ENGLISH 102B--SECTION 02

MAJOR FORMS OF LITERATURE:
POETRY AND NOVELS

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

English 102 provides an introduction to the university-level study of four major forms of English literature. English 102A examines plays and short stories; English 102B examines poetry and novels.

For this course, I have arranged the poems according to type and theme rather than chronological sequence. An important aspect of our study will be to examine how a poem’s form and language support its meaning.

We will consider the basic features of novels, such as setting, character and plot development, and point of view. We will also apply certain modern critical approaches to the novels, such as structuralism, historicism, and feminism.

OBJECTIVES:

English 102B has several related objectives:

1) To introduce you to some basic terms and concepts that will help you as you continue your studies in English.

2) To give you practice and training in reading and interpreting individual pieces of literature with greater insight and in making comparisons among them.

3) To help you write more effectively.

4) To increase your enjoyment of reading (I hope!)

TEXTS:

Jon C. Stott et al., The Harbrace Anthology of Poetry. (Harcourt Brace).
Charlotte Bronte, Jane Eyre (Oxford).
William Faulkner, As I Lay Dying (Vintage).
Jean Rhys, Wide Sargasso Sea (Penguin).
Mark Twain, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (Bantam).

A few poems on the course will be provided on handouts.
SCHEDULE OF READINGS:

(NOTE: The poems preceded by an asterisk will be for more intensive study.)

Jan. 4 -- Introduction.

9 -- Old Ballads: *"Sir Patrick Spens" (60); "The Wife of Usher's Well" (handout); "The Birth of Robin Hood" (68); *"Edward" (handout).

11 -- Narrative Poem: *"The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" (241).

16 -- Narrative Poems: *"La Belle Dame Sans Merci" (283); *"The Lady of Shalott" (294).

18 -- Dramatic Poems: *"My Last Duchess" (304); *"The Real Enemies" (656); "The Ruined Maid" (360); "Richard Cory" (406); "Colonization in Reverse" (562).

23 -- Love Sonnets: "Loving in truth" (89); "Lyke as a huntsman" (82); *"Shall I compare thee" (93); *"When, in disgrace" (94); *"That time of year" (95); *"When I have fears" (276).

25 -- Love Poems: *"Alison" (75); "To the Virgins" (114); *"To His Coy Mistress" (133); *"The Flea" (102).

30 -- Jane Eyre.

Feb. 1 -- Jane Eyre.

6 -- Poems of Meditation: "Ozymandias" (268); *"Ode on a Grecian Urn" (280); "Dover Beach" (342).

8 -- Nature Poems: *"The Garden" (135); "I wandered lonely" (234); "Pied Beauty" (367); *"The Windhover" (369); *"In November"--sonnet (382).

13 -- Wide Sargasso Sea.

15 -- Wide Sargasso Sea.

20 -- Reading Week.

22 -- Reading Week.

27 -- Poems of Childhood: "Nurse's Song" (197); *"Nurse's Song" (200); "in Just-spring" (472); *"Fern Hill" (535); *"There Was a Child" (320).
29 -- Poems of Death: "On My First Son" (112); "Death Be Not Proud" (104); "Do Not Go Gentle" (537); "I heard a Fly buzz" (356); "Casualty" (640).

Mar. 5 -- Huckleberry Finn.

7 -- Huckleberry Finn.

12 -- Poems of Confession: "Daddy" (620); "My Papa's Waltz" (506); "Keine Lazarovitch" (527); "To a Sad Daughter" (666).

14 -- Pattern and Other Unusual Poems: "Easter Wings" (handout); "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird" (423); "anyone lived in a pretty how town" (473).

19 -- As I Lay Dying.

21 -- As I Lay Dying.

26 -- Summary of Novels.

28 -- Some Poems Used in Your Essays: Selected from: "Musée des Beaux Arts" (500); "Marvell’s Garden" (589); "Rumpelstiltskin" (594); "Lines on a Young Lady's Photograph Album" (568); and, I hope, some of yours.

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GRADES AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Three essays of five to six double-spaced, typewritten pages, or the equivalent in neat handwriting (1200-1500 words). These essays, taken together, will account for 60% of the final grade (i.e., 20% each).

One three-hour final exam will account for the remaining 40% of the final grade.

Class participation will affect the grade positively (up to 5%). There may be some deduction of marks (up to 5%) if your attendance is noticeably irregular.

(Note also: One number grade (1%) may be subtracted for each day an essay is late, unless an extension has been granted in advance. No essay will be accepted after the other students' papers have been returned to them.)

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