British Literature 102 – fall 2006

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British Literature

One brief semester of British Literature cannot encompass the richness and abundance of English literature. However during this course we will sample a few writers and get acquainted with some of the writings that helped shape the English language and culture. We will read stories, poems, essays and plays and learn to set them in the context of their times. You will be required to make your own choices of different forms of British literature, to respond, react, evaluate and appreciate the writings in order to enhance your understanding of the roots of English literature: an important part of your own inheritance.

Course Objectives

- Enhance your reading
- Facilitate your ability to use books as space ships to other worlds
- Develop your inner voice
- Help to improve your written and oral skills
- Give you some experience in working alone and in group
- Enable you to distinguish between constructive and destructive criticism
- Allow you the freedom to shape your own literary taste and penchant

Required reading

English Literature The Norton Anthology Eighth Edition Volume F The twentieth Century and After

Recommended Reading

English Literature The Norton Anthology Eighth Edition Volume D and E

Expectations

You are expected to show up to every class, and on time. Missing classes and lateness will interfere with learning and hence affect your grade. Since there is a large emphasis on teamwork you will be required not to disrupt your fellow student's creativity and to be considerate.

All assignment will be presented in print; hence you have to master computer skills. The writing center is there to help you with any difficulties you encounter.

Grading

Your contribution in class will determine 20% of your final grade

The work done in groups with other students will determine 15% of your final grade. The presentations you will give in class on your own, and/or with fellow students will determine 15% of your final grade.

The written works you will be required to present throughout the semester will determine 25% of your final grade

The last assignment in lieu of final exam will determine 25% of your final grade

Schedule- with possible modifications according to students' researches

Week I

Tuesday August 29 Introduction

Thursday August 31 The middle ages

Week II

Tuesday September 5 Chivalric Romance

Thursday September 7 The Wife of Bath's Tale

Week III

Tuesday September 12 Doctor Faustus

Thursday September 14 Shakespeare sonnets

Week IV

Tuesday September 19 Shakespeare's plays

Thursday September 21 John Donne

Week V

Tuesday September 26 Thomas More *Utopia*

Thursday September 28 Jonathan Swift *Gulliver's Travels*

Week VI

Tuesday October 3 The Romantic Period

Thursday October 5 The emerging of women's voices

Week VII

Tuesday October 10 Fall Recess

Thursday October 12 The Victorian age

Week VIII

Tuesday October 17 Elizabeth Browning's cry

Thursday October 19 Dickens' Hard Times

Week IX

Tuesday October 24 The Twentieth Century

Thursday October 26 Owen, Sassoon and the Great War

Week X

Tuesday October 31 William Butler Yeats

Thursday November 2 Virginia Woolf

Week XI

Tuesday November 7 James Joyce

Thursday November 9 Katherine Mansfield

Week XII

Tuesday November 14 Dylan Thomas

Thursday November 16 Doris Lessing

Week XIII

Tuesday November 21 Thanksgivings recess

Thursday November 23 Thanksgivings recess

Week XIV

Tuesday November 28 Nadine Gordimer

Thursday November 30 Salman Rushdie

Week XV

Tuesday December 5 Final essays

Thursday December 7 Conclusions

Notes:

1) You can expect to dedicate 3-6 hours per week outside of class, reading and preparing assignments.

- 2) Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodation in this class are encouraged to contact the Learning Services Offices as soon as possible to enhance the likelihood that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.
- 3) Do not hesitate to address me with any kind of problem you have during class or after.
- 4) This syllabus is subject to change as are the novels, short stories, and poems listed above.