English 105: Introduction to Narrative

Section 08	**M W 2-3:15pm**	**GRM 308**
Section 09	**M W 3:30-4:45pm**	**GRM 308**

Instructor: Jenna Dietzer
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Email Hours: Weekdays 8am-5pm
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Office Hours: Mon/Wed 1-2pm, by appointment

Required Texts and Materials:

1. *The Story and Its Writer, Compact 7th Edition* by Ann Charters (Bedford St. Martins, ISBN: 978-0-312-44271-2)
2. *Dracula* by Bram Stoker (Signet Classics, ISBN: 978-0-451-53066-0)
3. Handouts/notes on Blackboard (which you are required to print before the appropriate class period)
4. Miscellany on Blackboard
5. Paper and pen/pencil

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the works of various American and British authors with a focus on historical, cultural, and literary backgrounds. You are not expected to have previous knowledge of literary elements in order to succeed in this class. This course will cover the basic elements of short stories, one novella, and one novel. The curriculum is divided into three special topics, which include structure or the basic elements of fiction (Aug. 25-Sept. 17), a historical/chronological look at fiction (Sept. 22-Oct. 1), and how these & other topics are applied to the novella and the novel (rest of the semester).

You will be exposed to some very strange fiction this semester: vampires, a man who morphs into a cockroach, lunatics, serial killers, surrealism, magical realism, and people caught in time warps. Hopefully these authors and their stories will not only help you learn the basics of narration, but will also intrigue you for years to come.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the semester, students are expected to know how to:

- Identify and understand basic elements of narrative
- Apply techniques of literary analysis to short stories and novels
- Develop skills for active reading and articulate writing
- Demonstrate understanding of the social and historical contexts in which various literary texts have been written
- Read and discuss narrative on both the micro and the macro level

Attendance Policy:

The success of this class depends on your active participation, and those who want to succeed should plan on coming to class every day, on time, and ready to participate in discussion. Please don't leave class early unless you have spoken to me about it beforehand.

I don't take roll every day. Group discussion days and quiz days, both of which are unannounced, count as roll-taking days. So choose your absences wisely. If you miss 4 roll-taking days you automatically fail the course. This is because – if you think about it – you've missed 2 full weeks of class time. Yikes. If there is an extenuating circumstance (death in the family, extended illness, etc.), we will work together to find a solution, both in terms of absences and quiz scores. But you will need a doctor's note or university-authorized excuse before accommodations can be made.

What to Do If You Miss a Class:

I do not need to know when you are absent or why. You are responsible for obtaining all materials and completing all reading assignments prior to the next class meeting. Please don't ask me what you missed in class. Check the calendar or Blackboard or ask a fellow student. Also, do not request a make-up quiz or exam, as these won't be granted unless a special circumstance has been established. If you have a problem with the date of an exam on the attached calendar, you need to make arrangements with me well in advance for an alternate day and time.

Expectations for Classroom Conduct:

- **Turn off all cell phones and electronic devices (including computers) during class.** Laptops may be used in class only by students having a special need for purposes of note-taking or other classroom activities. Students with such a need should make specific arrangements with the instructor. No student may use a laptop in class without a prior arrangement with the instructor. All others use pen/pencil and the assigned handouts for your note taking.
- **Come prepared.** This means reading the texts actively (annotating text, bringing questions, reading thoroughly, etc.) and bringing the text(s) for the day, plus pen/pencil and paper. You also need to print and bring to class the appropriate handout on the appropriate day of discussion.
- **Please speak up.** If you are not prepared to read the materials and take notes in advance of class discussion then *actively* participate in the discussion, then this isn't the section for you. If I suspect several students are unprepared, there will be a pop quiz.
- **Check email & Blackboard every weekday.** This is your instructors' primary means of communication. If you're not already in the habit of checking it, now's the time to start.

Grade Breakdown:

10% Blackboard discussion posts*
(Minimum of 5 posts for the semester. This will start when we reach our novella/novel (*Metamorphosis/Dracula*) unit.)

30% Quizzes
(All quizzes cover the previous night's assigned material only. They will be unannounced. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.)

60% Exams
(There are 3 exams scheduled. We will discuss the essay questions in depth beforehand. Your lowest exam score is also dropped. That means if you earned satisfactory grades on your first two exams, you don't have to take the final comprehensive exam.)

*What counts as a Blackboard discussion post? Anything that adheres to all of the following:

- sparks further discussion about the material (questions, theories, intriguing connections, etc.)
- avoids repeating, summarizing, or simply agreeing/disagreeing with something that's already been posted
- posts by NOON on the day of discussion and directly pertains to the assigned material

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism:

Students are expected to abide by the terms of the student code of academic conduct, available in your undergraduate bulletin or online. If there is any confusion, speak to me at the start of the semester. Plagiarism and/or cheating will result in a zero for the assignment, quiz, or exam given, as well as possible failure of this course and/or expulsion from the university.

Disability Policy:

If you have any sort of disability that could affect your performance in the class or for which you need accommodation, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 334-5440 or online at http://ods.dept.uncg.edu/.

Tentative ENG 105 Course Schedule:

All exams in **bold**; Bb= posted on Blackboard

Date	Class Discussion	Readings & Assignments (to be completed as homework that night)
M 8/25	Syllabus	
W 8/27	Photos of students	
M 9/1	NO CLASS	• "The Elements of Fiction," Charters p. 1044 • Print "Basics" handout for class
W 9/3	Short Story Basics, Take remainder of student photos	• "The Open Boat" (Crane), Charters p. 228 • "A Good Man is Hard to Find" (O'Connor), Charters p. 648 • Print "Plot" handout for class
M 9/8	Plot: Crane & O'Connor	• "The Circular Ruins" (Borges), Charters p. 83 • "Garden of Forking Paths" Bb • Print "Style" handout for class
W 9/10	Style, Theme & Time: Borges	• "The Yellow Wallpaper" (Gilman), Charters p. 313 • "Sredni Vashtar" (Munro) Bb • Print "Point of View" handout for class
M 9/15	Point of View: Gilman & Munro	• "The Very Old Man with Enormous Wings" (Marquez), Charters p. 307 • "Where Are You Going...?" (Oates), Charters p. 595 • Print "Characterization" handout for class
W 9/17	Characterization: Marquez & Oates	• "The Tell-Tale Heart" & "Cask of Amontillado" (Poe), Charters p. 699 & 705 • Print "Poe" handout for class
M 9/22	Timeline: Literary eras & Poe, brief movie viewing	• "The Rocking Horse Winner" (Lawrence), Charters p. 493 • "A Rose for Emily" (Faulkner), Charters p. 293 • Print "Faulkner & Lawrence" handout for class
W 9/24	Timeline: Lawrence (1926) & Faulkner (1930), brief movie viewing	• "The Swimmer" (Cheever), Charters p. 133 • Bring paper to take your own notes for Cheever
M 9/29	Timeline: Cheever (1964)	
W 10/1	Viewing: *The Swimmer*, Receive Exam #1 handout	• Examine the Exam Handout for questions & brainstorm answers to the essays
M 10/6	Discuss essay questions as a class, Finish viewing *The Swimmer* if need be	• Study/prepare for exam
W 10/8	**EXAM #1 in class**	• "The Metamorphosis" Parts I & II (Kafka), Charters p. 441-463
M 10/13	The novella & Kafka's *Metamorphosis*	• "The Metamorphosis" Part III (Kafka), Charters p. 463-475
W 10/15	Kafka's *Metamorphosis*, Receive *Dracula* Debriefing handout (Note: Last Day to drop without penalty is Fri 10/17)	• Examine the Dracula Debriefing Handout *before* you begin reading • *Dracula* Ch. 1-6 (p. 1-76)
M 10/20	FALL BREAK	
W 10/22	*Dracula*	• *Dracula* Ch. 7-10 (p. 77-133)
M 10/27	*Dracula*	• *Dracula* Ch. 11-15 (p. 134-207)
W 10/29	*Dracula*	• *Dracula* Ch. 16-19 (p. 208-261)
M 11/3	*Dracula*, Election Day! Don't forget to vote!	• *Dracula* Ch. 20-24 (p. 262-330)
W 11/5	*Dracula*	• *Dracula* Ch. 25-End Note (p. 331-380)

M 11/10	*Dracula*	
W 11/12	Viewing: Dracula, Receive Exam #2 handout	• Examine the Exam Handout for questions & brainstorm answers to the essays
M 11/17	Discuss essay questions as a class	• Study/prepare for exam
W 11/19	**EXAM #2 in class**	
M 11/24	NO CLASS	
W 11/26	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
M 12/1	Class Evaluations, Exam #2 returned, Receive Final Exam handout	• If you suspect you need to take the final comprehensive exam, examine the handout and brainstorm answers to the essays
W 12/3	Discuss essay questions as a class	
M 12/8	**FINAL EXAM in class,** Students may also arrange individual conferences to discuss grades during the scheduled exam time (12/15)	**Have a good Winter Break!**