

COURSE OUTLINE

English 2440—Literary Genres: Short Story

Eastern Wyoming College, Fall 2013

Contact hours: TBA (Distance Learning)

Credit hours: 3

Instructor: John Nesbitt

Office: 101 FAC (532-8292) or (1-800-658-3195, ext. 8292)

Hours: MWF 2:00-4:00 TuTh 1:00-4:00

e-mail: John.Nesbitt@ewc.wy.edu Please do not send e-mail messages through LancerNet. If you wish to contact me by e-mail, please do so directly through this address.

Description

Examination of the short story as a literary genre. Includes reading of short stories by writers of international rank, emphasizing but not necessarily limited to British, American, and Canadian writers. Includes writing essays of analysis. Prerequisite: English 1010 with a grade of C or better.

Objectives

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

1. Give (in writing) the author, the title, the original publication date, and a summary of basic content of all works on the reading list.
2. Explain (in writing) the technical features of fiction (setting, plot, characterization, point of view, theme, imagery, prose style, and arrangement of material).
3. Explain (in writing) the differences between a short story, a novella, and a novel.
4. Write essays of analysis on individual works of fiction and on topics that take in two or more works of fiction. The topics will be derived from presented material on technical features of fiction.
5. Prepare written work according to specified format and guidelines.

Texts: Understanding Fiction, by John D. Nesbitt

The Short Stories, by Ernest Hemingway

The Moons of Jupiter, by Alice Munro

All of the above texts are available through the Eastern Wyoming College bookstore. Students outside the Torrington area may contact the bookstore for information on ordering texts. It will be necessary to purchase the fiction textbook (Understanding Fiction) through the bookstore. The other books (by Hemingway and Munro) are well-known works by standard authors, so you might be able to find library copies or inexpensive used copies. If you wish to contact the college bookstore, call 1-800-658-3195, ext. 8240; for other questions, about texts or materials, call the instructor at the number given above.

Materials and format

Reading and comprehension questions will be submitted through the course website.

Essays prepared on one’s own must be typed (or word-processed) and double-spaced, with one-inch margins. You may submit work by e-mail as attachments in Word, RTF, or PDF, you may hand in the work in person, or you may mail the assignment to the instructor.

Work prepared on site (monitored, as in a testing center), such as the essay exams, must be neatly handwritten in ink on 8½ x 11 paper, with no ragged edges. Do not use oversized or undersized paper for handwritten essays.

Students will find a complete set of format guidelines in Appendix B of the fiction textbook, Understanding Fiction.

All work should be carefully prepared and proofread.

Course content

Major topics and approximate time on each:

- Selected short stories from the anthology.....10 weeks
- Short stories by Ernest Hemingway..... 2 weeks
- Short stories by Alice Munro.....2 weeks

Total: 14 weeks plus midterm and final

Course requirements

Students will be expected to complete all of the reading and writing assignments, including reading and comprehension questions, essays prepared on one’s own, and monitored written exams. See unit-by-unit outline for due dates of all assignments.

Grading system

- 20% —reading and comprehension questions
- 10% —monitored midterm essay exam
- 50% —five full-length essays, worth 100 points each
- 20% —monitored final essay exam
- 100% total

A student’s semester grade will be based on the total percentage earned:

90%-100%	A
80%-89%	B
70%-79%	C
60%-69%	D
0-59%	F

Letter grade equivalents, on a scale of 100, are as follows:

96-100—A+	86-89—B+	76-79—C+	66-69—D+
93-95—A	83-85—B	73-75—C	63-65—D
90-92—A-	80-82—B-	70-72—C-	60-62—D-

As a general rule, I do not release results individually during the final exam period. To receive final exam or final grade results before grades are posted on LancerNet, a student may include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard with the final exam.

Policies on late papers, withdrawals, and incompletes

You will get the most out of this course if you do all the work in sequence and on time. If you are late with an assignment, get it in as soon as possible. Out-of-class work that is graded late will receive a penalty of 10%—for example, a late essay originally worth 100 points will be worth a maximum of 90 points.

There will be no late work accepted after December 9, which is the Monday before the final exam period.

A student who falls more than two weeks behind in the course work is subject to being dropped from the roll at the instructor's discretion.

An incomplete grade may be assigned in the case of an emergency at the very end of the semester, but it is not a solution for having gotten behind in the course work load. In order to receive an incomplete, the student must request it in writing by December 9 and must have at least 70% of the course work in and graded by the time of the request. A student may request a withdrawal from the instructor but must do so by December 9.

General guidelines

You will be most likely to do well in this course and to get benefit out of it if you observe the following guidelines:

Keep up with the reading schedule.

Understand the assignments and ask for clarification when you need it.

Hand in assignments in sequence and on time.

Prepare all work neatly, showing close attention to spelling, punctuation, and proofreading, as well as content.

Please feel free to call the instructor or drop in for conferences at any time during the semester, and please feel welcome to make any suggestions or complaints that you think will improve the course.

ADA ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

Eastern Wyoming College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities. If a student has a disability and desires a reasonable accommodation for such disability, the student should contact Debbie Ochsner, Director of Counseling and Testing, or Stuart Nelson, Human Resources Director, as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made.