

Dr. George S. Diamond
Spring, 2007

Zinzendorf 37 -- 861-1391
Office M-W-F 1-2 PM & T 11-Noon
and by appointment

English 104 Experience of Literature—Out of the Melting Pot:
Poems, Plays, & Stories of a Multicultural Society

I. The object of this course is twofold: the study of major literary genres—fiction, poetry, drama—emphasizing analytical and communication skills through written and oral projects, and a study of the modern literature written by representatives of America's many cultures to gain perspective and understanding of life in a multicultural society.

II. Works of individual authors will be studied through lectures and class discussions. Students will be expected to participate in class discussions. Each student will also be responsible for an oral report of five to ten minutes, chosen by lot on a specific work and participation in a panel discussion also chosen by lot.

III. The course will begin with a discussion of the meaning and interpretation of literature, follow with a discussion of the meaning of multiculturalism, and continue with the subjects covered in the text's nine chapters: home, family, heritage, language, aliens, fences, crossings, Americans, and beliefs.

IV. There will be ten free writing exercises revised into one page papers worth 10%; a referential paper worth 14% of the term's grade, a research paper worth 28%, one in-class examination worth 16%, a final worth 16%, an oral report worth 8%, and a panel presentation worth 8%.

IV. All students will be expected to attend a performance of STEEL MAGNOLIAS by Robert Harling, by the Moravian College Theatre Company, March 22 -25. Cost and specific times will be announced later in the term. Students will also be expected to see one film on the material of the course, not yet chosen.

V. Attendance policy for English 101B is based upon the attendance statement in the current Moravian College Catalog: read, date, sign, and submit the accompanying paper.

VI. Essay examinations and papers will be expected to adhere to a minimum quality of Standard English. In addition, all students are expected to adhere to the revised policy on academic honesty that appears in the student handbook and the college catalog.

Text: New Worlds of Literature: Writing's From Americas Many Cultures,
Second Edition

1. M Ja 15 Course introduction; the Influence of Literature, its meaning and purpose; Introduction, xiii-xvii; 9 Afterwards
2. W Ja 17 The influence of literature, cont.; 921-961
3. F Ja 19 **Multiculturalism and Pluralism**, the nature of life in America

4. M Ja 22 Multiculturalism, cont.; Free Writing Exercise 1 & group discussion; Home, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama.
5. W Ja 24 **Home**, Free Writing Exercise 2 & group discussion;
- 6 F Ja 26 Stories

7. M Ja 29 Poems
8. W Ja 31 Drama; Family, Intro, selected essays, stories, & poems
9. F Fb 2 **Family**, Free Writing Exercise 3 & group discussion;

10. M Fb 5 Stories
11. W Fb 7 Poems; Heritage, Intro, selected essays, stories, & poems
12. F Fb 9 **Heritage**; Free Writing Exercise 4 & group discussion;

13. M Fb 12 Stories
14. W Fb 14 Poems; Language, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama.
15. F Fb 16 **Language**, Free Writing Exercise 5 & group discussion

16. M Fb 19 Stories
17. W Fb 21 Poems;
18. F Fb 23 Drama; Aliens, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & movie

19. M Fb 26 **Aliens**, , Free Writing Exercise 6 & group discussion
20. W Fb 28 Stories
21. F Mr 2 Poems

22. M Mr 12 Movie. Fences, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama
23. W Mr 14 **Fences**, Free Writing Exercise 7 & group discussion
24. F Mr 16 **Examination 1**

25. M Mr 19 Stories
26. W Mr 21 Poems
27. F Mr 23 Library Visit; ****Referential Paper Due****.

28. M Mr 26 Drama; Crossing, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama
29. W Mr 28 **Crossing**, Free Writing Exercise 8 & group discussion
30. F Mr 30 Stories

31. M Ap 2 Poems
32. W Ap 4 Drama; Americans, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama

33. W Ap 11 **Americans**, Free Writing Exercise 9 & group discussion
34. F Ap 13 Stories

35. M Ap 16 Poems
36. W Ap 18 Drama, STEEL MAGNOLIAS; Beliefs, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama
37. F Ap 20 **Beliefs**, Free Writing Exercise 10 & group discussion

38. M Ap 23 Stories; ****Research Paper Due****
39. W Ap 25 Poems
40. M Ap 27 Drama; Course evaluation forms

OUTCOMES FOR ENGLISH 104 Experience of Literature

At the conclusion of English 104 the student should:

- Have a fundamental understanding of multiculturalism and how multiculturalism relates to life in America;

- Have an understanding of how literary artists of exceptional ability from a variety of cultures have used their backgrounds to create works of art;

- Have an understanding of how these works stand by themselves as works of art but also serve to define and elucidate the essence of American life in all its variety and complexity;

- Have an understanding of the importance of literature as a specific art form, and have a fundamental understanding of the ways in which literary works may be interpreted;

- Have a fundamental knowledge of the variety and breadth of critical and philosophical works that define and analyze literature;

- Demonstrate competence in devising perceptive written and oral analyses, alone and in concert with others, of works of literature by careful and exact reading and employing the tools of literary analysis and library research.

