin and become part of their database. Once an essay is submitted, it is compared to other essays in Turnitin’s database and a report is generated that identifies similarities to other pieces of writing. Be sure that you cite any information that you reference from another’s intellectual property.

Assignments and Grading
You will produce reading responses to the texts and classroom discussions. These will journal your reactions to the texts. These will not be plot summaries. By the end of the term, you should have submitted 6 journal entries that are two to three double-spaced typewritten pages. I will publish the schedule of due dates. Each journal will be graded for content, compositional correctness, and adherence to instructions. No late journals are accepted.

Your assignments will include two formal essays in which you will analyze one or more of the texts. Essays will incorporate documentation and research, so we will begin the semester brushing up on using the Lane Library’s resources and MLA documentation.

There will be a collaborative assignment that will include a presentation to the class. All components of the presentation (handouts, visuals, and delivery) will be considered in the grade.

Finally, participation and attendance will be evaluated. This includes in-class work, discussion posts, quizzes, timeliness of assignments, punctuality, and participation in discussions both in the classroom and online.

Here are the available points for the semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Responses</td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Formal Essays</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative Assignment</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation &amp; Attendance</td>
<td>500</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Final Grades are calculated as follows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>≤59</td>
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**General Information & Reminders**

I am available for individual conferences by appointment.

I reserve the right to amend our syllabus, including the reading schedule, and will communicate any necessary changes to you in a timely manner.

All essays and assignments must be word-processed and formatted per MLA guidelines.

Do NOT use citation generators for parenthetical citations or Works Cited entries.

It is good practice to utilize a handbook or one of the resources below and format your own parenthetical citations and Works Cited entries:

- My MLA handout in D2L
- ASU Writing Center
- Purdue’s Online Writing Lab [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/)
- Hacker & Fister Research and Documentation Online [http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/](http://bcs.bedfordstmartins.com/resdoc5e/)

Drafts are a necessary part of writing and factor into the essay’s final grade; I do a final draft of an essay if you did not participate in the drafting process.

I encourage you all to make use of our writing tutor here at the Liberty Campus or, if you are on the main campus, the University Writing Center located in Gamble 123. The trained assistants can help guide you through your writing process, offer support, and tutorials. Visit their web site at [http://www.armstrong.edu/Departments/writing_center/writing_center_welcome](http://www.armstrong.edu/Departments/writing_center/writing_center_welcome).

- Tutors will not write your essay for you
- Make an appointment and plan to have a specific set of needs in mind

The research librarians at our Lane Library are there to assist you with your research quests. You may contact them in person, via email, via telephone, or via the online chat feature on the library’s home page. [http://library.armstrong.edu/](http://library.armstrong.edu/)

Armstrong Atlantic State University provides appropriate, reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Documentation and services are available at the Office of Disability Services located in Student Affairs in MCC. Contact Ms. Kelly Woodruff at [912.344.2744](tel:9123442744). If any of the information I provide in my course is inaccessible to you because of a disability, please contact me as soon as possible.

If you are military personnel and you find yourself unable to complete the course because of an active-duty issue, please contact me and let me know and contact Ms. Laura Pallini-Bolton in our Military and Veterans Affairs office at [912.344.2848](tel:9123442848).