

English 2321: British Literature

Professor: Dr. Monica Smith

Teaching Assistant: Mr. Derrick Cummings

Spring 2009: Online Course

Office: See below

Office Hours: See below

Email: Please use course mail on WTClass

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A study of selected significant works of British Literature arranged around a common theme. Prerequisite ENGL 1302.

REQUIRED TEXTS: MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOU PURCHASE THE CORRECT EDITIONS. OTHER EDITIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE, FOR THEY WILL NOT CONTAIN THE NECESSARY INTRODUCTIONS, APPENDICES, AND PAGINATION. CHECK THE BOOKS YOU PURCHASE AT THE WT BOOKSTORE TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY ARE EXACTLY WHAT IS LISTED BELOW.



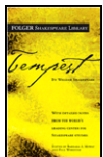
Baldick, Chris. *Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004.



Beowulf: A Verse Translation. Trans. Seamus Heaney. Ed. Daniel Donoghue. New York: W. W. Norton, 2001. ISBN: 0393975800.



Gardner, John. *Grendel*. Vintage, 1989. ISBN: 0679723110.



Shakespeare, William. *The Tempest*. Washington, D.C.: Washington Square Press, 2004. ISBN 10: 0743482832.



Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*. Ed. J. Paul Hunter. New York: W. W. Norton, 1995. ISBN: 0393964582.



Stevenson, Robert Louis. *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Ed. Martin Danahay. 2nd ed. Broadview, 2005. ISBN: 1551116553.

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Readings and course materials available via WTClass.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students should:

- Discuss and write critically about different literary genres, periods and themes
- Develop an understanding of literary culture and its relationship to social and historical contexts
- Improve critical thinking and writing skills

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to write a critical analysis of a literary work
- Appropriately integrate social and historical context into critical analysis of literary works.
- Employ the following literary terms in their writing: *simile, metaphor, image, symbol, speaker, persona, meter, rhyme, stanza, line break, caesura, iambic pentameter, setting, tone, character, narrative, narrator*

ASSIGNMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS:

Assigned Readings are demanding, and some texts will demand multiple readings. Do not attempt to complete course assignments without having read the assigned material carefully and completely.

Online Lectures and Materials: Lectures are available in a number of different formats—some Flash movies, some mp3 files, some Powerpoint, and some plain text—depending on the topics we’re discussing at the time. See “Computer Access” below for more information.

Quizzes and Discussion Boards (15% of final course grade): Expect at least one quiz and discussion board each week, sometimes more. Quizzes and discussion board entries cannot be taken early or made up. At the end of term, I will drop your lowest grade from this category.

Short Essay (15% of final course grade): One short essay in response to an assigned prompt. Details and prompts available on WTCClass.

Commonplace Book (20% of final course grade): Five entries of 200-400 words into our course Commonplace Book on WTCClass along with a 500-800 word epilogue at the end of the semester. Details available on WTCClass.

Exams (4 exams totaling 50% of final course grade): Each exam may consist of identifications, objective questions, and short answers. All exams will be administered and assessed via WTCClass. Alternate testing times/accommodations are not available. Make-ups will only be allowed under the most extreme circumstances. If a student cannot provide the appropriate documentation within five business days of the missed exam, s/he will receive a zero.

WEEKLY LESSONS:

- Each week, lessons will **open** on Friday at 7:00 a.m. and **close** on Thursday of the following week at midnight.
- **Lessons will not be reopened after they close on Thursdays at midnight.** So be certain to print or save any materials you might want while the lesson is open and complete all assignments before Thursday at midnight.

- Late assignments will not be accepted, and the Lesson will not be reopened. See “Submitting Assignments” and “Computer Access” below.

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS:

- **All assignments will be completed via WTClass. Assignments that are not submitted in the assigned format or in the proper place will not be graded.**
- Late assignments will not be accepted.
- Each student is held responsible for all assignments. If a previously scheduled event coincides with an exam or due date, a written request for an extension or make-up date will be considered. All such requests must be submitted prior to the date in question.
- Any requests for extensions based on illness or family emergency must be accompanied by written documentation verified by the Office of Student Services. All make-ups and extensions are at the instructor’s discretion.

COMPUTER ACCESS: Students are expected to check email daily and the course webpage several times a week or as indicated on the daily schedule.

- It is the student’s responsibility to secure reliable, up-to-date, working computer equipment.
- I’ve made every effort to provide course information in multiple formats whenever possible, both to ensure that you are able to access the information as well as to give you the opportunity to use the technology to your advantage.
 - For example, during Week One, there is a Flash movie (with slides and audio) that covers literary devices in *Beowulf*. But I’ve also given you this identical information just as a PowerPoint without audio and as an mp3 file.
 - You might decide, then, to watch the Flash movie first, and then print (or save) the PowerPoint slides for review. If you are an iTunes user (or have some other compatible mp3 file organizer), you might set up a playlist just for course materials on your iTunes and download the mp3 file there so you can review it before the test. However you choose to use the files is up to you, so long as you get the information.
 - If you do not have iTunes on your computer, you can download it for free at <http://www.apple.com/itunes/download/>.
- Regrettably, we are not computer experts, so we cannot help you troubleshoot problems with your computer hardware. If for some reason you cannot open the course files, you should try to open the files on another computer, either at the HELC (Hastings Electronic Learning Center) on the WTAMU campus or, if you don’t live in or near Canyon, at your local public library.
- **IMPORTANT:** Please note that since “The printer wouldn’t work,” “Something’s wrong with my disk,” and “I don’t know what happened—I saved it but now it’s not there” have become the 21st century versions of “The dog ate my homework,” **computer hardware, software, or printer malfunction/failure of any kind will not excuse missed, late, or incomplete work.**
- **Remember: start each week’s lesson promptly; save early, save often (and in multiple formats: hard drive and flash drive or email to yourself); print early, print often.**

CONFERENCES AND EMAIL ACCESS:

- Mr. Cummings and I will check course email during **regular business hours only** (Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.). Thus, if you email us at midnight, do not expect a response before the next morning during business hours.
- We do not check email or hold office hours on weekends. Therefore, if you email us at 9:00 p.m. on Friday evening, do not expect to hear back from us until Monday morning.
- Please note that voicemails left for us at our office numbers will be returned via email. If you email me via WTClass, the return email may go to your regular WT email account, so make sure to check both WTClass and your regular email account frequently.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: All students are expected to demonstrate the highest standards of honesty and integrity in every phase of their academic careers.

- WTAMU is committed to maintaining the integrity of the university academic mission as defined in the Academic Integrity Code (<http://www.wtamu.edu/administrative/ss/code/appendix1.htm>).
- The instructor may exercise the integrity process by submitting student work to Turnitin, a commercial plagiarism detection software device that assists in preventing plagiarism. All documents submitted to Turnitin will remain the restricted Turnitin.com database for the purpose of comparison and detection of plagiarism of future submissions. Use of Turnitin (<http://www.turnitin.com>) is subject to the licensing agreement between Turnitin and WTAMU.
- Any instance of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported to the Head of the Department of English, Philosophy, and Modern Languages and to the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Students are responsible for informing themselves of all university regulations concerning academic honesty. For more information, please see the Code of Student Life, Appendix III (<http://www.wtamu.edu/administrative/ss/code/index.htm>)

ACCESS STATEMENT: If you need adaptations or accommodations because of a disability (i.e., physical, mental, psychological, learning) or have emergency medical information to share with me, please let me know as soon as possible. West Texas A&M University seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with Student Disability Services (SDS) and to contact faculty members in a timely fashion to arrange for suitable accommodations. The SDS Office is located in the Virgil Henson Activities Center, Room 218 and their phone number is 806-651-2335.

Grading Percentages:

Quizzes and Discussion Boards	15%
Short Essay	15%
Commonplace Book	20%
Exams (4)	50%

Grading Scale:

Excellent work will earn an A (90-100).

Good work will earn a B (80-89.99).

Average work will earn a C (70-79.99).

Fair work will earn a D (60-69.99).

Poor work will earn an F (0-59.99).

A = 95

C+ = 78

D- = 60

A- = 90

C = 75

F = (as marked; work not submitted marked as 0)

B+ = 88

C- = 70

B = 85

D+ = 68

B- = 80

D = 65

WEEKLY SCHEDULE: Subject to change. The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. The most update version of the syllabus will be available on WTClass.

Lesson	Major Assignments and Texts Covered (see Lessons for specific weekly assignments and readings)
Week 1	<i>Beowulf</i> (read lines 1-1650)
Week 2	<i>Beowulf</i> (read lines 1651-end) Commonplace Book Entry over <i>Beowulf</i> Due
Week 3	Exam One
Week 4	<i>The Tempest</i> (read Acts I and II)
Week 5	<i>The Tempest</i> (read Acts III-V) Commonplace Book Entry over <i>The Tempest</i> Due
Week 6	Exam Two
Week 7	<i>Frankenstein</i> (read Volume I)
Week 8	<i>Frankenstein</i> (read Volume II)
Week 9	<i>Frankenstein</i> (read Volume III) Commonplace Book Entry over <i>Frankenstein</i> Due
Week 10	Exam Three
Week 11	<i>The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> (read story plus Appendices A, F, and G)
Week 12	<i>The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> (read Appendices H-K) Commonplace Book Entry over <i>The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> Due
Week 13	<i>Grendel</i> (read pages 1-90) Short Essay Due
Week 14	<i>Grendel</i> (read pages 91-end) Commonplace Book Entry over <i>Grendel</i> Due

Exam Four will be administered during Final Exam week.

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