Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi
English 2370: Intro. to English Studies
Fall 2013

Mon. Wed. 2:00-3:15pm  Section .001
Mon. Wed. 5:30-6:45 Section .002

Dr. Mary Beth L. Davis
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Office Hours: MW 11:30 -2pm; TR 12-2 and by appointment
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Required Materials

- Booth, ed, The Norton Introduction to Literature (portable 10th edition)
- Other required readings will be available through Blackboard.
- MLA Style Manual (7th edition)
- Journal Writing capability during each class period (spiral notebook, computer, Ipad, whatever).

Course Focus and Objectives

This sophomore-level course is designed for students who intend to major or minor in the area of English Studies. This course provides an introduction to literary analysis with an emphasis on the genres of poetry, the short story, and drama. We will also consider scholarship written about our course selections and function ourselves as literary critics by writing three short essays and teaching materials to our classmates. Through our study of literature and the components of teach genre, we will be honing our analytical reading, writing, and research skills.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze written texts in English from a variety of historical, social, or theoretical perspectives.

2. Respond analytically to literary works, using appropriate terminology.

3. Analyze characteristics of one’s own writing.
4. Produce academic research papers that effectively synthesize sources into coherent arguments and illustrate appropriate documentation skills.

Course Requirements

1. Four essays: 80%--Specific details will be provided.

2. One teaching presentation: 10%--Specific details will be provided

3. On-line discussion answers and journal entries—10%--These questions and answers will provide the basis for our class discussions and your essays.

Attendance, Participation, and Professionalism

- The major part of your grade in English 2370 is directly connected to your class participation and preparation; thus regular attendance is a rather obvious necessity for success in this class. I will be recording attendance for each class period. Part of your attendance is that you have brought the class textbook with you. You will need your book for each class since we will be examining the texts in a detailed manner during the class period. We will also be writing in each class.
  - After 3 missed classes, 2 points will be deducted from the final grade for each absence.
  - The same situation applies to late arrivals. After 3 late arrivals, 2 points will be deducted from your final grade for any subsequent late arrivals.

- When we talk as a class, the time is meant to be used in discussing our understanding and reading of literary texts. This kind of interaction will demand a professional learning environment wherein we take turns speaking and listening, always with courtesy and respect.

- In addition to courtesy and respect, being professional in the academic world entails other types of behavior:
  - observing writing standards and deadlines. Since Engl 1301 and 1302 are prerequisites for this course, I will expect that your writing assignments are polished pieces of writing (edited and proofread) which illustrate college-level thinking and writing. They will be arranged in “essay form” (i.e., introduction with thesis, organized paragraphs, conclusion). They will demonstrate the ability to use concrete, specific detail in support of your ideas. If you cannot write on this level, I will request that you attend the writing center for tutorials.
  - avoid plagiarism or “the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.” Plagiarism is a serious violation of professional standards and can be grounds for dismissal from the course. If you want to use secondary source material in your writing and do not know how to cite the source, let me know and we can review it.
o cell phones are incredibly annoying when they go off in class. All cell phones must be turned off and put away in purses or backpacks before you enter the classroom. Do not presume to use a cell phone in the classroom at any time, before, during, or even after class. Go out to the hallway for cell phones conversations.

o No electronic devices are allowed for use during the class period. This means no head phones or laptop computers, etc.

University Resources and Policies

- **Academic Advising:** The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E and can be reached at 825-3466.

- **Notice to Students with Disabilities:** Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Corpus Christi Hall 116 or at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

- **The Center for Academic Student Achievement:** The Writing Center of CASA provides free writing instruction to any student interested in improving his/her writing abilities. Tutors will assist you with all aspects of writing. The Writing Center’s purpose is not to correct or proofread your drafts but to help you learn strategies that good writers use during the processes of writing. You may visit the Center for assistance with a writing project for any of your classes. It is located in the Glasscock Center (825-5933). On occasion, I may require that you seek additional help from the Center on a specific project, which means that I will ask the Center for verification that you visited them.

- **Grade Appeals Process:** As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.htm. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.
• **Reminder to English Majors:** As part of the English undergraduate capstone course (ENGL 4351), all English majors are required to submit a portfolio of writings in different discourse genres that they have completed for their college classes. To help you prepare for this assignment, you should **keep a copy** of all essays, research papers, literary analyses, creative and report writing, etc., so that you will have an ample selection from which to choose when the portfolio comes due.

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**Reading Schedule and Due Dates**

**Week 1**

- **Wed., Sept. 4** Course Introduction: English Studies: Literature, Creative Writing, Linguistics, Rhetoric and Composition, in-class writing, introduction to the genre of poetry and poetic terminology

**Week 2**


**Week 3**


Week 4

- **For Mon., Sept. 23** The poem and its contexts: tradition, culture, history. Student Presentations.

- **For Wed., Sept. 25** The poem and its contexts: tradition, culture, history. Student Presentations.

Week 5

- **For Mon., Sept. 30 Essay #1 Due.** Introduction to the Short Story: Plot, Narration, Character.


Week 6

- **For Mon., Oct. 7** Chekhov, “The Lady with the Dog;” Tan, “A Pair of Tickets.”


Week 7


Week 8

- **For Mon., Oct. 21** Point of View and its effect on the story. Student Presentations.

- **For Wed., Oct. 23** Point of View and its effect on the story. Student Presentations.

Week 9

- **For Mon., Oct. 27 Essay #2 Due.** Introduction to the genre of Drama

- **For Wed., Oct. 29** Library Information Session
Week 10

- For Mon., Nov. 4 Wilde, “The Importance of Being Earnest.”
- For Wed., Nov. 6 Wilde, “The Importance of Being Earnest.”

Week 11

- For Mon., Nov. 11 Williams, “A Streetcar Named Desire.”
- For Wed. Nov. 13 Williams, “A Streetcar Named Desire.”

Week 12

- For Mon., Nov. 18 Hansberry, “A Raisin in the Sun.”
- For Wed., Nov. 20 Hansberry, “A Raisin in the Sun.”

Week 13

- For Mon., Nov. 25 Library Research Day
- For Wed., Nov. 26 Essay #3 Due

Week 14

- For Mon., Dec. 2 English Studies: Linguistics
- For Wed., Dec. 4 English Studies: Creative Writing

Week 15

- For Mon., Dec. 9 English Studies: Rhetoric and Composition

Final Exam: TBA