ENGLISH 102B -- Section 1
Tuesday, Thursday 2:30-4:00; AL 206

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Office Hours: Tuesday, 4:00-5:00; Thursday, 1:30-2:30.

This course will consider poetry and the novel and explore questions of interpretation in the general context of form. By the end of the course, one hopes, you will have developed your analytical abilities and improved your capacity to express yourself both orally and in writing.

Required Texts

New, Messenger, Literature in English

Bennett, Anna of the Five Towns
Davies, The Rebel Angels
Defoe, Robinson Crusoe
Shelley, Frankenstein

Requirements
1. An essay on poetry, 1500 words (6 pages). A list of possible topics will be distributed. If you wish to devise your own topics (preferably on poetry that appears in the LIE anthology), you are welcome to do so, but you must clear any new topic with me in advance.
(Weight: 20%)

2. A research essay on the novel, 2000 words (8 pages). You may choose to write on any topic relating to one of the four novels on the course. No topics will be distributed, and you will need to do reading beyond the novel itself. You are encouraged to, first, consult with me as early as possible, and, second, to pursue areas of investigation that you find especially interesting.
(Weight: 25%)

Essays should be typed and double-spaced. They should be cited in the MLA format (consult the MLA Handbook). An extension of up to one week will normally be granted provided a request is made, in writing, at least two weeks before the announced due date. Longer extensions will only be granted under special circumstances (e.g. medical reasons). Late papers will be penalized 5% per day (Saturday and Sunday each count one day) and will not be accepted more than one week late.

3. Reactions. You will hand in five short notes (100-250 words), each of which will discuss your personal reactions to one of the texts on the course. At least two must deal with novels. They must be handed in no later than the class before the class in which the text is first discussed (simple, eh?). Don't worry too much about them: they need only be sincere attempts to deal with the texts, and they will not be marked per se. You simply get 1% for
each one you hand in.  
(Weight 5%)

4. **Mid-term Exam.** This will be a short exam to test: 1) your knowledge of the basic terminology introduced in the poetry section of the course and 2) your ability to read a poem critically. It will be held in class.  
(Weight 15%)

5. **Final Exam.** Held during the exam schedule, this will be a three hour exam that covers the entire course.  
(Weight: 35%)

**Schedule**

You are expected to read the material before class and be prepared to discuss it. Texts that appear in brackets are not required reading but may help you understand the ones that are (and may actually be interesting). You may use optional texts for your reactions.

**January**
3. Introduction to 102B; The Meaning and Function of Literature; Writing effective essays.
5. **The Sonnet.** Sidney, *Astrophel and Stella*, #1; Shakespeare, Sonnet #29, #73, #130.
10. **Narrative Poetry.** Milton, *Paradise Lost*, (Book I) Book II; Byron, Don Juan I -XLI; (Pope, *The Rape of the Lock*).
17. **The Dramatic Monologue.** Browning, "The Bishop Orders his Tomb"; Tennyson, "Ulysses".
19. **Some Later Victorians.** Hardy, "The Darkling Thrush"; Arnold, "Dover Beach".
31. **The Americans.** Frost, "Mending Wall", ("Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening"); L. Hughes, "Harlem"; Thayer, "Casey at the Bat"; (Whitman, "O Captain! My Captain!"). **Poetry Essay Due.**

**February**
2. **The Canadians.** Atwood, *The Journals of Susanna Moodie*; bisset, "Grade School in Halifax".
7. **Mid-Term Exam.**
9. **The Research Essay; The Early Novel: Robinson Crusoe**
14. **Reading Crusoe:** The Early Adventures; Christianity; Consumption.
16. **At Issue:** Errors; Imperialism; Time and Space.
28. **The Gothic Novel: Frankenstein.**

**March**
2. **Reading Frankenstein:** The Monster; Prometheus; How does it End?  
7. **At Issue:** Science Fiction; Epistolary Fiction; The Novel on Film.
9. **Realism: Anna of the Five Towns.**
14. **Reading Anna:** Anna; The Potteries; Didacticism.
16. **At Issue:** Class and Power; The Canon; Feminism. **Novel Essay Due**
23. **Reading Rebel:** Two Voices; Biography; The Novel of Ideas.
28. **At Issue:** The Canadian Novel; Archetypes; Postmodern or Neo-Victorian?
30. Review.

**Expectations**

This is an introductory level course. Consequently, I will try to ensure that all relevant terms are explained, and all necessary information is given. However, I do expect that all students come to the course with a basic level of knowledge about literature and literary study. The list below outlines what I see as that basic level. If you are unfamiliar with any or all of what you see there, DO NOT PANIC! These things are not difficult and can be quickly picked up from handbooks, or from me.

You should be familiar with the following:

**Literary terms:** Just the basics: metaphor, simile, imagery, diction, structure, narrative, lyric.

**Essay writing:** You should understand the basic structure of the formal essay (introduction, body, conclusion).

You should also make sure you are familiar with the MLA format for research papers. Check the MLA Handbook or any one of a variety of research and style guide books (if you don’t have one already, I recommend Joanne Buckley’s *Fit to Print*).

**Grammar:** Make sure you are familiar with the basic parts of speech: noun, pronoun, verb, adverb, adjective, preposition and conjunction.
# English 102B: Important Terms

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