

ENGL 300 Literary Perspectives Spring 2008

Professor: Kelly C. Walter Carney e-mail: kcwaltercarney@vanguard.edu

Office hours: Tuesday 2:00-4:00; Wednesday 8:30-10:00 pm, at Starbucks at Baker and Fairview; Thursday 9:00-10:30

Grades will be based on:

Attendance and Participation: 20

Analytical Paper: 20

Rewrite project: 20

Novel Exam: 20

Formalisms project: 20

Total: 100

All Papers should be in MLA Format. For help with the MLA format, consult the Writing Center's style sheet

([http://www.vanguard.edu/uploadedFiles/WritingCenter/MLAstylesheet\(1\).pdf](http://www.vanguard.edu/uploadedFiles/WritingCenter/MLAstylesheet(1).pdf)) or the Purdue Owl materials on the topic (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>). Papers are to be submitted electronically.

Rewrite project: Rewrite one of our readings (or a portion thereof) as a different genre (due to the length requirements, this may turn out to be a long poem or a short play or short story). Then write a "meta-paper," analyzing your creative re-write. What changes did you make, and why? How do the two texts inform one another? How does this experience affect your reading of the original text? The creative portion of the assignment should be 3-5 pages (750-1250 words) long, while the analytical portion should be 3-5 pages (750-1250 words) long. Submit this paper as a single document, using the document name 300S08RWlastname, according to the guidelines for electronic submission found below.

Formalisms project: This project will be a take-home paper, worked on in pairs. You will analyze two of our readings using "old formalist" (New Critical) and "new formalist" (Deconstructive) tools, following my guidelines. Submit this paper using the document name: 300So8Flastname, according to the guidelines for electronic submission found below.

Analytical Paper: Choose two of our texts to analyze in the context of gender, class or racial issues. Submit this paper using the document name: 300S08Alastname, according to the guidelines for electronic submission found below.

The Novel Exam will take place during the scheduled final exam period. This will be an essay exam; please come prepared with blank paper and a writing implement. No electronic devices are permitted in the classroom during the exam.

Guidelines for Electronic Submissions: Documents should be saved in MSWord format and sent to vugrading@gmail.com by 8:00 pm on the due date. The documents should be named as instructed above. The last name that should be used is the student's, not the instructor's. Please do not submit papers with generic titles like "English paper." Improperly named documents may be returned to the student and considered late, or lose formatting points. All documents should follow MLA format: that is, headers containing the student's name, date of submission, and course, should be included, as should page numbers.

Do not send any correspondence, other than paper submissions, to this address. If you wish to e-mail me regarding the class, questions about our reading, etc., please use the vanguard e-mail address.

Your **attendance and participation** in this class are important to your learning experience. Due to the discussion-oriented nature of this course, your thoughtful preparation (or lack thereof) will directly affect the quality of the class for all of us. The instructor reserves the right to use reading quizzes or other methods of reinforcing participation. After three absences, your grade will begin to drop.

This includes the assumption that all students will own and read our textbooks. These are *required* for the course; please do not think that you can succeed in a literature course without using our books. If it becomes apparent that you are in class unprepared, or are browsing the internet or otherwise not participating, you may be asked to leave, and would certainly be marked absent.

Late Work is strongly discouraged. All take-home materials (papers, worksheets) will drop a letter grade for each calendar day that they are late. Make-up exams are at the discretion of the instructor.

Plagiarism is a form of theft that I take very seriously. In my classes, the first instance of plagiarism generally results in a failing grade for that assignment; further plagiarism can cause you to fail the class and/or be reported to the dean's office.

According to the Student Handbook, "Either cheating or plagiarism (presenting as one's own, the words or opinions of others), is regarded as a serious violation of both the academic and moral standards of VUSC.... The dean of the program and the Vice President for Student Affairs are to be notified in instances of academic dishonesty. A student commits plagiarism if submitted as his/her work: Part or all of an assignment copied from another person's assignment, notes, or computer file. Part or all of an assignment copied or paraphrased from a book, magazine, pamphlet, or website. A sequence of ideas transferred from another source which the student has not ... integrated and reorganized and to which he/she fails to give proper acknowledgement. A student is an accomplice in plagiarism if he/she: Allows his/her paper or other assignment, in outline or finished form, to be copied and submitted as the work of another. Lends his/her computer disk to another student or otherwise allows his/her computer files to be copied for the purposes of plagiarism. Prepares a written assignment for another student and allows it to be submitted as another's work" (61-62).

The **required textbooks** for this course include:

Scribbling Women: Short Stories by 19th Century American Women, edited by Elaine Showalter

Drama: A Pocket Anthology, 3rd Ed., edited by R.S. Gwynn

Kindred, by Octavia Butler

Poetry will be distributed electronically

This syllabus is tentative and may be changed by the instructor at any time.

M 14 January	Course Introduction
<u>Readerly reading</u>	
W 16 January	Reader Response theory
F 18 January	Reader Response theory
W 23 Jan	Reader Response theory
	Short Story: Kate Chopin, "The Story of an Hour," 377-379
F 25 Jan	Short Story: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "Turned," 367-377
M 28 Jan	Short Story: Harriet Prescott Spofford, "Circumstance," 37-50
W 30 Jan	Short Story: Edith Wharton, "Souls Belated," 387-414
F 1 Feb	Short Story; Susan Glaspell, "A Jury of Her Peers," 435-456

	Drama: Susan Glaspell, "Trifles," 265-278
M 4 Feb	Drama: Henrik Ibsen, "A Doll House," 201-264
W 6 Feb	Drama: Henrik Ibsen, "A Doll House," 201-264
F 8 Feb	Drama: Henrik Ibsen, "A Doll House," 201-264
M 11 Feb	Poetry
W 13 Feb	Poetry
F 15 Feb	Poetry
W 20 Feb	TBA

Formalist reading

F 22 Feb	Old ("New") formalism
M 25 Feb	New ("Post") formalism
	DUE: REWRITE PAPER
W 27 Feb	TBA
F 29 Feb	Short story: Sarah Orne Jewett, "The White Heron," (329-338)
M 3 March	Short story: Mary E. Wilkins Freeman, "A Poetess," (225-239)
W 5 March	Short story: Frances Harper, "The Two Offers," (27-36)
F 7 March	Drama: Fugard, "Master Harold..." (437-478)
M 17 March	Drama: Fugard, "Master Harold..." (437-478)
W 19 March	Drama: Fugard, "Master Harold..." (437-478)
F 21 March	Poetry
M 24 March	Poetry
W 26 March	Poetry

Contextual reading

F 28 March	Gender and literature
M 31 March	Short Story: R.H. Davis, "Marcia," (87-94)
W 2 April	Short Story: C. P. Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper," (351-366)
F 4 April	Race and literature
	Short Story: Louisa May Alcott, "My Contraband," (95-114)
M 7 April	Class and Literature
	Short Story: R. H. Davis, "Life in the Iron Mills," (51-86)
W 9 April	Drama: August Wilson, "Fences" (479-545)
F 11 April	Drama: August Wilson, "Fences" (479-545)
M 14 April	Drama: August Wilson, "Fences" (479-545)
W 16 April	Poetry
F 18 April	Poetry
M 21 April	Poetry

Novel

W 23 April	Octavia Butler, <i>Kindred</i>
F 25 April	Octavia Butler, <i>Kindred</i>
	Due: ANALYTICAL PAPER
M 28 April	Octavia Butler, <i>Kindred</i>
W 30 April	Octavia Butler, <i>Kindred</i>
F 2 May	Octavia Butler, <i>Kindred</i>
M 5 May	10:30-12:30 NOVEL EXAM

