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English 1B: Introduction to Literature

Class: 9-9:50 MWF, Room INC 4

Instructor: S. Bowie

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Required textbooks:

- *Literature--An Introduction, 2d compact edition--Kennedy*
- a good dictionary

Catalog Description: Introduction to literature, including fiction, poetry, and plays, and experience in writing critically in response to literature.

Prerequisites: Must have passed English IA.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required. Students with more than six absences will be dropped. Students with more than three absences will have their grade lowered by one-half grade per absence.

Grading policy: Final grades in this class will be based on the written assignments and on class participation according to the following ratios:

- Essays on major works: 40%
- Portfolio of response papers: 20%
- Final exam & Mid-term: 30%
- Participation: 10%

Participation does not mean that students should speak as much as possible in class; rather it means that students should be prepared and willing to speak thoughtfully about the material at hand. It also means that students must come to class.

Last day to drop without a grade: 3 September

Frequently asked questions:

Is this a hard class? I don't think so, but students have to do quite a lot of reading. Also, writing papers about literature requires reading in depth, taking notes, and thought. These kinds of activities can be difficult, but students who work will develop very useful skills.

What skills should I have to take this class? You don't have to love reading, but it is hard to see how you'd take this class if you loath it--there is a great deal to read and much of it is college-level material.

Is there a lot of homework? There are assignments, reading and writing due at each class meeting. Homework counts as part of your class participation grade. Mostly it is read and recorded but not graded.

May I turn in late papers? Not unless there is an emergency.

Do you give "pop" quizzes? Sometimes.

What can I do to get a good grade? Attend class and do the reading.

*drop date
grade scale*

How can I tell how I'm doing? Keep your papers and see me after class or during the office hours (I keep them). Students can also leave messages on my phone any time and I will respond to them.

Calendar for Fall, 1999

1. 16 August
2. 23 August 1st Response paper (These papers are due each week)
3. 30 August
4. 6 September
5. 13 September
6. 20 September Paper due
7. 27 September
8. 4 October
9. 13 October Mid-term,
10. 18 October
11. 25 October
12. 1 November
13. 8 November paper due
14. 15 November
15. 22-24 November
16. 29 November
17. 3 December Final paper due
18. 13 December Final Exam

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S. Bowie



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