English 3353.001—The Short Story
Fall 2016
TR 3:30-4:45 p.m.
IH-267

Instructor: Dr. Dale Pattison
Office: Faculty Center 255
Office Hours: Tuesday 4:50-6:50; Wednesday 10:50-11:50; Thursday 1:20-3:20
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Course Description

This course provides an overview of the short story as a literary form, giving particular attention to its historical foundations and its various transformations since the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Students will be asked to read stories within their cultural and historical contexts and identify linkages between the stories and the worlds that they describe. This course will also give attention to various genres commonly associated with the short story tradition—from the southern gothic to domestic realism to experimental short fiction—and will learn the literary conventions that define these genres. Finally, through close reading and interpretive analysis, students will become more active and informed readers of literary texts.

Required Text


Course Objectives

1. To examine the connections between literary works and their social, historical, and cultural contexts by reading texts by authors from a range of cultures and nationalities.
2. To explore the distinctive characteristics of the short story as a literary form
3. To understand and use basic literary terms and concepts.
4. To develop analytic skills by close reading, class discussion, and writing.
5. To use writing as a tool for learning.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete ENGL 3353 will be able to:
1. Identify the connections between literary works and their social, historical, and cultural contexts;
2. Respond critically to literary works.
3. Utilize the vocabulary of literary studies to discuss and examine literary works
Course Grading

The course will be structured on a 1000-point scale. The scores you receive on your assignments, exams, blackboard postings, draft workshops, and participation will be totaled at the end of the semester, and your final grade will be calculated based on this score. The points will be distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing Assignment #1</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Assignment #2</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blackboard Discussions</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
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</tbody>
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Participation will be calculated based on class attendance, participation in class discussions, and preparedness for class discussions. Reading quizzes may be factored into this grade as well. If a student is absent for a class period, he/she is not participating.

Students will be expected to bring their text to class every day, having read the assignment due for that day.

Class Policies

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism.

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in severe disciplinary action.

Classroom/professional behavior

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Grade Appeals Process

Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, [http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html](http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s Office.
**Statement of Academic Continuity**

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

**Policy on class attendance:** Students are allowed a maximum of four (4) absences. All absences count equally, irrespective of the cause, and students who exceed four absences will be penalized fifty points on their final grade for every absence over the limit.

- If you are unable to attend class, you do not need to email me to explain the circumstances. You should contact another student in class and copy his/her notes.

**Dropping a Class:** I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

**If I am absent:** If I need to cancel class because my car broke down, or if I am ill, etc., I will try to get someone to post a sign. I also will try to email you all before class. However, if you come to class and I am not here by the time 15 minutes has elapsed (from when class is to start), please assume that class is canceled.

**Late Writing Projects:** All papers are due on the date listed on the syllabus. Students submitting their papers after this time will lose one letter grade for every class period that the paper is late. Students must submit their assignments via the link provided on Blackboard.

**Blackboard Grade Center:** You will see grades for assignments, exams, and blackboard discussion postings appear on Blackboard during the semester. While these scores may be useful in tracking your grade throughout the semester, they should NOT be used to
calculate your final grade. Several point categories will not appear on Blackboard (such as Participation and Reading Quizzes), and only I will have access to these scores. If you are ever concerned about your grade, visit me in my office and we can discuss the issue in person.

Resources

Disability Services

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

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. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information, please call 361-825-3466.

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.

Blackboard 9.1: To log into Blackboard, go to: http://bb9.tamucc.edu. You must have a NET ID (also known as an Active Directory account) to log in. For instructions on how to get this account and more information about using Blackboard, go to: http://distance-education.tamucc.edu/student_resources.html. If you need additional help at any time to access, download, or print course materials on Blackboard, please contact the Island Online (IOL) Help Desk by telephone at (361) 825-2825 or by email at iolsupport@tamucc.edu.
Course Calendar

UNIT ONE—Foundations

Week One (August 25)
- Thursday
  - Syllabus Overview
  - Introductions

Week Two (August 30, September 1)
- Tuesday
  - Nathaniel Hawthorne; “Young Goodman Brown” (405-414)
  - Herman Melville; “Blackness in Hawthorne’s ‘Young Goodman Brown’” (928-932)
- Thursday
  - Anton Chekhov; “The Darling” (167-175)

Week Three (September 6, 8)
- Tuesday
  - Herman Melville; “Bartleby, the Scrivener” (606-632)
- Thursday
  - Guy de Maupassant; “The Necklace” (599-604)
  - Guy de Maupassant; “The Writer’s Goal” (926-927)

Week Four (September 13, 15)
- Tuesday
  - Blackboard Posting #1 Due 1 p.m.
- Thursday
  - Charlotte Perkins Gilman; “The Yellow Wallpaper” (392-403)
  - Kate Chopin; “The Story of an Hour” (181-182)
  - Kate Chopin; “How I Stumbled upon Maupassant” (896-897)

Week Five (September 20-22)
- Tuesday
  - Stephen Crane; “The Open Boat” (254-271)
UNIT TWO—The Modernist Short Story

- Thursday
  - **WRITING ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE**
  - F. Scott Fitzgerald; "Babylon Revisited" (http://gutenberg.net.au/fsf/BABYLON-REVISITED.html)

Week Six (September 27, 29)
- Tuesday
  - Ernest Hemingway; “Hills Like White Elephants” (416-419)
  - Ernest Hemingway; “Big Two-Hearted River” (http://xroads.virginia.edu/~drbr/hem_river.html)
- Thursday
  - Sherwood Anderson; “Hands” (22-25)

Week Seven (October 4, 6)
- Tuesday
  - Zora Neale Hurston; “The Gilded Six-Bits” (421-429)
  - Zora Neale Hurston; “How it Feels to be Colored Me” (910-914)
  - Alice Walker; “Zora Neale Hurston: A Cautionary Tale and a Partisan View” (962-963)
  - **Blackboard Posting #2 Due 1 p.m.**
- Thursday
  - **Midterm Exam**

UNIT THREE—Marginalized Voices

Week Eight (October 11, 13)
- Tuesday
  - Zora Neale Hurston; “What White Publishers Won’t Print” (914-918)
  - Alice Walker; “Everyday Use” (843-849)
- Thursday
  - Toni Morrison; “Recitatif” (Blackboard)

Week Nine (October 18, 20)
- Tuesday
  - Sandra Cisneros; “Woman Hollering Creek” (Blackboard)
- Thursday
  - Sherman Alexie; “Do Not Go Gentle” (Blackboard)
  - Blackboard Posting #3 Due 1 p.m.

UNIT FOUR—The Gothic Short Story

Week Ten (October 25, 27)
- Tuesday
  - Edgar Allan Poe; “The Fall of the House of Usher”
    (http://xroads.virginia.edu/~hyper/POE/fall.html)
- Thursday
  - Shirley Jackson; “The Lottery” (430-436)

Week Eleven (November 1, 3)
- Tuesday
  - Flannery O’Connor; “Everything that Rises Must Converge” (679-690)
  - Flannery O’Connor; “A Good Man is Hard to Find” (705-716)

UNIT FIVE—Domestic Realism

- Thursday
  - Raymond Carver; “Cathedral” (105-115)

Week Twelve (November 8, 10)
- Tuesday
  - George Saunders; “Victory Lap”
    (http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2009/10/05/victory-lap)
- Thursday
  - Alice Munro; “Runaway”

UNIT SIX—Extending the Limits of Realism

Week Thirteen (November 15, 17)
- Tuesday
  - Franz Kafka; “The Metamorphosis” (494-528)
  - Blackboard Posting #4 Due 1 p.m.
- Thursday
  - Italo Calvino; “The Distance of the Moon”
    http://www.aleastory.co.uk/The-Distance-of-the-Moon.pdf or listen at
    http://www.radiolab.org/story/282571-distance-of-moon/
Week Fourteen (November 22, November 24)
• Tuesday
  o First Draft Writing Assignment #2 Due 10 p.m. (Upload to Group File Exchange)
  o Kurt Vonnegut Jr.; “Harrison Bergeron” (837-841)

• Thursday
  o THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Week Fifteen (November 29, December 1)
• Tuesday
  o Peer Review Workshop

• Thursday
  o Jorge Luis Borges; “The Garden of Forking Paths”
    http://www.units.miamioh.edu/technologyandhumanities/borges.pdf

Week Sixteen (December 6)
• Tuesday
  o Writing Assignment #2 Due

FINAL EXAM given during scheduled exam period