

English 3850: Seminar in Literary Study

Prof. Andrew Franta

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Tu 4:35-7:25, WEB 2470

Office: LNCO 3621

Office hours: Th 12:00-1:00 (and by appt.)

Description:

In this seminar, we will study lyric and narrative poetry, including sonnets, odes, satires, and romances, written by British and American poets from William Shakespeare to Elizabeth Bishop. The course is organized chronologically, and we will pay attention to how forms develop over time, but our primary focus will be on the analysis and interpretation of individual poems. Written assignments will break critical writing about literature down into discrete tasks: how to construct close readings of texts, how to formulate questions and claims about literary works, and how to manage evidence and make arguments about literature. The course is designed to introduce you to a selection of great poems in English and help you develop skills every English major needs.

Requirements:

Assignments will include three brief research exercises, two short papers, a final presentation and paper, and occasional in-class writing assignments and informal quizzes on the reading. Attendance and active participation in class discussion are required. It is important that you keep up with the assigned reading and come to class ready to discuss what you've read. Final grades will be based on the research exercises (15%), short papers (15% each), paper proposal (5%), presentation (10%), final paper (20%), and class participation (20%). Please note that the grade average you see on Canvas does not include participation, which counts for 20% of your final grade!

Course Policies:

I will make accommodations for illness, quarantine, or self-isolation due to COVID-19. You are otherwise allowed one personal day for the semester; there are no excused absences. Two or more absences will result in a lower grade for participation (see below). If you miss more than four class meetings, you will receive a failing participation grade. If you miss more than 50% of the class meetings, you will fail the course.

I am happy to give extensions on assignments, but you must contact me in advance. To receive credit for the course, you must complete all course assignments.

Absences	Maximum Participation Grade
1	A
2	B
3	C
4	D
5+	F
7+	F for the course

Texts:

Norton Anthology of Poetry, Shorter 5th Ed. (Norton) ISBN: 9780393979213

Additional readings will be available on Canvas.

Schedule (subject to revision):

Wk. 1 (8/22)

Introduction to the course – sonnets by Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Keats, and Frost

Wk. 2 (8/29)

William Shakespeare, *Sonnets*, esp. 3, 18, 29, 71, 106, 116, 130, 138 (169-79)

Wk. 3 (9/5) – Library Meeting MLIB 1110

John Donne, “The Good-Morrow,” “The Canonization,” “A Valediction Forbidding Mourning,” “The Flea” (191, 194-95, 198-99, 202)

Library Catalog Assignment Due

Wk. 4 (9/12)

Robert Herrick, “Delight in Disorder,” “Corinna’s Going A-Maying,” “To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time” (226-28)

Andrew Marvell, “To His Coy Mistress,” “The Garden” (293-4, 296-8)

OED Exercise

Wk. 5 (9/19)

Alexander Pope, *The Rape of the Lock* (357-74)

First Paper Due

Wk. 6 (9/26)

Thomas Gray, “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard” (410-13)

William Wordsworth, “Tintern Abbey,” “Resolution and Independence” (458-62, 473-76), from Preface to *Lyrical Ballads* (Canvas)

Wk. 7 (10/3)

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, “This Lime Tree Bower My Prison” (Canvas), “Kubla Khan,” “Frost at Midnight,” “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner” (486-505)

MLA Bibliography Assignment Due

Fall Break: October 9-16

Wk. 8 (10/17)

Percy Bysshe Shelley, “Ozymandias,” “England in 1819,” “Ode to the West Wind” (541, 542-45), *A Defence of Poetry* (Canvas)

Wk. 9 (10/24)

John Keats, "The Eve of St. Agnes," "La Belle Dame Sans Merci," "Ode to Psyche,"
"Ode to a Nightingale," "Ode on Melancholy," "Ode on a Grecian Urn," "To
Autumn" (569-79, 579-87)

Wk. 10 (10/31)

Christina Rossetti, "Goblin Market" (Canvas)
Second Paper Due

Wk. 11 (11/7)

Walt Whitman, "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry" (684-89)

Wk. 12 (11/14)

Emily Dickinson, esp. 314, 320, 359, 372, 479, 591, 764, 788 (719-32)

Wk. 13 (11/21)

T. S. Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" (862-66)
Wallace Stevens, "The Idea of Order at Key West" (824-25)
Paper Proposal Due

Wk. 14 (11/28)

Elizabeth Bishop, "The Fish," "Filling Station," "Sestina," "In the Waiting Room" (960-
66)

Wk. 15 (12/5)

Paper Presentations

Final Paper Due: Tuesday, December 12

Plagiarism:

The University's plagiarism policy will be strictly enforced. The Student Code defines plagiarism as "the unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person's work in, or as the basis for one's own work offered for academic consideration or credit." Examples of plagiarism include "representing as one's own, without attribution, any other person's words, phrasing, ideas, information or any other mode or content of expression."

Disciplinary action for plagiarizing papers or exams ranges from a failing grade on the assignment or in the course to suspension or expulsion from the University.

ADA Notice:

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability & Access, 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020. CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability & Access.

University Safety Statement:

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

Addressing Sexual Misconduct:

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677 (COPS).