

LITR 201: **Patterns of Literature** Spring 2012

Professor Funston

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Office Hours: MWF 2:30-3:30 & by appt.

Objectives:

1. To examine how various writers have connected the journey motif with coming-of-age stories
2. To examine how texts create meaning through various elements, such as point of view, metaphors, characterization, etc.
3. To practice analytical reading, thinking, and writing skills, using the concepts and technical vocabulary introduced in class
4. To analyze scholarly responses to literary texts
5. To use MLA documentation correctly

Texts:

John Bunyan, Pilgrim's Progress (Signet)

William Andrews, ed. Classic American Autobiographies (Signet)

Nathaniel Hawthorne, The Celestial Railroad and Other Stories (Signet)

Charles Dickens, Great Expectations (Signet)

Louisa May Alcott, Little Women (Signet)

L. Frank Baum, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (Signet)

Joseph Conrad, Heart of Darkness (Signet)

James Dickey, Deliverance (Delta)

Ann Patchett, State of Wonder (Harper)

Requirements:

1. Engagement: I expect that you come to class prepared to engage seriously in the work of the class, which includes reading, thinking, writing, and exchanging ideas. Engagement will be demonstrated by the following:
 - a. submitting required work on time
 - b. reading and thinking through the scheduled assignment
 - c. writing a thoughtful response to the reading as required
 - d. responding to questions for writing in class as required
 - e. participating in class discussions in a constructive manner (constructive means comments that show insight and move the class forward...not comments that are repetitive, obstructive, or tangential)
2. Writing:
 - a. two formal essays (600 to 800+ words)

- b. occasional in-class responses
- c. homework responses (200 words minimum)
- d. analysis of a scholarly article

NOTE: Please do not submit your written work electronically

3. Attendance: I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences; an absence is an absence. You are allowed three absences penalty-free. **50 points** will be deducted from your final point total for each additional absence; 6 or more absences, regardless of the reasons, will result in automatic failure (0.0) in LITR 201 (see the College's policy on class attendance in the current Undergraduate Catalog). Tardiness will also lower your point total: **25 points** will be deducted each time you come to class late ("late" is 9:01). At 9:00 sharp I expect you to be ready for class: in your seat; cellphone off; hat/coat off; food and drink put away; text, notebook, and homework on your desk.

Writing Formats:

1. The two formal essays must be typed, double-spaced, and stapled (not paper-clipped or folded or encased in plastic); they must have an appropriate and informative title; they also must follow MLA format for documentation and works cited. Please submit TWO copies of the paper. Failure to follow MLA format and/or mechanical errors will drastically reduce the essay grade--such essays cannot receive a grade higher than 1.3, and in extreme cases, will be returned unread.

I **do not** accept late papers; a paper is late if you enter class at 9:01 on the day a paper is due. No excuses.

2. Homework "responses" will be judged on content rather than correct form; the responses must be typed. Since homework responses will form the basis for that day's class discussion, they must be completed prior to the class meeting and brought to class. The point of these homework responses is to demonstrate your insight into the reading—generally, there will be no one "right" answer.

Summaries of the reading or tangential discussions are unacceptable. Addressing the assignment minimally or superficially is just barely acceptable. College-level work reflects serious engagement with and a thorough understanding of the reading as well as evidence of real thought and the use of skills and concepts from class.

ALL homework responses will be collected on Friday May 4 and will be returned during the scheduled final exam period.

3. Scholarly article analysis papers need not be formal essays—they can be a series of answers (several paragraphs each) to the items described on the handout "Scholarly Analysis Guidelines."

Class Etiquette:

Courtesy and integrity should govern our behavior at all times. In addition, please do not wear your hat in class; nor should you eat, drink, or groom yourself in class. All electronic equipment, with the exception of your laptop, should be turned off and stowed out of sight (meaning NOT on your desk).

I do not tolerate inappropriate or disruptive behavior. I will warn you the first time; the second time I will ask you to leave the classroom; the third time I will cancel your enrollment in the course.

Responsibility:

Please be advised that I enforce the attendance and late paper policies rigorously. It is important to understand that you alone are responsible for coming to class on time and for turning in work on time. You know the course policies and the schedule; therefore, plan ahead (i.e., don't wait until the morning your paper is due to print it out). By being responsible you will save yourself a lot of grief and will be a shining example unto us all.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another person without giving proper credit. IT IS THEFT. Plagiarism includes

- word-for-word copying/paraphrasing without documentation
- using material from the Internet without documentation
- turning in another student's work (essays, paragraphs, sentences, words, ideas) as your own
- using ideas or structures from sources without credit

The penalty for plagiarism: 0.0 for the course and referral to the College's judicial system for disciplinary action. Ignorance is not an excuse; see Keys for Writers, 116-128.

Grading:

The final grade for LITR 201 is calculated on 1000 points:

Paper #1	100
Paper #2	250
Scholarship	150
Responses	200
Engagement	300

Quantitative Evaluation:

4.0	900-1000
3.7	870
3.3	830
3.0	800
2.7	770
2.3	730
2.0	700
1.7	670
1.3	630
1.0	600

Weekly Schedule:

1. Introduction, Bunyan, Pilgrim's Progress
2. Bunyan, Pilgrim's Progress
3. Rowlandson, A True History of the Captivity
4. Franklin, Autobiography
5. Dickens, Great Expectations
6. Dickens, Great Expectations
7. Hawthorne, "My Kinsman Major Molineux"
8. Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown," Alcott, Little Women
9. Alcott, Little Women
10. Zitkala-Sa, Narratives; Baum, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz
11. Baum, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz
12. Conrad, Heart of Darkness
13. Conrad, Heart of Darkness; Dickey, Deliverance
14. Dickey, Deliverance; Darjeeling Limited
15. Dickey, Deliverance; conclusion

Due Dates:

Paper 1: Friday February 17

Scholarly analysis: Friday March 23

Paper 2: Wednesday May 9

Homework responses: Friday May 4