

ENGLISH 160: INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE

Instructor: Nigel Brooks

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Office Hours: Monday & Thursday 10:30 - 12:30

Texts: *Literature and Its Writers*, edited by Ann and Samuel Charters.

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley

Course Description:

One primary purpose of this course is to reveal to students the continuing relevance and vitality of poetry, drama, short stories and the novel by showing how they serve as a rich source of inspiration for modern popular culture in general and the counter-culture in particular. A related purpose of the course is to have students learn how literature has shaped people's responses to cutting edge social issues. In addition, the students will become more aware of the connotations of language and of how each individual is free to respond to a particular work in their own unique way.

Assignments and Weightings:

Short quizzes: 10%

In-class activities: 10%

In-class essay: 15%

Mid-term exam: 20%

Take-home essay: 20%

Final exam: 25%

100%

Class Schedule:

Week One: Introduction to the course.

Weeks Two-Five: SHORT STORIES: "The Cask of Amontillado", "Bartleby The Scrivener", "Story in Harlem Slang", "Sonny's Blues", "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?", "Cathedral".

Weeks Six-Eight: POETRY: "My Heart Leaps Up", "A Thing of Beauty", "A Vigil Strange", "When I Heard The Learn'd Astronomer", "Do not Go Gentle", "For Hettie", "America", "Birds Singing", "In My Medecine Cabinet", "The Summer Chair", "Milton By Firelight", "Four Poems for Robin", "The Dakota".

Weeks Nine-Eleven: DRAMA: *Death of a Salesman*.

Weeks Twelve-Thirteen: NOVEL: *Frankenstein*

Week Fourteen: Course wrap-up.

Grading System:

A+ = 95-100% C+ = 65-69

A = 90-94 C = 60-64

A- = 85-89

B+ = 80-84 D = 50-59

B = 75-79 F = below 50

B- = 70-74