

Dr. George S. Diamond
Fall, 2007

Zinzendorf 37 -- 861-1391
Office Hours T-Th 1-2:30 PM
and by appointment

English 104A 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%; an thematic paper of interpretation paper worth 15% of the term's grade, a literary paper of interpretation worth 15%, one mid-term examination worth 20%, a final worth 20%, an oral report worth 10%, and a panel presentation worth 10%.

IV. All students will be expected to attend a performance of THE FANTASTICKS by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt presented by the Moravian College Theatre Company in November. Specific times and cost will be announced later in the term. Students will also be expected to see one film, COMING TO AMERICA available on line.

V. Attendance policy for English 104A is based upon the attendance statement in the current Moravian College Catalog: read, date, sign, and submit the accompanying paper. Attendance includes viewing the film and attending the play.

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 Au 27 Course introduction; the Influence of Literature, its meaning and purpose; Introduction, xiii-xvii; 9 Afterwards
2. W Au 29 The influence of literature, cont.; 921-961
3. F Au 31 **Multiculturalism and Pluralism**, the nature of life in America

4. W Sp 5 Multiculturalism, cont.; Free Writing Exercise 1 & group discussion; Home, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama.
5. F Sp 7 **Home**, Free Writing Exercise 2 & group discussion;

6. M Sp 10 Stories
7. W Sp 12 Poems
8. F Sp 14 Drama; Family, Intro, selected essays, stories, & poems

9. M Sp 17 **Family**, Free Writing Exercise 3 & group discussion;
10. W Sp 19 Stories
11. F Sp 21 Poems; Heritage, Intro, selected essays, stories, & poems

12. M Sp 24 **Heritage**; Free Writing Exercise 4 & group discussion;
13. W Sp 26 Stories
14. F Sp 28 Poems; Language, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama.

15. M Oc 1 **Language**, Free Writing Exercise 5 & group discussion
16. W Oc 3 Stories
17. F Oc 5 Poems;

18. W Oc 10 Drama; Aliens, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & movie
19. F Oc 12 **Aliens**, , Free Writing Exercise 6 & group discussion

20. W Oc15 Stories
21. F Oc 17 Poems
22. M Oc19 Movie. Fences, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama

23. W Oc 22 **Fences**, Free Writing Exercise 7 & group discussion
24. F Oc 24 **Examination 1**
25. M Oc 26 Stories

26. M Oc 29 Poems
27. W Oc 31 Discussion of thematic paper of interpretation paper and literary paper of interpretation.
28. F Nv 2 Drama; Crossing, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama

29. M Nv 5 **Crossing**, Free Writing Exercise 8 & group discussion
30. W Nv 7 Stories
31. F Nv 9 Poems
32. M Nv 12 Drama; Americans, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama
33. W Nv 14 **Americans**, Free Writing Exercise 9 & group discussion
34. F Nv 16 Stories
35. M Nv 19 Poems
36. M Nv 26 Drama, THE FANTASTICKS; Beliefs, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama
37. W Nv 28 **Beliefs**, Free Writing Exercise 10 & group discussion
38. F Nv 30 Stories;
39. M Dc 3 Poems
40. W Dc 5 Drama;
41. F Dc 7 Summing Up.
42. M Dc 10 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.

