COURSE DESCRIPTION

Literature is a reflector of life! We read stories, poems, and plays to better understand our own existence and the experience of others. This course is a gateway to literary analysis. Students will study writings by authors in various genres and learn how to “close read” texts. Through class discussion, in–class writing, and several formal essays, students will gain an understanding of how language reflects meaning, and of how texts possess multiple, often ambiguous meanings. Course objectives are to develop critical reading skills through close reading of texts; refine writing skills learned in ENG 101 through short in–class writing assignments and lengthier analytical essays; and further develop listening and speaking skills through discussion of assigned work.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- A handbook of English grammar and usage that has a section on writing MLA-style papers (I recommend Diana Hacker’s A Writer’s Reference, Published by Bedford-St. Martin’s Press)

REQUIREMENTS:

- Prompt, regular attendance; full participation
- Reading assignments for each class (text must be brought to class)
- In–class writing, based on reading of the day
- Longer analytical essays
- Revision of one essay
- FULL RESPONSIBILITY for self-editing of manuscripts and attending to individual writing problems at the Academic Skills Center, Orient 220. Call 548-2594 for an appointment.
EVALUATION:
   Essay #1    20%
   Essay #2    20%
   Essay #3    20%
   In–class writing    25%
   Participation    15%

FORMAT FOR MANUSCRIPTS
Essays must be typed, double-spaced, and stapled. Include your name, course name and section (ENG 102–320), my name, date due, and a title on first page of text. All papers must follow MLA format.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS
All essays are due in class on dates indicated in the syllabus. No late work will be accepted under any circumstance, unless I give permission in advance. Do not submit work via email or on disk; only hard copy will be accepted–in class.

ATTENDANCE
Attendance is mandatory. There are no excused absences. If you are absent more than three (3) times, one letter grade will be deducted from your final grade for each additional absence. Seven (7) absences result in failure of course. [Note: if you sleep during class or do homework for other courses, you will be marked “absent.”]

LATENESS AND EARLY DEPARTURES
Arriving late in class late and leaving early will also lower your grade. Three (3) lateness and/ or early departures constitute one (1) absence.

CLASS CONDUCT
Class starts punctually, and it is expected that you will not disrupt the learning environment. Do not bring visitors without prior permission. Turn off and put away electronic devices before class begins. Do not leave the classroom once class begins. If you disrupt the class in any way, you will be asked to leave.

CELL PHONES
Cell phones are a huge distraction and their use is not permitted during class period. Turn phones off and put them away (in a bag or pocket) once class starts. If you handle a cell phone during class period you will be marked “absent.” If you handle a cell phone during an in-class writing exercise (individual or group), your work will not be accepted.
LAPTOP COMPUTERS
While it is permissible to use laptop computers during class for the purpose of taking notes, they may not be used for any other purpose. Computers must be shut off and put away during in-class writing exercises (individual or group), or your work will not be accepted.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY
Academic dishonesty or plagiarism is a serious offense. Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive an “F” grade for the assignment and perhaps for the course. Consult the SCCC Course Catalog and Student Handbook for definitions of academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

BOOKS ON RESERVE IN LIBRARY
All of our texts (including hand-outs) are on reserve in the Library, located in the Peconic Building, second floor. To read a reserved text, go to the circulation desk and give desk assistant your Student ID card. Texts are available for in-library use only; you may not take them home.

CONFERENCES
One mandatory individual conference will be scheduled during the semester to discuss your initial progress in the course. You are also welcome to visit me during my regularly scheduled office hours to discuss your course work.

IF YOU NEED EXTRA HELP
Students in need of basic tutoring should visit the Academic Skills Center in Orient 220. Call 548-2594 for an appointment. If you do not understand an assignment or my comments on a manuscript, or you need more guidance, contact me at 548-2551 or fannins@sunysuffolk.edu, or stop by my office.
August 30  Introduction to course/ reading poetry

September 1  Phillis Wheatley, “On Being Brought from Africa to America” (839)
Stephen Crane, “War Is Kind” (780)

6  Labor Day–No day or evening classes

8  Rupert Brooke, “The Soldier” (hand-out)
Wilfred Owen, “Dulce et Decorum Est” (836)

13  Anne Bradstreet, “To My Dear and Loving Husband” (1077)
“To My Dear and Loving Husband Absent Upon Public Employment” (hand-out)

15  John Donne, “The Sun Rising” (944)
Robert Herrick, “To the Virgins, To Make Much of Time” (717)

20  Andrew Marvell, “To His Coy Mistress” (742)

22  George Herbert, “The Altar” (handout)
“The Altar” (726)

27  Essay #1 due
William Butler Yeats, “The Second Coming” (1035)

29  Robert Frost, “The Road Not Taken” (965)
“Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening” (964)

October 4  Essay workshop

6  Jack London, “To Build a Fire” (334)
October

11 Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, *Frankenstein or, The Modern Prometheus* (Vol. 1, Chapters 1–4)

13 *Frankenstein* (Vol 1, Chapters 4–7 and Vol. 2, Chapters 1–5)

18 *Frankenstein* (Vol. 2, Chapters 6–9 and Vol. 3, Chapters 1–6)

20 *Frankenstein* (Vol 3, Chapter 10 through conclusion)

25 Flannery O’Connor, “Good Country People” (433)


[Last date to withdraw from class and receive “W” – 10/28]

November

1 Essay #2 due

Individual conference–to be held in Orient 122

3 Tim O’Brien, “The Things They Carried” (419)

8 Amy Tan, “Two Kinds” (515)

10 Sherman Alexie, “The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven” (35)

15 Langston Hughes, “Mother to Son” (977)

“I, Too” (977)

“Dream Deferred” (982)

17 Lorraine Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun* (Act I)

22 Revised essay due

*A Raisin in the Sun* (Acts II and III)
November  24  Thanksgiving Recess begins–No day or evening classes

29  Scenes from film version of *A Raisin in the Sun*; class discussion

December  1  Alice Walker, “Everyday Use” (540)

6  Franz Kafka, “The Metamorphosis” (278) (first half)

8  **Essay #3 due**
   “The Metamorphosis” (second half)

13  John Updike, “A & P” (524)

15  Eudora Welty, “A Worn Path (555)

20  Last day of class

22  College make-up date, if necessary