

Writing About Literature—English 1325

Semester	Spring 2008	
Course Section	English 1325.007 (LB305) MW, 1:00 p.m.	
Instructor	Anne Schoolfield	
Office Information	Room: LB 407F Phone: English Office 565-2050/ 407F 565-2150 Email: anne@unt.edu Web: http://www.engl.unt.edu/~anne	
Office Hours	MW 12:00 noon-12:50 p.m. & by appointment	
Textbook	<i>A Canticle for Leibowitz</i> , Walter M. Miller Jr. (ISBN: 0553379267) <i>Frankenstein</i> , Mary Shelley—Norton Critical Edition (ISBN: 0393964582) <i>Kindred</i> , Octavia Butler (ISBN: 0807083054) <i>The Beekeeper's Apprentice</i> , Laurie R. King (ISBN: 0553571656) <i>The Norton Anthology of Fiction</i> Style Handbook	
Evaluation	Daily Work and Participation	30%
	Writing Portfolio	40%
	In-class Responses/Emails	
	Learning Logs	
	Explications	
	Position Paper	
	Journal Article Review	
	Midterm Examination	15%
	Final Examination	15%
Daily Work	I will assign daily work in addition to the work I list on the syllabus. You may also have pop quizzes as daily grades.	
Participation	I will use the following scale to award points for class participation:	
	Very well prepared, excellent participation	10 points
	Well prepared, good participation	9 points
	Adequately prepared, good participation	8 points
	Somewhat prepared, average participation	7 points
	Unprepared, minimal/no participation	6 points
	Unprepared, no participation/disruptive	5 points
	Note: Merely sitting in class earns you an F in participation. Also, please see important information about attendance and class behavior on page 3.	
Extra Credit	None	

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Disability Accommodation

In accordance with the terms and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act, I will cooperate with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.

If you have disabilities and have not registered with ODA, I encourage you to register.

Please present your written request for accommodation to me no later than the end of the fourth day of class.

Essential Competencies

Essential competencies for this course include the ability to

- read and analyze literary texts
- write clear, concise, and appropriate prose to respond to a variety of assignments
- discuss—in class and in small groups—literary texts
- use word processing, electronic mail, and graphics software applications on a personal computer

Grades and Their Meaning

For this course, we define grades

A=excellent (reserved for real excellence)

B=good (an honors grade)

C=fair (signifies average competence)

D=passing

F=failing

Cooperative Work

While many scholars work alone, many work cooperatively on projects. For this reason, you may exercise the option to coauthor your position paper. If you decide to exercise this option, how you divide the labor and deal with the politics of the essay's production is up to you. Please do not come to me to complain about a slacker in your group. Remember, this is an option, not a requirement.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

While I encourage scholarly cooperation, I abhor cheating. Plagiarism is cheating. The 11th edition of the *Harbrace College Handbook* defines plagiarism as presenting as your own work, deliberately or accidentally, the words or ideas of another (424).

In the third edition of *A Writer's Reference*, Diana Hacker delineates three forms of plagiarism: "(1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas, (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words" (261).

You must keep straight which ideas and words are your own and which belong to others. ***I will fail from the course anyone I catch plagiarizing!***

Computer Requirements

This class may use WebCTVista. You can reach the login for WebCTVista at <http://webctvista.unt.edu/>.

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Class Policies

The following class policies will help you succeed in this class and understand what I expect of you.

Attendance

- Attend class regularly and on time.
You cannot perform well unless you attend class.
If you miss a class, **you** are responsible for all material covered and all assignments made. After three (3) absences, your participation grade will drop one letter grade. Further, if you exceed six (6) absences, you will be dropped with a WF or receive an F in the course.

Important! You are absent if you

- are not in class when I call roll
- leave class early without my permission
- sleep during class
- come to class without your textbook
- sit in class with a nonessential electronic device in your ear

Please note: Illness is NOT a university-approved excuse.

- Contact me if you cannot attend class.
- Turn off all cell phones and nonessential electronic devices during class.

Assignments

- Submit all assignments on time.
If you are having trouble completing an assignment, talk with me several days before the assignment is due.
- Prepare all outside class assignments (except some daily exercises) using word-processing software.
- Print all documents on a laser printer to ensure your documents are neat and visually appealing and appear professional.
- Prepare all assignments specifically according to instructions for format, organization, or style.
Assignments not prepared according to instructions may receive a grade of F.
- Make copies of your papers that you wish to keep.
I must keep your papers on file for one year.

Writing Portfolio

At the end of this semester, you will present a portfolio of your writing in this class that includes the following:

- A Table of Contents
- A Letter of Submission that presents your portfolio and overviews its contents
- In-class Responses and Emails
- Learning Logs
- Explications
- Position Paper
- Journal Article Review
- All Rewrites
- Your Self-Assessment Memo

Note: While I will return your papers and rewrites with extensive comments after each due date listed on the syllabus, I will not assign a grade to your writing until I receive your portfolio.

Readings and Assignments

Week 1	January	14	Tasks:	Introduction to the course
		16	Reading:	Short Fiction Group 1: Poe, “The Purloined Letter” (http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/POE/purloine.html) Poe, “The Fall of the House of Usher” (http://xroads.virginia.edu/~hyper/POE/fall.html)
Week 2		21		Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—no class!
		23	Reading:	Short Fiction Group 1: Conan-Doyle, “A Scandal in Bohemia” (handout)
Week 3		28	Reading:	<i>The Beekeeper’s Apprentice</i>
		30	Reading:	<i>The Beekeeper’s Apprentice</i> Presentation on Laurie R. King
Week 4	February	4	Reading:	<i>The Beekeeper’s Apprentice</i> Due: Explication 1
		6	Reading:	<i>The Beekeeper’s Apprentice</i>
Week 5		11	Reading: Tasks:	Short Fiction Group 2 Due: Explication 1 Rewrite
		13	Reading:	Short Fiction Group 2
Week 6		18	Reading:	<i>A Canticle for Leibowitz</i> Presentation on Walter M. Miller, Jr.
		20	Reading:	<i>A Canticle for Leibowitz</i>
Week 7		25	Reading: Due:	<i>A Canticle for Leibowitz</i> Explication 2
		27	Reading:	<i>A Canticle for Leibowitz</i>
Week 8	March	3	Task:	Midterm
		5	Reading:	Short Fiction Group 3
Week 9		12	Tasks:	<i>Frankenstein</i> Presentation on Mary Shelley
		14	Tasks:	<i>Frankenstein</i> Due: Explication 2 rewrites

March 17-23—Spring Break—No Class!!!

Readings and Assignments, cont.

Week 10	24	Reading:	<i>Frankenstein</i>
	26	Task:	Due: Position Paper Learning Logs Paper Conferences
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Week 11	31	Task:	Writing Day
	April 2	Task:	Writing Day
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Week 12	7	Tasks:	Writing Day Due: Position Paper (5:00 p.m.)
	9	Task:	Library Orientation
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Week 13	14	Reading:	<i>Kindred</i> Presentation on Octavia Butler
	16	Reading:	<i>Kindred</i>
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Week 14	23	Reading:	<i>Kindred</i> Due: Position Paper Rewrite
	25	Reading:	<i>Kindred</i>
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Week 15	30	Tasks:	DUE: Article Review
	May 2	Tasks:	Exam Review
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Week 16	7 (Wednesday)		Final Exam—10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. DUE: Writing Portfolio (includes all previous writing plus Article Review Rewrite), Wednesday, 5/7, 12:30 p.m.