

Dr. George S. Diamond  
Spring, 2009

Zinzendorf 37 -- 861-1391  
Office M&W 1:15-2:15 & T&Th 11-Noon  
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%; one theme paper and one literary paper, each worth 17%, a mid-term examination worth 17%, a final worth 17%, an oral report on a poem worth 11%, and a panel presentation worth 11%.

IV. All students will be expected to attend a performance of GROWING UP NAKED by Richard M. Barbie by The Moravian College Theatre Company, February 19-22. Cost and specific times will be announced later in the term. Students will also be expected to see one film, IN AMERICA, on line in Blackboard.

V. Attendance policy for English 104 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 19 Course introduction; the Influence of Literature, its meaning and purpose; Introduction, xiii-xvii; 9 Afterwards
2. W Ja 21 The influence of literature, cont.; 921-961; **Multiculturalism and Pluralism**, the nature of life in America
3. F Ja 23 Comp period for drama GROWING UP NAKED
4. M Ja 26 Multiculturalism, cont.; Free Writing Exercise 1 & group discussion; Home, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama.
5. W Ja 28 **1. Home**, Free Writing Exercise 2 & group discussion;
6. F Ja 30 Stories
7. M Fb 2 Poems (oral reports)
8. W Fb 4 Drama (Panel); Family, Intro, selected essays, stories, & poems
9. F Fb 6 **2. Family**, Free Writing Exercise 3 & group discussion;
10. M Fb 9 Stories
11. W Fb 11 Poems (oral reports); Heritage, Intro, selected essays, stories, & poems
12. F Fb 13 **3. Heritage**; Free Writing Exercise 4 & group discussion;
13. M Fb 16 Stories
14. W Fb 18 Poems; Language, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama.
15. F Fb 20 **4. Language**, Free Writing Exercise 5 & group discussion
16. M Fb 23 Stories
17. W Fb 25 Poems (oral reports);
18. F Fb 27 Drama (panel); Aliens, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & movie
19. M Mr 9 **5. Aliens**, , Free Writing Exercise 6 & group discussion
20. W Mr 11 Stories
21. F Mr 13 **Examination 1**
22. M Mr 16 Poems (oral reports)
23. W Mr 18 Movie (panel) Fences, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama
24. F Mr 20 **6. Fences**, Free Writing Exercise 7 & group discussion
25. M Mr 23 Stories
26. W Mr 25 Poems (oral reports)
27. F Mr 27 Drama, (panel); Crossing, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama

28. M Mr 30 **7. Crossing**, Free Writing Exercise 8 & group discussion
29. W Ap 1 Stories
30. F Ap 2 Poems (oral reports)
31. M Ap 6 Drama (panel); Americans, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama
32. W Ap 8 **8.Americans**, Free Writing Exercise 9 & group discussion
33. W Ap 15 Stories
34. F Ap 17 Poems (oral reports)
35. M Ap 20 Drama, GROWING UP NAKED (panel); Beliefs, Intro, selected essays, stories, poems, & drama
36. W Ap 22 **9. Beliefs**, group discussion
37. F Ap 24 Stories; **\*\*Research Paper Due\*\***
38. M Ap 27 Poems (oral reports)
39. W Ap 29 Drama (panel)
40. F My 1 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.

