

English 1B - 50508 – Introduction to the Study of Literature

Fall 2020 - Ryan LaSalle

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On Literature...

Literature, it sometimes appears, is something that our culture has placed beyond our reach. Ironically, literature reflects our human experience and yet most of us have trouble finding it accessible and connecting to it. Part of the goal of this course is reintroducing literary experience to students so that it is accessible, relevant, and meaningful. The course will include plays, fiction, poetry, and literary criticism.

This class is concerned with reading, understanding, and writing about literature. It will introduce readers to a variety of perspectives, including literary criticism and aims to develop a re-connection with texts--how we read them, discuss them, analyze them, and write about them.

The Plan: The online class will be divided into 3 main areas: Short stories, Poetry, and Plays. On Canvas, there will be modules that will include readings, homework assignments, and other activities that need to be completed.

Text: The Norton Introduction to Literature, Kelly J. Mays, Shorter 13th edition

Policies: Late work will be accepted for partial credit with instructor's approval (5% deduction for each class day late). Note: this does not apply to the final project and its components. If a test is not taken on the date of the test, a make-up test may be arranged at the discretion of the instructor and may be subject to a late penalty. In the event of plagiarism (see Schedule of Courses for more information) the student will fail the assignment or the class at the discretion of the instructor (depending on the nature and severity of the offense).

Participation in Zoom discussions is the primary factor in the participation grade. There will be 6-10 Zoom sessions this semester (with varied times) and students will need to plan for attending at least 2 of those. This minimum (of 2) will yield a 70% for the participation grade. However, if a student attends more Zoom sessions (above 2) this will increase the participation grade.

Grading: Grading will be based on a point system.

90%A 80%B 70%C 60%D 50%E (of total points available in class)

(1)	1. Midterm analysis paper	10
(1)	2. Research based analysis paper (MLA)	20
(1)	3. Annotated bibliography	5
(3-6)	4. Reading Responses/exercises (responses, definitions, themes, research, presentations, etc.)	1-5
	5. Quizzes	3-6
	6. Participation	20

Final drop date: Friday, October 9, 2020

*instructor reserves the right to make changes in this syllabus as deemed necessary or appropriate.

*Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including alternate media requests, please notify me immediately. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.