

LIT2000 – 82451: Literature and Culture (Prerequisite: ENC1102 with a minimum grade of “C”)

Tues, Thurs 9:30am – 10:45am (3 hrs., 3 crs. / \$5.00 Lab Fee)

Rosenwald Junior College Classroom: 139

Instructor: Grant M. Deam (BA: Knox College; MA: Dominican University; MFA: Southern Illinois University)

Office Hours (LL33 or through Zoom: <https://gulfoast-edu.zoom.us/j/6856315625>): *By appointment*

Phone: 850-769-1551 ext. 2875; **Email:** gdeam@gulfoast-edu (I will respond to all messages within 24 hours)

Required Texts:

- Mays, Kelly J. *The Norton Introduction to Literature*. W. W. Norton & Company, 2023
- Additional course readings will be uploaded to and accessed through Canvas

Course Overview and Objectives:

Literature and Culture is a course designed to introduce students to various forms of literature and literary analysis. In this class, we will focus on the genres of poetry, fiction, and drama. We will also build our knowledge of literary terms and theoretical lenses. Students will demonstrate their knowledge and application of course concepts through essays, exams, a presentation, and weekly reading responses.

Course Theme and Focus:

One of the many benefits of reading and discussing literature is that it expands the reader’s worldview while also developing critical thinking skills. As such, you will be asked to apply the themes, concepts, and content from the various works we analyze as a class to other texts and other forms of media. While there is an extensive reading component for LIT2000, class sessions will be discussion based. Canvas’s discussion board feature is one way I will measure your level of engagement and willingness to discuss ideas with your peers. Your participation in the discussion board and in class will be vital to the learning experience. In order to fully participate, you will need to keep up with course readings while allowing enough time to complete the weekly writing assignments. Please note that you are encouraged to schedule a conference with me either through Zoom or on campus as needed.

Course Work:

There are a total of three major writing assignments, ten reading responses, one presentation, and one exam. Descriptions and examples for each assignment will be made available to you through Canvas. *All coursework will be due on Canvas and the deadline for all coursework will be specified through Canvas. If for any reason you are unable to complete an assignment on time, it is your responsibility to reach out to me in advance in order to not be penalized. While in class, be prepared to engage in discussion, read a variety of texts, and write informally.

Discussion Board:

When larger writing assignments are *not* due, you will submit a reading response to the Discussion Board. You will then need to respond to a classmate’s post by a specified time to earn full credit. There will be a total of five discussion board posts and

responses worth 100 points, or 10% of your overall grade. The readings associated with each response will be the readings discussed in class.

Technology / Cell Phone Policy:

As this course may require the use of a computer during class meetings, I do not have a strict technology policy. As young adults, it is your responsibility to engage with course content when we meet. I will not police cell phone use; however, if your technology use becomes distracting for others or becomes excessive, a conversation will be had, and your grade may be affected. Remember, someone is paying for you to be here. Please don't waste this opportunity scrolling through your feeds.

Grading (GCSC Grade Scale: A: 90-100; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: 0-59):

*Please note the following definitions for grading and assessment:

A: *Outstanding* work. The student has *exceeded* the expectations of the instructor and the specifications of the assignment.

Meaningful research, strategic organization, incorporation of formal argument, etc. is clearly present. A 'wow' factor is obvious.

*Merely completing an assignment does not guarantee an "A."

B: Still *really good* work. The student has *completely met the objectives* of the assignment. The paper is organized, free of spelling and grammatical errors, and contains a clear 'beginning, middle, and end.'

C: *Mediocre* or *average* work. The student has fallen just short of the *bare minimum* in completing the assignment. There is likely an *issue* with length, citation, organization, or a combination of things. The student has used more opinion than fact or argument.

*It is possible to receive a "C" even when an assignment has been turned in.

D: *Incomplete* work. The assignment has been turned in, but it still needs developing to be considered 'finished.' There are clear loopholes in the argument and/or research.

F: '*Half or more*' of the assignment criteria is not evident in the writing. Most objectives for the assignment have not been met.

This grade could also be the result of a *late (very late) turn in or *plagiarism.

Point Breakdown:

Assignment / Category Name	Point Value
Essay #1: Literary Synthesis	200 pts (20%)
Essay #2: Literary Argument	250 pts (25%)
Essay #3: Creative Writing	100 pts (10%)
Final Exam	100 pts (10%)
Literary Presentation	100 pts (10%)
Discussion Board Posts (10 x 10 points)	100 pts (10%)
Attendance and Participation (*includes conferences)	150 pts (15%)

Total:	1000 pts (100%)
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Attendance and Participation:

Please note that 15% of your overall grade in the class will be determined by attendance and participation. To score well in this grade category you will need to be on time for regular class meetings, volunteer your ideas, listen to others, and attend conferences. **Students are allowed FOUR absences for the entire semester. There are no excused or unexcused absences for the course.** I will, however, be understanding for certain circumstances. Communication will be key to ensure that your grade is not negatively impacted if you have to miss class. This section of Literature and Culture is an in-seat course; therefore, you need to attend class in-person when able. Please do not come to campus if you are feeling sick, though.

Submitting Assignments / Late Work Policy:

All assignments for this course need to be submitted electronically through Canvas by MIDNIGHT of their due date. Late assignments will be accepted, but at a deduction. *All late submissions, regardless of reasoning, must be turned-in no later than one week past the original due date in order to receive credit.* As a general rule, the later the submission, the greater the deduction. Additionally, please make sure all essay assignments follow MLA formatting (more on this later).

Writing and Reading Lab Tutorial Services:

The GCSC Writing and Reading Lab is here to support the achievement of our students' academic goals, and our staff is happy to provide tutoring for any courses that require academic writing and reading assignments. Our tutors are available for assistance with grammar, punctuation, mechanics, essay development, reading comprehension, organization of ideas, and MLA, APA, and Chicago formatting. Furthermore, we can assist with other writing-intensive courses such as speech, literature, religion, ethics, psychology, and history. We also offer Spanish tutoring both online and in-person. In-person tutoring is available in Room 110 of the Rosenwald Classroom Building. Face coverings (masks) are required in all college facilities for any person who has not been fully vaccinated, and social distancing will be observed. Students will be placed at computers at least six feet apart. Headphones, tables, and keyboards will be sanitized before and after each session. For lab hours and to schedule a session online, visit our website: <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/current-students/academic-divisions/language-literature/writing-reading-lab/index.html>.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity:

Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college's mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment and therefore will not be tolerated. "Cheating" includes but is not limited to use of any unauthorized assistance in completing course work. **Text taken directly from AI text generators like ChatGPT will be considered plagiarism.** "Plagiarism" includes, but it not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. Sanctions for incidences of academic misconduct, depending on the severity of the incidence and/or its repetition, may range from receiving an F grade (or zero) for the test, assignment, or activity, to failure of the course, to suspension or dismissal from the program or the college.

Language and Literature Division Contact Information:

Division Chair: Professor Betty McKinnie

Phone: 850-769-1551, ext. 2887; Office: LL7

Division Administrative Assistant: Brandon Bowling

Phone: 850-769-1551; Office: LL8

Student Accessibility Resources:

Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. For information regarding the registration process, email sar@gulfcoast.edu or call 850-747-3243

Course Repeat Policy, Withdrawals, Total Attempts of a Class, and Grade Forgiveness

Two withdrawals are permitted per credit course. After that, a grade will be assigned. Please be concerned about withdrawals. When admitting students into certain programs, universities may calculate withdrawals as grades. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance (financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc.). Students wishing to withdraw must complete a withdrawal form and submit the form to the Office of Enrollment Services before the scheduled withdrawal deadline as published in the college catalog. Student withdrawals initiated prior to the scheduled withdrawal deadline will be recorded as a grade of "W". The withdrawal deadline for an off-term or condensed term is one week after midterm. **If you do not fulfill the activities by the stated dates for the first two units, you will be withdrawn from the course as a no show (NS).** After the first two weeks, I will not process withdrawals without good reason. If you do not intend to finish the course, you must withdraw yourself. If you stop submitting work but do not withdraw, the grade posted for you will be an F.

Recording of Lectures:

Recording of Lectures: In accordance with federal and state privacy laws, students may record class lectures for their own personal educational use, in connection with a complaint to the college, or as evidence in internal or external legal proceedings. Students may not publish or upload the recordings or any components thereof without the knowledge and written permission of the faculty member. Failure to obtain permission to publish could lead to the students' having to pay damages, attorney fees, and court costs. For more information about what can be recorded, please see the guidelines on pages 36-39 in the GCSC Student Handbook <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/currentstudents/student-handbooks/2021-2022-student-handbook.pdf>

Final Notes:

Make sure to keep up with the course syllabus. Complete readings before class so you can participate, pay attention to assignment due dates so you do not have to rush, attend conferences, be respectful, and always, always reach out with any questions you may have about the course or an assignment. I try to be approachable, and as your instructor, it is my job to make sure you understand the course expectations.

LIT2000 Assignment and Class Schedule

***Note:** Due dates and readings are subject to change based on events that occur (both planned and unplanned) throughout the semester. Any changes will be announced in class and an updated syllabus will be made available on Canvas.

***Readings:** It will be very important to keep up with the course readings, varied due dates, and assignment deadlines.

Date	Focus for Class	Assignments and Reading
Week 1	Course introduction, syllabus, and expectations; What is literature? Why study it?; Literary terms and theories (lenses); Poetry Unit Introduction	Literary Terms Handout (Canvas); Literary Lenses Handout (Canvas); Discussion Board #1 due
Week 2	Literary terms and theories (lenses); Poetry (Classic and Canonical authors)	<i>Norton</i> p. 418 – 437; 451 – 464 Discussion Board #2
Week 3:	Poetry (Modernist, Postmodernist, and “Boom” authors); Essay #1 assignment examples	Discussion Board #3 due
Week 4:	Poetry (Contemporary authors)	Essay #1: Literary Synthesis due
Week 5:	Fiction (Classic and Canonical authors)	<i>Norton</i> p. 189 – 204 (read in class)
Week 6:	Fiction (Modernist, Postmodernist, and “Boom” authors)	Discussion Board #4 due
Week 7:	Fiction (Contemporary authors)	Discussion Board #5 due
Week 8:	Drama Unit Introduction: <i>Breath; Trifles; Fences</i>	<i>Norton</i> 676 – 689; Discussion Board #6 due
Week 9:	Drama: <i>Fences</i> film adaptation and play	<i>Norton</i> 714 – 764; Discussion Board #7 due
Week 10:	Literary Analysis; Essay #2 assignment examples	Essay #2: Literary Analysis due
Week 11:	Creative Writing Theory	Discussion Board #8 due
Week 12:	Creative Writing Craft Essays	Discussion Board #9 due
Week 13:	Creative Writing Prompts	Essay #3: Creative Writing due
Week 14:	Presentation Assignment	Discussion Board #10 due
Week 15:	Student Conferences	Enjoy Thanksgiving Break
Week 16:	Presentations	Presentation due in class
Week 17:	Final Exams	Good Luck!