DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

ENGLISH 201: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SHORT STORY

Instructor: Wayne Gotts
Office: HH 261
Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:00-1:00 pm or by appointment

Course Objectives: The aim of English 201 is twofold: 1) to provide students with a historically grounded understanding of the English language short story from its beginnings in the eighteenth century to its current forms; and 2) to provide students with an understanding of many of the techniques used in the construction of the short story and of fiction in general.

The course will proceed through lectures and class discussion. Students should feel free to ask questions about the material covered in the lectures at any time. They should also feel free to respond to each other's questions and to contribute to class discussions arising from the course material. Ideally, interpretation and understanding are community events and students should remember that one of the most important ways in which communities are formed and maintained is through dialogue.

Assignments:

Mid-term Exam: 25% (June 17)
Essay: 35% (July 13)
Final Exam: 40%

Required Texts:


Reading Schedule:

May 4: Introduction; Irving, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"


18: Melville, "Bartleby the Scrivener"; Clemens, "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County"; Jewett, "A White Heron"; Chopin, "The Story of an Hour"

25: Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper"; James, "The Tree of Knowledge"; Crane, "The Open Boat," "The Blue Hotel"; In-Course Evaluation, May 27

June 1: London, "To Build a Fire"; Joyce, "Araby," "The Dead"
8: Anderson, *Winesburg, Ohio*

15: Anderson; *Thursday, June 17: Mid-term Exam*

22: Hemingway, "Hills Like White Elephants"; Fitzgerald, "Babylon Revisited"; Wharton, "The Other Two," "Roman Fever"

29: Porter, "Flowering Judas," "The Grave"


20: Barth, "Lost in the Funhouse"; Coover, "The Magic Poker"; Wolff, "Smokers"; Carver, "Cathedral"