ENGLISH 102A
Fall 1997

Section: 02
Time: Tues. & Thurs. 1:00 - 2:30
Room: Arts Lecture Hall 212

Instructor: Shannon Kelly
Office: PAS 1059
Phone: 885-1211 ext.2685
Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 2:30 - 3:30 or by appointment
Mailbox: Hagey Hall 229

The Major Forms of Literature:
Drama & Short Story

Course Description:

"A study of short stories and drama to determine how the shape of a literary work contributes to its meaning."

As the calendar description suggests, reading a given literary work involves our interpretation of its meaning. The goal of this course is to understand how the formal features of a work, its "generic conventions", affect that interpretation. More than just "content" as we usually understand it, we are interested in the form or genre of the works we will be studying. Genre is something we all recognize, yet it is something which affects our interpretation of meaning in ways not always easy to define.

Genre: a definition

"Genre is a recognizable communicative event characterized by a set of communicative purposes identified and mutually understood by the members of the professional or academic community in which it regularly occurs. Most often it is highly structured and conventionalized with constraints on allowable contributions in terms of their intent, positioning, form and functional value. These constraints, however, are often exploited by the expert members of the discourse community to achieve private intentions within the framework of socially recognized purposes" (Bhatia 13).
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SYLLABUS CONT’D

Course Texts:
Bowers, Jones, Stott Ed.  The HarbraceAnthologies of Dramaand Short Fiction
Aaron and McArthur  The Little, Brown Compact Handbook*

Course Requirements:
Short Essay on Drama  15%  due October 9
Doctor Faustus Review  20%  due November 4
Term Essay Proposal  5%  due November 27
Term Essay  30%  due December 19
Final Exam  30%  scheduled by registrar

Course Schedule:
Introduction  Sept. 9, 11
Drama Section Begins  Sept. 16
God  Sept. 16, 18
The Homecoming  Sept. 23, 25
The Tempest  Sept. 30, Oct. 2
The Tempest  Oct. 7, 9
Short Essay Due  Oct. 9
Doctor Faustus  Oct. 14, 16 *  * classes re-scheduled to evening (rehearsals)
Doctor Faustus  Oct. 21, 23 *  * classes at usual time (optional rehearsals)
Faustus Performances  Oct. 23 - 26  (rain dates the following weekend)
Short Story Section Begins  Oct. 28
Short Stories continue  Oct. 30 - Nov. 27 *
Faustus Review Due  Nov. 4
Essay Proposal Due  Nov. 27
Last Day of Class - Review  Dec. 2
Term Essay Due  Dec. 19
Final Exam  scheduled by registrar

** assignment sheets will be handed out in advance with topics, requirements, marking scheme, late policies and penalties, the University definition of plagiarism, etc.

* all royalties derived from this text will be donated to the Department of English Scholarship Fund