

Sul Ross State University
English 2341
Fall 2020

Instructor: Dr. Ian Peddie
Office: MAB 111
Email: ian.peddie@sulross.edu
Office Hours: by appt online
Phone: 432-837-8154

Meeting Times: Mon, Wed, Fri, 11:00-11:50

Required Materials

Mays, Kelly J. *The Norton Introduction to Literature*
Miller, Arthur. *Death of a Salesman* (any edition)
See also online course listing posted in Blackboard (Resources)

Course Description

Survey of a variety of literary modes and genres from different cultures and time periods.

Student Goals and Outcomes for ENG 2341:

This course is a survey of a variety of literary modes and genres from different cultures and time periods.

Students will work towards the following learning goals and outcomes:

- an awareness of writers from diverse cultural traditions
- an awareness of important terms in Literary Studies
- the ability to analyze a variety of texts in their relevant contexts
- the ability to formulate interpretations through synthesis of material from diverse texts and contexts
- the ability to compose thoughtful analyses
- the ability to present material serving diverse purposes in a variety of forms (oral and written)
- the ability to interact respectfully with others who hold divergent perspectives
- the ability to revise and improve your own written work

Marketable Skills

1. Students will communicate effectively in writing and speaking.
2. Students will use different research strategies to address problems and develop ideas that engage a variety of perspectives.
3. Students will recognize how social and cultural contexts shape meaning and language.

Attendance

Online and required

Participation

Active and appropriate class participation in group and individual activities is one step toward getting the most out of this class. Active participation will help your course grade; lack of or inappropriate participation may hurt your course grade. **Additionally, please turn off all mobile phones and other similar devices before you enter the (online) classroom.**

Quizzes/Reading Responses

One ongoing part of this class will be in-class quizzes, responses, and so on. In order to complete these successfully, it is imperative that you are prepared for class. I will drop the lowest three quiz/in-class writing grades.

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act)

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the Student's responsibility to initiate a request. Please contact Ms. Rebecca Greathouse Wren, M.Ed., LPC-S, Director/Counselor, Accessibility Services Coordinator, Ferguson Hall (Suite 112) at 432.837.8203; mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Students should then contact the instructor as soon as possible to initiate the recommended accommodations.

Out-of-Class Essay Assignments

You will write one out-of-class essays for this class. All essays must be typed or word processed, with standard (1) margins and font size (12 point).

Grading

Responses	15%
Participation	10%
Retrospective	10%
Paper One	20%
Mid-term exam	20%
Final exam	25%

Grade Distribution

A = 90-100%
B = 80-89%
C = 70-79%
D = 60-69%
F = 0-59%

Plagiarism & Intellectual Honesty

All writing and quiz responses must be your own work. The sole exception applies to external material (ideas and quotes) appropriately incorporated and cited. Plagiarism or other forms of cheating will not be tolerated and will be severely punished. They will result in a "0" for the assignment and may lead to failure of the class and disciplinary action by the university.

A word about online delivery.

I am here to help and will do so. We can meet online, out of class times, at mutually convenient times. I'll help with all items of the class, from understanding text and exercises to writing, time management, and so on. If I can do it and it is feasible then ask.

Tentative Calendar

Assigned readings should be completed **before** class. Please bring the appropriate text to each class meeting. Readings, assignments, and due dates are subject to change.

- 8/24 Overture: course introductions
- 8/26 Read introduction: 1-9; Reading, Responding, Writing: Read 12-16
- 8/28 Exercise: seeing and interpreting
- 8/31 Thinking and writing about culture
- 9/2 Understanding the Text: The basics of plot (82-89) ; Key concepts 29-31 and Carver, "Cathedral," 32-42
- 9/4 De Maupassant, "The Jewelry," 90-95
- 9/7 Labor Day: No Class
- 9/11 Read: Raymond Carver: "Cathedral"
- 9/14 "Cathedral": in-class writing and thinking/exercises in analysis
- 9/16 Narration and Point of view. Read 160-164 and George Sanders: "Puppy" 172-178
- 9/18 Character. Read 180-187 (on various types of character)
- 9/21 Exercises/discussion on character
- 9/23 Read 419-422, and/or biographical material on Flannery O'Connor and O'Connor's "A Good Man is Hard to Find"
- 9/25 "A Good Man is Hard to Find" (symbolism, violence, race)
- 9/28 "A Good Man is Hard to Find" (discussion and further analysis)
- 9/30 Read Flannery O'Connor, "Good Country People," 433-447
- 10/2 "Good Country People" (Similarities and differences; mapping out plots)
- 10/5 "Good Country People" (symbolism, names, spirituality)

- 10/7 What is drama and why does it matter? Understanding drama. Read 1182 (Questions about character); 1184-86 (Stages, Sets and Setting); 1188-1189 (Theme)
- 10/9 Read Miller, *Death of a Salesman*, 1668-1700 (first third of play); Arthur Miller and the condition of America (lecture)
- 10/12 Read Miller, *Death of a Salesman* (second third of text); Discussion of Miller. Mid-term review
- 10/14 Read Miller, *Death of a Salesman* (final third); discussion
- 10/16 Mid-term review
- 10/19 Mid-term exam
- 10/21 Writing about literature. Read 1845-1855. Essay One: Generating Ideas: Brainstorming, clustering, free writing: generating ideas: towards essay one
- 10/23 Essay One: In-Class workshop (introductions and conclusions)
- 10/26 Essay due in class: peer revisions. Read 1865-1869 (use of evidence, mechanics, structure)
- 10/28 Essay due in class: peer revisions. Read 1865-1869
- 10/30 Poetry: Reading, Responding, Writing: Read 670-680 (poetic genres: narrative poetry; dramatic poetry; lyric poetry; dramatic monologue); read lyrics to Bruce Springsteen, "Nebraska."
- 11/2 Responding to poetry exercises
- 11/4 Harlem Renaissance, cultural and historical contexts: introductory lecture. Read 1008-1016 and/or online materials on Harlem Renaissance
- 11/6 Read: Countee Cullen, "From the Dark Tower," Langston Hughes, "Harlem," "The Weary Blues," "The Negro Speaks of Rivers," "I, Too."
- 11/9 Read: Claude McKay, "If We Must Die," "The Harlem Dancer,"
- 11/11 Harlem, poetry, song, history: a recap
- 11/13 Words and Music. Read: Robert Hayden, "Homage to the Empress of the Blues." Watch and listen to Bessie Smith "St. Louis Blues" (YouTube)
- 11/16 Read: Michael Harper, "Dear John, Dear Coltrane." Listen to the following on YouTube: John Coltrane, *A Love Supreme* and "Naima"
- 11/18 Read lyrics and listen to Bob Dylan, "Mr. Tambourine Man"

11/20 Revisit: forms, stanzas, poetic devices

11/23 Your ideas: poetic sequence

11/25 No class: Thanksgiving

11/27 No class: Thanksgiving

11/30 Your ideas: poetic forms

12/2 Review. Last day of class

12/8 Final Exam