

WOMEN'S LITERATURE ENG 273-35

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Name: Megan Doney
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Office: Mall Site, Room 125B, ext. 4146 and Godbey 26, ext. 4257
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 am – 12 noon, mall site
Tuesday, Thursday 1:30-3:30 pm, Dublin

IMPORTANT:

- The recommended browser to use with the current version of Blackboard is Mozilla Firefox. Other browsers are inconsistent in their performance with Blackboard. When taking tests or quizzes, USE a wired connection.
- Check your VCCS email regularly and respond/keep in touch with your instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Description: Examines literature by and about women. Involves critical reading and writing. Prerequisite [ENG 112](#) or divisional approval. Part I of II. Lecture 3 hours per week. 3 credits.

Credits: 3
Assessments: 4
Online Activities: Required

COURSE MATERIALS

Textbooks:

1. Hawthorne, Nathaniel. *The Scarlet Letter*. ISBN 9780393979534
2. Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid's Tale*. Anchor. **ISBN:** 9780385490818
3. Trethewey, Natasha. *Native Guard*. ISBN 9780618872657
4. Morrison, Toni. *Beloved*. Vintage. ISBN 9781400033416
5. Thomas, Angie. *The Hate U Give*. ISBN 9780062498533
6. Gurira, Danai. *Eclipsed*. ISBN 9780822224464

Note: NRCC assumes no liability for virus, loss of data, or damage to software or computer when a student downloads software for classes.

The Student's Guide to Distance Education available at <http://www.nr.edu/de/pdf/stuguide.pdf>.

COURSE INFORMATION

Prepared By: Megan Doney

Approved By: Dr. Janice Shelton

A. INTRODUCTION

This class will focus on the close reading of texts by a variety of authors, with segments organized thematically. The class will be discussion-based with a significant writing component. We will investigate issues including paradigms of motherhood and the feminine, the development of girls into women, and ways in which women and girls are perceived, constrained, and celebrated by their communities. The class texts include both poetry and prose, with supplemental audio-visually. Ultimately, we will explore “how women respond to their unique experiences as women in male-dominated societies. Our main aim is to read what women have to say about themselves and the world, looking specifically for observations about women's lives and experiences” (Hausman 2006).

This is a Distance Education course designed specifically for those students whose learning styles are best served by providing instructional opportunities beyond the traditional classroom setting.

B. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student should be able to:

Writing:

- Focus on a specific idea, using coherent organization and effective syntax
- Effectively incorporate borrowed material
- Develop a range of ways to discover and create meaning from texts
- Analyze and interpret nuanced language and description
- Reflect on one's own writing and thinking process
- Revise and edit for improved clarity and precision
- Produce 20-25 pages of finished, formally graded text

Reading

- Develop strategies to closely read and reflect on complex texts
- Comprehend a variety of literary expressions from diverse cultures and social situations and be aware of the importance of gender, class, race, and geographical location as categories for literary analysis
- Recognize and appreciate the different historical periods of literary production, including the varied cultural contexts for literature

Thinking

- Reflect on and critique assumptions about the nature of women and how women are perceived by others through discussion, one-on-one conferences and journals
- Develop a greater understanding of and appreciation for literature by and about women

C. GRADING/EVALUATION

- Three Major Essays40%
- Tests 20%
- Participation in Class Discussions 15%
- Final Project 15%
- Journals 10%

The following scale will be used in computing grades:

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80- 89%
- C = 70- 79%
- D = 60- 69%
- F = 0- 59%

D. WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Student Initiated Withdrawal Policy

A student may drop or withdraw from a class without academic penalty during the first sixty percent (60%) of a session. For purposes of enrollment reporting, the following procedures apply:

- a. If a student withdraws from a class prior to the termination of the add/drop period for the session, the student will be removed from the class roll and no grade will be awarded.
- b. After the add/drop period, but prior to completion of sixty percent (60%) of a session, a student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a course will be assigned a grade of "W." A grade of "W" implies that the student was making satisfactory progress in the class at the time of withdrawal, that the withdrawal was officially made before the deadline published in the college calendar, or that the student was administratively transferred to a different program.
- c. After that time, if a student withdraws from a class, a grade of "F" will be assigned. Exceptions to this policy may be made under documented mitigating circumstances if the student was passing the course at the last date of attendance.

A retroactive grade of "W" may be awarded only if the student would have been eligible under the previously stated policy to receive a "W" on the last date of class attendance. The last date of attendance for a distance education course will be the last date that work was submitted.

Late withdrawal appeals will be reviewed and a decision made by the Coordinator of Student Services.

Instructor Initiated Withdrawal

Students who have not attended class or picked up/accessed distance learning materials by the last day to drop the class and receive a refund must be withdrawn by the instructor during the following week. No refund will be applicable.

E. CHEATING/PLAGIARISM POLICY

From the Student Handbook:

“Students will be expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic experiences. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in academic work is subject to disciplinary action. The college may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, the following:

- Copying from another student’s test paper or other academic work.
- Using materials not authorized by the person giving the test.
- Collaborating, without authority, with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work.
- Knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part, or possessing, the contents of an unadministered test.
- Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, when taking a test or preparing other academic work.
- Bribing or soliciting another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.
- Appropriating another’s work without acknowledging the incorporation of another’s work in one’s own written work (plagiarism)

Webster’s Third International Dictionary defines plagiarism as follows:

Plagiarism - to steal and pass off as one’s own the ideas or words of another; to use without crediting the source; to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source; to commit literary theft. New River Community College believes the following amplified definition to be useful:

Language: Plagiarizing the words of another consists of copying single words without acknowledging your indebtedness to the author. A student’s diction and phraseology should always be his or her own except where he or she clearly indicates otherwise. Obviously it is not dishonest to copy an author’s words in quotation marks and give credit to the source by footnoting or by acknowledging the source in the text of your paper. If you paraphrase a writer’s words, you must acknowledge your indebtedness.

Ideas and Thoughts: Give credit to the source of any opinion, idea, or conclusion not your own. For example, the statement ‘Emily Bronte, unlike her contemporaries, was not concerned with the social injustices of her time’ is a conclusion derived from an extensive knowledge of nineteenth-century fiction. If you really have such knowledge, you can honestly draw such a conclusion, but if you have stolen the thought from a critic or other authority, you are plagiarizing. Another example, ‘Because Gray found new ways to be boring, people thought that he was a genius,’ is merely a plagiarism of Samuel Johnson’s ‘He (Gray) was dull in a new way, and that made people think him great.’ Plagiarism at New River Community College will constitute a punishable offense, and the use of syndicated research papers, essays, work copied from any electronic or other source, constitutes a violation of this rule.”

The first penalty for plagiarism in this class is a zero for the assignment. The second offense will result in an F for the course.

F. DIVERSITY STATEMENT

The NRCC community values the pluralistic nature of our society. We recognize diversity including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, social class, age, gender, sexual orientation and physical or mental capability. We respect the variety of ideas, experiences and practices that such diversity entails. It is our commitment to ensure equal opportunity and to sustain a climate of civility for all who work or study at NRCC or who otherwise participate in the life of the college.

New River Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Dr. Mark C. Rowh, Vice President for Workforce Development and External Relations, 217 Edwards Hall, 540-674-3600, ext. 4241.

G. DISABILITY STATEMENT

If you are a student with a documented disability who will require accommodations in this course, please register with the Disability Services Office located in the Counseling Center in Rooker Hall for assistance in developing a plan to address your academic needs.