

**Fayetteville State University**  
**College of Arts and Sciences**  
**Department of English**  
**ENGL 240 Introduction to Literature**  
**Spring Semester 2012**

**I. Locator Information:**

Instructor: Dr. Marlene Allen

Office Location: Butler 136

Email Address: mallen16@uncfsu.edu

Office Phone: 910-672-2150

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:50-10:50 a.m.; 12:50-1:50 p.m.; 3:00-4:00 p.m.  
Fridays, 9:50-10:50 a.m.; 12:50-1:50 p.m. (and by appointment)

Day and Time Class Meets: 2:00-2:50 MWF

Semester Credit Hours: 3

Total Contact Hours for Class: 3

**FSU Policy on Electronic Mail:** Fayetteville State University provides to each student, free of charge, an electronic mail account (username@uncfsu.edu) that is easily accessible via the Internet. The university has established FSU email as the primary mode of correspondence between university officials and enrolled students. Inquiries and requests from students pertaining to academic records, grades, bills, financial aid, and other matters of a confidential nature must be submitted via FSU email. Inquiries or requests from personal email accounts are not assured a response. The university maintains open-use computer laboratories throughout the campus that can be used to access electronic mail. Rules and regulations governing the use of FSU email may be found at <http://www.uncfsu.edu/PDFs/EmailPolicyFinal.pdf>

**II. Course Description from University Catalog:** An introduction to the major genres of literature, with intensive work in developing the critical skills of reading, evaluating, and interpreting literary works and in writing critical papers about literature.

**Prerequisite:** ENGL 110 And ENGL 120

**III. Disabled Student Services:** In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ACA) of 1990, if you have a disability or think you have a disability, please contact the Center for Personal Development in the Spaulding Building, Room 155 (1st Floor); 910-672-1203.

**IV. Textbook and Required Materials:**

John C. Brereton, *Living Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama*. ISBN-10: 0321088999

A handbook or manual on MLA Style, such as *The Bedford Handbook*, *MLA Handbook of Style*, etc.

A college-level dictionary

A jump drive to save drafts of papers

A folder for turning in papers and prewriting materials

A notebook for taking notes on literary texts and terms

**V. Student Learning Outcomes:** By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Employ literary terminology to identify literary devices in poetry, drama and prose.
2. Compare and contrast elements within two or more texts.
3. Analyze diverse works of literature using a literary framework or theory.

This course will also help students achieve the following program outcomes for the English major:

1. Correctly apply literary terminology for narrative, poetic, and dramatic genres.  
*Introduce skill*
2. Use literary critical perspectives to generate original analyses of literature in English.  
*Introduce skill*
3. Compose diverse researched and/or original texts in varied genres and formats, using various composing processes, technologies, and/or multimodal formats.
4. Describe characteristics of literature in English from diverse literary historical periods and cultures.

**VI. Course Requirements and Evaluation Criteria:**

a. Grading Scale: This class will use the university's "10-point" scale as follows:

90-100=A      80-89=B      70-79=C      60-69=D      59 and below=F

**Assignments:**

**Papers:** Students will write three essays on three different literary genres: fiction, poetry, and drama. The paper on drama will require the use of outside research. Consult your MLA handbook for information on how to cite sources in MLA style (a link to the Bedford Handbook's online site is included in the Course Documents on Blackboard). **Points will be deducted from your grade for failure to follow MLA style correctly. You must always cite any sources you consult while writing your paper with both an in-text parenthetical citation and an entry on your Works Cited page. Failure to do so is plagiarism and will be penalized accordingly.**

You are required to turn in both an electronic copy and a hard copy (in a folder) of your paper. The electronic copy should be submitted to Blackboard by class time on the date indicated on

the syllabus. They should also be submitted to the Smarthinking website (available through Blackboard) well in advance of the due date (at least 48 hours; see the submission dates on the course schedule) so that you will have time to consider the tutor’s comments while preparing the final draft of your essay. These comments must be submitted to the instructor along with the final draft of your paper, either through email or a printed document. Computer problems are not acceptable excuses for turning in a paper late. Be sure to always save a backup copy of your work or print your papers in case of emergency. Late papers will be penalized five points per day. You will only be allowed to turn in ONE paper late. The paper must be turned in within **one week** of the due date or it will not be accepted.

**Reading Quizzes:** To ensure that you keep up with the readings and to test your comprehension of the literary texts, class periods will begin with a short 5-minute quiz. These quizzes cannot be made up; however, I will drop your two lowest quiz grades at the end of the semester. ***Quiz questions will not be repeated for students who arrive in class late.***

**Oral presentation:** All students will do a 10-minute presentation in which they analyze two poems for the class. Further information on the presentation will be given later in the course.

**Other assignments:** A variety of other assignments, including writing, reading, and peer review exercises, will be given in class. These assignments can only be made up if you provide documentation to corroborate an absence and must be turned in within a week of your absence. If you miss a peer review session, you must make an appointment with the Writing Center to have your paper reviewed and provide documentation of your visit along with the final draft of your paper. Failure to do so will result in a deduction of twenty points from your paper grade.

**Midterm and Final Exams:** Both a midterm and a final exam will be given in the class. Both exams will cover literary terms as well as the readings in the three genres.

**Graded Assignments:**

Assignment	Percentage of Final Grade
Paper 1 (Fiction)	15%
Paper 2 (Drama Research Paper, including annotated bibliography)	20%
Paper 3 (Poetry)	15%
Reading quizzes	15%
Midterm Exam	15%
In-class assignments and class participation (attendance; peer review; writing exercises, group	5%

work, etc.)	
Final Exam	15%

**Please note: If these evaluation criteria must be revised because of extraordinary circumstances, the instructor will distribute a written amendment to the syllabus.**

b. Attendance Requirements: Regular class attendance is expected and essential to doing well in this course. Students are expected to attend all class meetings and conferences in this course. Students will be allowed **four** absences without penalty. Your fifth absence will result in a **lowering of your final course grade by a letter grade. On your sixth absence, you will fail this course.** Please note that attendance is factored into your class participation grade. There are no “excused” absences in this course, so use your absences wisely in case you get ill. Please schedule all doctors’ appointments, meetings with advisors, etc., during your free time, not during class time. If you have a job that may interfere with your attendance in this course, I suggest that you take this class at another time. No exceptions will be made for work obligations. If you decide that you no longer wish to take this course, you are responsible to withdrawing from the course, not the instructor. Failure to do so will result in an F for nonattendance. **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY AND THIS POLICY WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.** (If you must miss class due to a university-sponsored event, such as for a sporting or other event, it is your responsibility to let me know of the reason for your absence so that I don’t count it against you).

You are responsible for keeping up with your absences and any content that you miss when you are absent, as well as for keeping up with all assignments. If you arrive in class late, it is your responsibility to ensure that I mark you present. Repeated tardiness will result in a reduction of your class participation and/or final grade for the course. Work turned in late will be penalized five points per day. **No assignments will be accepted once it is a week late (this includes weekends).**

c. Policy on Plagiarism: You are expected to adhere to the policies regarding academic honesty outlined in the FSU Student Handbook. **Cheating and plagiarism on any assignment will result in a failing grade for this course.** Students guilty of academic dishonesty will also not be recommended for admission to Teacher Education, Nursing, Graduate School, or other programs. All work submitted for credit in this class must be original and may not be submitted for credit in any other course at Fayetteville State University or other university. Resubmitting course work that was submitted for credit in another course will result in a failing grade in this course.

**VII. FSU Policy on Disruptive Behavior in the Classroom:**

The *Code of the University of North Carolina* (of which FSU is a constituent institution) and the *FSU Code of Student Conduct* affirm that all students have the right to receive instruction without interference from other students who disrupt classes.

FSU Core Curriculum Learning Outcome under Ethics and Civic Engagement (6.03): All students will “prepare themselves for responsible citizenship by fulfilling roles and responsibilities associated with membership in various organizations.” Each classroom is a mini-community. Students learn and demonstrate responsible citizenship by abiding by the rules of classroom behavior and respecting the rights all members of the class. The FSU Policy on Disruptive Behavior (see FSU website for complete policy) identifies the following behaviors as disruptive:

1. Failure to respect the rights of other students to express their viewpoints by behaviors such as repeatedly interrupting others while they speak, using profanity and/or disrespectful names or labels for others, ridiculing others for their viewpoints, and other similar behaviors;
2. Excessive talking to other students while the faculty member or other students are presenting information or expressing their viewpoints.
3. Use of cell phones and other electronic devices
4. Overt inattentiveness (sleeping, reading newspapers)
5. Eating in class (except as permitted by the faculty member)
6. Threats or statements that jeopardize the safety of the student and others
7. Failure to follow reasonable requests of faculty members
8. Entering class late or leaving class early on regular basis
9. Others as specified by the instructor.

The instructor may take the following actions in response to disruptive behavior. Students should recognize that refusing to comply with reasonable requests from the faculty member is another incidence of disruptive behavior.

1. Direct student to cease disruptive behavior.
2. Direct student to change seating locations.
3. Require student to have individual conference with faculty member. At his meeting the faculty member will explain the consequences of continued disruptive behavior.
4. Dismiss class for the remainder of the period. (Must be reported to department chair.)
5. Lower the student’s final exam by a maximum of one-letter grade.
6. File a complaint with the Dean of Students for more severe disciplinary action.

Students who believe the faculty member has unfairly applied the policy to them may make an appeal with the faculty member’s department chair.

***Other points of class etiquette:***

- If you send me an email, please do not begin with “Hey” or other informal forms of address. Use capital letters and punctuate your sentences correctly. Use my correct title (Dr. or Professor). In other words, write as you would any professional correspondence, which means your email should be courteous and respectful in tone. Also, please sign your name at the end of the email; I probably will not know who you are based on your email address alone. I will not respond to emails that do not follow these requirements.

- Do not expect an immediate answer via email (normally, I will respond to your email within 2 business days [i.e., weekdays]). If you send your email at the last minute, I may not be able to answer your email before an assignment is due.
- Use email only for brief questions that I can answer immediately. If you need help with papers or other class assignments, have questions about your progress in the class or your grade, or need to have any other in-depth discussion, please drop by my office to see me during office hours or make an appointment to see me if you cannot make it then.
- Please allow a sufficient amount of time (at least two weeks) after turning in papers, quizzes, exams, etc. before inquiring when these items will be returned to you.
- Come to class on time. If you come after the classroom door is closed, **close the door behind you**. Do not leave until class is dismissed. If you must leave class early for an important reason, please let me know in advance. During exams, ask permission to leave to use the restroom (but please try to use the restroom *before* class).
- Acquire the textbook and always **bring them** to class with you in order to have them available for class discussions and assignments. Do not expect to borrow my or other students' books for exams or other assignments if you do not bring yours.

**VIII. Academic Support Resources:** Please feel free to drop by my office during office hours (or make an appointment to see me) if you need help with any assignments. You can also receive help at the Writing Center and through the Smarthinking website.

### IX. Course Outline and Assignment Schedule

Note: This is a tentative outline. Changes may be needed and will be announced in class or on Blackboard.

Please note that the texts listed on the schedule should be read BEFORE you come to class. You will be tested on these literary works in the reading quizzes.

#### *Fiction*

**Week 1:** Monday, January 9: Introduction to the course

Wednesday, January 11: Plot (11-18); Chopin, "The Story of an Hour" (16-18) (also available at <http://www.vcu.edu/engweb/webtexts/hour/>)

Friday, January 13: Character (26-29); Setting (32-37) ("Araby" available at <http://fiction.eserver.org/short/araby.html>)

**Week 2:** Monday, January 16: MLK Holiday

Wednesday, January 18: Point of View (48-51, 53-54); Kincaid, "Girl" (51-52); Atwood, "Happy Endings" (54-56)

Friday, January 20: Theme (57-58); Updike, "A & P" (58-62); Desai, "Games at Twilight" (64-69)

**Week 3:** Monday, January 23: Symbol (70-71); Carver, "Cathedral" (89-99)

Wednesday, January 25: Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown" (147-56)  
Friday, January 27: Walker, "Everyday Use" (423-30)

**Week 4:** Monday, January 30: Faulkner, "A Rose for Emily" (549-55)  
Wednesday, February 1: Lahiri, "The Third and Final Continent" (448-61)  
Friday, February 3: Writing workshop for paper 1; submit draft of paper 1 to Smarthinking

### ***Drama***

**Week 5:** Monday, February 6: Draft of paper 1 due for peer review  
Wednesday, February 8: **Paper 1 due**  
Friday, February 10: Plays: Action and Performance (1159-65); Drama as Action (1177-80);  
Reading Hamlet (1442-43); Shakespeare, *Hamlet*, Act 1 (1433-67)

**Week 6:** Monday, February 13: *Hamlet*, Act 2 (1467-87)  
Wednesday, February 15: *Hamlet*, Act 3 (1487-1514)  
Friday, February 17: *Hamlet*, Act 4 (1514-33)

**Week 7:** Monday, February 20: TBA  
Wednesday, February 22: *Hamlet*, Act 5 (1533-54)  
Friday, February 24: **Midterm Exam**

**Week 8:** Monday, February 27: Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*, Act 1 (1791-1816)  
Wednesday, February 29: Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*, Act 2 (1816-43)  
Friday, March 2: Writing workshop for paper 2

**Week 9:** March 5-9: Spring Break

**Week 10:** Monday, March 12: Research workshop for paper 2  
Wednesday, March 14: Writing workshop for paper 2  
Friday, March 16: Conferences

**Week 10:** Monday, March 19: Conferences  
Wednesday, March 21: **Annotated Bibliography for paper 2 due**; submit draft to Smarthinking  
Friday, March 23: Draft of paper 2 due for peer review

### ***Poetry***

**Week 11:** Monday, March 26: **Paper 2 due**  
Wednesday, March 28: Shaping Experience (719-23); Tone (724-28); Larkin, "This Be the Verse"  
(731)  
Friday, March 30: Images and Imagery (733-35); Plath, "Metaphors" (736)

**Week 12:** Monday, April 2: Poetic Language (741-54)  
Wednesday, April 4: Meter (755-64)  
Friday, April 6: Spring Holiday

**Week 13:** Monday, April 9: Stanza (764-67); Form: Sonnet (770-77); Longfellow, "Mezzo Cammin" (1044)  
Wednesday, April 11: Elegy (777-78); Villanelle (787-88)  
Friday, April 13: Writing workshop for paper 3

**Week 14:** Monday, April 16: Conferences  
Wednesday, April 18: Conferences  
Friday, April 20: Draft of paper 3 due for peer review and submission to Smarthinking

**Week 15:** Monday, April 23: ***Paper 3 due***  
Wednesday, April 25: Poetry presentations  
Friday, April 27: Last day of classes; review for final exam

***Final Exam: Monday, April 30, 2:00-3:50 p.m.***

**IX. Teaching Strategies:** This course will utilize a variety of teaching strategies, including lecture, large and small group discussions; in-class writing assignments; and individual conferences.