

Introduction to Literature

EN222

Eight-Week SYLLABUS



Central Methodist University
Lake of the Ozarks Facility

Last Revised January 16, 2016

MISSION STATEMENTS:

CMU: Central Methodist University prepares students to make a difference in the world by emphasizing academic and professional excellence, ethical leadership, and social responsibility.

Creed: The Central Methodist University community believes in seeking knowledge, truth, and wisdom; valuing freedom, honesty, civility, and diversity; living lives of service and leadership; and taking responsibility for ourselves and the communities in which we live.

YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Instructor: Nikki Hubbard

Email: nhubbard@centralmethodist.edu

About the Instructor: I have been a public school teacher for twenty years and have taught advanced English studies courses including SFCC dual-credit courses, IB and AP courses. I have two advanced fields of studies: one in English literature and the other in instructional design. I am very excited to have this opportunity to teach at CMU and help you to explore your early collegiate study of fiction and potential future in the field!

COURSE

EN222 - Introduction to Literature

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines ways of understanding the meaning of character in human life through the study of literature. All sections will introduce students to fiction, poetry, and drama, but each section will be designed around each instructor's chosen theme-based readings or around a general introduction to literature.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the course, each participant should be able to:

- recognize and respond to a variety of literary genres
- understand and be able to implement the process of analyzing a piece of literature
- use writing and reading for inquiry, learning, and critical-thinking
- demonstrate the ability to engage in academic discussion
- adopt the appropriate voice, tone, and level of formality required in academic writing
- integrate their own ideas with those of others
- practice appropriate means of documenting their work.

COURSE REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND READINGS

- Meyer, Michael, Ed. *Literature to Go*. Third Edition. New York: MacMillan, 2017. ISBN 13: 978-1-319-03726-0
- Spiegelman, Art. *Maus I and II*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1991. ISBN 13: 978-0-679-74840-3

COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATION

Generally speaking, instructor announcements or instructions are provided in either “Announcements” or “Assignments” on our *myCMU* pages. **Private communications with the instructor should be posted in a private post, rather than through email.** I see those posts quicker than email messages.

If you have questions about the course, the schedule, or assignment requirements, I encourage you to direct them to the **General Course Questions** section of the discussion forum. If you have a question, there is a good chance others also have the same question. Posting questions here makes it easier for all of us to pose, answer, and receive answers to common questions. This section will be checked regularly.

GRADING SCALE

Grade	Percent
A	100-90%
B	89-80%
C	79-70%
D	69-60%
F	<60%

Grading Criteria

Grades will be based upon the following:

Forum Participation	8 weeks of posts x 5%	= 40% of total grade
Final Reflection	1 essay x 45%	= 45% " " "
Online Quizzes	8 quizzes x 1.875%	= 15% " " "
Total		100% of total grade

DISCUSSION FORUM

Each week you will contribute an original argument to the discussion forum. You will also provide thoughtful responses to two of your classmates. That means you will be participating at least three times on the forum during the week. You may contribute more if you'd like.

The forum is a **formal writing space** where you will practice thinking deeply, critically, and creatively about the assigned readings. There you will learn how to read beyond the surface of a story or poem. In the forum, you will discover how to talk about literature, how to make bold claims, and how to offer unique interpretations. In other words, the forum will help you develop a stronger ability to read actively and perceptively.

You are encouraged to interact in the weekly forum before taking the weekly quiz because it is most likely that talking to me and your peers will help you prepare for the quiz. Refer to the **Discussion Rubric** in the “Resources” area on our page for further details on this assignment. All postings are due by Sunday **11:55 p.m.**

REFLECTION ESSAY (Final Exam)

You will conclude the term with an essay reflecting on your growth and development in this course.

Refer to the **Reflection Essay Assignment Sheet** (**not available on the website yet**) for further details on this assignment.

WEEKLY QUIZZES

Description:

You will take eight timed quizzes in this class. Quizzes will occur every week. Each quiz will ask you to respond to a question, or questions, I pose. You will have 60 minutes to complete each quiz.

Quizzes will focus on the weekly readings. This includes the assigned material from the anthology/textbook, as well as any handouts I supply or additional materials. Questions will focus on literary concepts and topics crucial to understanding and discussing the weekly readings.

You can use your book(s) while taking the quiz, sometimes you will have to, but keep in mind that if you do not know something it will take time to look up and read. Be prepared.

The window for taking the weekly quizzes will run from **Saturday at 5:30 p.m. to Sunday at 11:55 p.m.** Refer to the **Quiz Rubric** in the "Resources" area on our page for further details on this assignment.

To take the quiz, go to the course *myCMU* page. Click on "Assignments" on the left side of the page. When the quiz period is open, you will see the quiz under the appropriate week. Click on the "Week _____ Quiz," and follow the instructions. When you have completed the quiz, be sure to click the "Submit For Grading" button at the bottom of the page.

Requirements:

1. Read the questions carefully.
2. Respond thoroughly. Keep in mind the lessons from this week and/or any previous.

Expectations:

Quizzes are worth **15% of your total grade**, so it is important that you take the quizzes seriously. Students should rely on the assigned literary texts and handouts for their quiz responses.

DUE DATES AND DELIVERABLES

All due dates and deliverable requirements will be posted on the course website and are considered "firm." Also note that any due dates and times are in Central Standard Time so please adjust accordingly. Any deviation in content or form should be discussed with the instructor prior to the due date. Late and/or incomplete work will result in a significant grade reduction. The only exceptions related to late work are covered under the **Late Work Policy** below.

Outside Assignments: Read/annotate pages 44 and 45, and 50 through 98 for Thursday online meeting. Make second forum posting and complete second quiz by Sunday at 11:55 p.m.							
Texts Studied:	Davis: "Negative Emotions"	Faulkner: "A Rose for Emily"	Dubus: "Killings"	Dickens: [from] <i>Hard Times</i>	Chai: "Saving Sourd"i"	Carlson: "Max"	
Tuesday Agenda:	Review of theory purpose.	Conferencing about writing (review of first quizzes and areas of improvement)	Annotation of "plot mountain" and "Negative Emotions."	Review of Psychoanalytical Theory and application to text.	Test the forum environment.		
Thursday Agenda:	Forum posting and quiz.	Forum is open now and quiz will be open at 5 p.m. on Saturday (closed at 11:55 p.m. Sunday).	I will be available online from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.				

Course Study Plan: Week Three							
Objective: To examine setting, point-of-view, symbolism, style, tone, irony, and theme in various stories, in addition to applying literary theories to the texts.							
Essential Question: How do Hemingway, Updike, Ellison, Poe, Carver, and O'Conner use setting, point-of-view, symbolism, theme, style, tone, and irony to convey meaning, and how does theory enhance our understanding of the texts?							
Outside Assignments: Read/annotate pages 129 through 135, 149 through 154, 177 through 188, 193 through 199, 216 through 218, and 242 through 256 for Thursday class. Make third forum posting and complete third quiz* by Sunday at 11:55 p.m.							
Texts Studied:	Hemingway: "Soldier's Home"	Updike: "A & P"	Ellison: "Battle Royal"	Poe: "The Cask of Amontillado"	Carver: "Popular Mechanics"	O'Connor: "A Good Man is Hard to Find"	
Tuesday Agenda:	Review of postings and quizzes.	Discussion of stories from last week.	Introduction to new terms (lots!).	Review of Historical lens.	Application of terms and Historical lens to "Popular Mechanics"		
Thursday Agenda:	Forum posting and quiz.	Forum is open now and quiz will be open at 5 p.m. on Saturday (closed at	I will be available online from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.				

		11:55 p.m. Sunday).					
*This week's quiz will be about a short story and terms that I prescribe.							

Course Study Plan: Week Four							
Objective: To examine poetic devices used in poetry, in addition to applying literary theories to the texts.							
Essential Question: How does Collins use poetic devices to convey meaning, and how does theory enhance our understanding of the texts?							
Outside Assignments: Read/annotate pages 497 through 521 for Thursday class. Make fourth forum posting and complete fourth quiz by Sunday at 11:55 p.m.							
Texts Studied:	"Osso Buco"	"Nostalgia"	"Questions About Angels"	"Litany"	"Building with Its Face Blown Off"	Action Poetry poems.	
Tuesday Agenda:	Review stories and terms from last week.	Introduction to poetic devices: "How to Analyze Emotion in Poetry" (see resources).	"Everyday Moments Caught in Time" (Ted Talk)	Review remaining assignments for class (some revisions needed).			
Thursday Agenda:	Forum posting and quiz. *	Forum is open now and quiz will be open at 5 p.m. on Saturday (closed at 11:55 p.m. Sunday).					
*This week's forum will be about one of the poems in the anthology and the quiz will be about one of the poems on Action Poetry .							

Course Study Plan: Week Five							
Objective: To examine elements of drama used in modern drama, in addition to applying literary theories to the texts.							
Essential Question: How does Ibsen use the elements of drama to convey meaning, and how does theory enhance our understanding of the texts?							
Outside Assignments: Read/annotate pages 751 through 811 for Thursday class. Also, watch "Nora": https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8CY8s2MqPyM Make sixth forum posting and complete sixth quiz by Sunday at 11:55 p.m.							
Texts Studied:	Ibsen: <i>A Doll's House</i>						

Tuesday Agenda:	Introduction to dramatic terms. Review of other literary devices.	Watch <i>A Doll's House</i> (1973) Anthony Hopkins, based on the Ibsen play: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pjfO9qkQZpo	Discuss initial reactions to the play.				
Thursday Agenda:	Forum posting and quiz. *	Forum is open now and quiz will be open at 5 p.m. on Saturday (closed at 11:55 p.m. Sunday).					
*This week's forum posting and quiz will be about our reactions to the different treatments (three) of <i>A Doll's House</i> .							

Course Study Plan: Week Six							
Objective: To examine elements of long fiction used in the modern novel, in addition to applying literary theories to the texts.							
Essential Question: How does Spiegelman use the elements of long fiction to convey meaning, and how does theory enhance our understanding of the texts?							
Outside Assignments: Read/annotate Spiegelman's <i>Maus I</i> for next Tuesday class. Make sixth forum posting and complete sixth quiz by Sunday at 11:55 p.m.							
Texts Studied:	Spiegelman: <i>Maus I</i>						
Tuesday Agenda (via <i>Big Blue Button</i>):	Introduction to elements of long fiction.						
Thursday Agenda:	Forum posting and quiz. *	Forum is open now and quiz will be open at 5 p.m. on Saturday (closed at 11:55 p.m. Sunday).					

Course Study Plan: Week Seven

Objective: To examine elements of long fiction used in the modern novel, in addition to applying literary theories to the texts.							
Essential Question: How does Spiegelman use the elements of long fiction to convey meaning, and how does theory enhance our understanding of the texts?							
Outside Assignments: Read/annotate Spiegelman's <i>Maus II</i> for next Tuesday class. Make seventh forum posting and complete seventh quiz by Sunday at 11:55 p.m.							
Texts Studied:	Spiegelman: <i>Maus II</i>						
Tuesday Agenda (via <i>Big Blue Button</i>):	Discussion of <i>Maus I</i>						
Thursday Agenda:	Forum posting and quiz. *	Forum is open now and quiz will be open at 5 p.m. on Saturday (closed at 11:55 p.m. Sunday).					

Course Study Plan: Week Eight							
Objective: To reflect on learning over the course of the term.							
Essential Question: How do the authors convey meaning through literary devices, and how does theory help us to understand the texts studied?							
Outside Assignments: Prepare for the final exam (reflection) on which you will be asked to describe your experience in this introduction to literature.							
Texts Studied:	Review of all previous.	Review of terms and lenses.					
Tuesday Agenda:	Introduction to the format of the final.						
Thursday Agenda:	Final exam due at 11:55 p.m.						