

“We can think of our faith as a beautiful musical composition, full of rich harmonies and intricate counterpoint; if we take out one or two parts, we may still recognize the melody even if the fullness has been diminished. Some works of literature are like this – thin versions of the complex Christian song. Other works may use some similar notes but add other, discordant passages. To evaluate what we read, we need to ask, ‘How well does this work resonate with my Christianity?’” (Gallagher & Lundin 118).

### Course Description

ENG 240 is an introductory course for the English major. To this end, the course assigns anthologies of excerpted **literature & criticism** and **unabridged primary texts**, focusing upon carefully selected literary works to equip students with various methods of interpretation: **historically contextual** and **discursively informed analysis**, reading with an awareness of **major trends in literary periods** (Medieval, Renaissance, Reformation, Enlightenment, 19<sup>th</sup>-Century/Victorian, Modernism, Postmodernism), and **rhetorical analysis** of literary devices & structures within and across genres. Hence, the course introduces both **synchronic** and **diachronic** methods of study. Students are also expected to keep a **meticulous reading journal**, advancing their interpretive capacity as independent literature scholars. We will also develop a sense of community within our English major, including excursions with ENGL 499: Capstone students, National Poetry Month activities, and career path discussions.

This course will cover **the practice of literary research: writing article reviews, researching and writing a critical essay, and composing an annotated bibliography**. The reading journal, which focuses primarily upon rhetorical analysis, is assigned for the steadfast practice of independent scholarship. Each paper in the course must be formatted according to MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation. **Active participation** in class discussions and **regular attendance are mandatory**. Responsible academic stewardship and a positive attitude towards spiritual formation -- **integrating faith, living, and life** -- are important aspects of this course as students examine literature through the **lens of Christian insight** and invest their hearts, minds, and souls in God’s eternal law and truth revealed in the Bible.

### Prerequisites

This course is a prerequisite for all upper division courses in English. For English majors, ENG 240 substitutes for the core curriculum requirement in literature, ENG 300: Literary Perspectives.

### Required Books

*Silas Marner* by George Eliot (print or e-text version, Project Gutenberg)

*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass (print or e-text version, Project Gutenberg)

*House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

*Seagull Reader: Poems* edited by Joseph Kelly

*To the Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf

*The Long Loneliness* by Dorothy Day

*Theory into Practice* by Ann Dobie

*Handbook to Literature* by Harman & Holman (*recommended*)

*MLA Handbook* by Joseph Gibaldi

### Required Hypertexts

Dr. George Landow: Hypertext Sites

<http://www.scholars.nus.edu.sg/cpace/ht/jhup/contents.html>

<http://www.cyberartsweb.org/cpace/cspaceov.html>

Jorge Luis Borges: “Garden of Forking Paths” as Hypertext

<http://www.geocities.com/papanagnou/cover.htm>

### Requirements

**5-page Exam (33.3%):** Close-reading of novel & **5-page Exam (33.3%):** Close-reading of poems.

**10-page paper (33.3%):** Critical Research Essay / Annotated Bibliography / Article Reviews / Proposal

**Portfolio Journal:** Collection of formalist & discursive notes and handouts. For every missing exercise and journal entry, 3 pts. will be deducted from your final course average.

## Other Requirements

1. **Plagiarized work receives an “F.”**
2. **Late papers & exams are dropped 1/3 letter grade (B plus to B, B to B minus, etc.) per day overdue.**
3. **Seven absences will result in a failing grade.** Excused absences require an official letter (physician’s note, funeral program, announcement in the Provost’s Bulletin, et cetera). If you miss class, you are responsible for finding out what happened in class (handouts, notes, and such) from a classmate.

**E-mail:** <Klee@vanguard.edu>

**Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday after chapel until 12 p.m.

**Office Location:** Next to Writing Center (2<sup>nd</sup> Fl. Scott)

**Phone:** x4774

**\*Please bring your Portfolio Journal to class. There may be unannounced checks of the Journal. Worksheets & film sheets are to be included with the Portfolio Journal.**



### **Week One: Introduction**

1/15 T: Course Overview (periods, concepts, rhetorical analysis, reading journal, papers). E-mail your name, campus box number, e-mail address, and a memorable fact about yourself: <klee@vanguard.edu>.

1/17 R: Integrating Faith & Learning PPT & develop rhetorical analysis lists for poetry, fiction, nonfiction.

### **Week Two: Silas Marner**

1/22 T: Read *Silas Marner*: Ch. 1 – 7 & Dobie, Chapter 3: Formalism

1/24 R: Read *Silas Marner*: Ch. 8 – 15 (<http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/550>)

### **Week Three:**

1/29 T: Read *Silas Marner*: Ch. 16 – end; MLA format handout / paper writing handouts

1/31 R: IN-CLASS JOURNAL CHECK

### **Week Four:**

2/5 T: Video: *Silas Marner* (BBC Production)

2/7 R: Video: *Silas Marner* (BBC Production) & 5 page Exam Due on Novel

### **Week Five:**

2/12 T: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass: Ch. I – IX (<http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/23>)

2/14 R: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass: Ch. X – XI & Appendix

### **Week Six:**

2/19 T: *House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros / diversity chain

2/21 R: Dobie, Chapters 9 & 10: Cultural Studies: New Historicism, American Multiculturalism, Postcolonialism

### **Week Seven:**

2/26 T: *Seagull Reader: Poems* edited by Joseph Kelly (\*Shakespeare & Donne)

2/28 R: *Seagull Reader: Poems* edited by Joseph Kelly (\*Dickinson & Hopkins)

### **Week Eight:**

3/4 T: *Seagull Reader: Poems* edited by Joseph Kelly (\*T. S. Eliot & W. B. Yeats)

3/6 R: *Seagull Reader: Poems* edited by Joseph Kelly (\*Hughes & Lee)

### **Week Nine: Spring Break (T 3/11 & R 3/13)**

### **Week Ten:**

T & R: 5 page Exam Due on Poetry (3/18 R) & Watch *Il Postino*.

**Week Eleven:**

3/25 T: *To the Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf: “The Window” & Dobie, Chapter 6: Feminism  
3/27 R: *To the Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf: “Time Passes”

**Week Twelve:**

4/1 T: Dobie, Chapter 4: Psychological Criticism & Woolf: “The Lighthouse”  
4/3 R: IN-CLASS JOURNAL CHECK

**Week Thirteen:**

Hypertext Readings by Dr. George Landow & Jorge Luis Borges.  
Cyberspace, hypertext theory, and politics of access to technology.  
4/8 T: Dobie, Chapter 7: Reader-Response Criticism & First Article Review Due  
4/10 R: Dobie, Chapter 8: Deconstruction & Second Article Review Due / Calvino’s “Sign in Space”

**Week Fourteen:**

4/15 T: *The Long Loneliness* by Dorothy Day (15-138) & Dobie, Chapter 5: Marxist Criticism  
4/17 R: *The Long Loneliness* by Dorothy Day (138-End)  
10-source Annotated Bibliography Due with 2-page Research Proposal

**Week Fifteen:**

4/22 T: watch film  
4/24 R: Journals Due with 1-page Self-Evaluation & watch film

**Week Sixteen:**

4/29 T: Discuss film. Future careers. Abecedarian trivia activity. Teaching evaluations.  
5/1 R: 10-page Critical Research Essay Due

**Poetry Readings in *Seagull Reader*****\*b. 1564 William Shakespeare**

“Sonnet 18” (“Shall I compare thee”) & “Sonnet 29” (“When, in disgrace with fortune”)  
“Sonnet 130” (“My mistress’ eyes”)

**\*b. 1572 John Donne**

“The Flea”  
“Holy Sonnet 10” (“Death, be not proud”) & “Holy Sonnet 14” (“Batter my heart”)

**\*b. 1830 Emily Dickinson**

“The Soul selects her own Society – ”  
“After great pain, a formal feeling comes – ”  
“Because I could not stop for Death – ”

**\*b. 1844 Gerard Manley Hopkins**

“God’s Grandeur”  
“The Windhover”

**\*b. 1865 William Butler Yeats**

“The Second Coming”

**\*b. 1888 T.S. Eliot**

“The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”

**\*b. 1902 Langston Hughes**

“Harlem” & “Theme for English B”

**\*b. 1957 Li-Young Lee**

“Visions and Interpretations”