

Undergraduate Course Description Packet Summer 2016

Updated: 03-28-2016

ENGL 2303, English Literature from the Beginning through the 17th Century

Teacher: M. Kahf

Textbooks Required:

The Norton Anthology of English Literature, volumes A & B

Volume A: ISBN 978 0 393 91249 4

Volume B: ISBN 978 0 393 91250 0

Description:

Students will read literature of the British Isles from its beginnings to approximately 1700, with attention to how global literary relations as well as internal cultural developments influence English literature in those eras.

Course Requirements:

Exams: mid-term and perhaps a final

One 5-page paper

One in-class presentation

Prepared attendance & participation, which may include pop quizzes

ENGL 2353, Survey of Modern and Contemporary American Literature

Teacher: Y. Padilla

Textbooks Required:

Capote, Truman, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. ISBN 978-0679745655

Tobar, Héctor, *The Tattooed Soldier*. ISBN 978-0140288612

Additional materials will be available via Blackboard.

Description: The aim of this course is to provide students with a broad introduction to American literature, spanning from 1900 to present day. Our approach to this literature, however, will be one that continuously interrogates the very notion of American literature and identity. In other words, what is “American” literature and literary history? And, relatedly, what is the sense of “American-ness” we are seemingly supposed to derive from it? In an effort to think through these questions, in this course we will be reading both canonical and non-canonical texts. Special emphasis will be placed on writers of color. In addition to examining variations in form and style, we will also explore a variety of themes in these texts that relate in one way or another to the overarching questions

guiding our class. These include, but are not limited to: questions related to class, race, ethnic, gender, and sexuality-based exclusion as well as identity; the American dream (and its discontents); assimilation and immigration; war and violence; civil rights and equality; and popular culture.

Essays, exams, and other major requirements for undergraduates: attendance and active participation in class discussions, 4-5 short written assignments, (reading responses), 1 critical essay (7-8 pages), midterm and final exam.

ENGL 3283, Topics in Popular Culture and Popular Genres: Science Fiction Film

Teacher: K. Booker

Textbooks Required:

None.

Description: This course is intended to provide an advanced survey of science fiction film, with an emphasis on American science fiction films from the 1950s to the present. We will pay special attention to the cultural history of this important genre and to the ways in which it resonates with trends in American history and society as a whole.

Special assignments: One formal critical essay on some aspect of science fiction film, 5-10 pages for undergraduates, 15-25 pages for graduates, double-spaced, in length.

Examinations: Take-home final exams for all students.

ENGL 4303, Introduction to Shakespeare

Teacher: J. Candido

Textbooks Required:

Any respectable edition of Shakespeare or individual editions of the plays. Used copies of The Riverside Shakespeare will be available through the University Bookstore.

Area of Coverage: We shall examine the basic contours of Shakespeare's career as a dramatist, drawing upon some of his most representative plays. Likely works to be read include the following:

Richard II
 1 Henry IV
 2 Henry IV
 A Midsummer Night's Dream
 Measure for Measure
 Twelfth Night
 King Lear

Macbeth
The Tempest

Papers and Examinations: Two in-class exams and one 5-page critical paper.