



Welcome to Fall 2017 Eng 104: Introduction to Fiction

CRN: 43596

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Course Description:

ENG 104: Introduction to Literature: Fiction explores human purpose, literary structures, and cultural values within a variety of short stories and/or novels. This course features close reading, interpretation and evaluation of selected works of fiction, with attention to authors' contexts and their creative processes, narrative elements, and reader responses. Students will explore topics and literatures from diverse viewpoints, backgrounds, and perspectives. Recommended preparation: WR 121

Course format:

This online class will attempt to replicate some of the best parts of a "live" literature class by encouraging you to read the short stories and your selected novels through various "approaches" and then to apply various literary approaches to your reading of the text through short discussion board posts and essays. Class "discussion" will take place entirely via the Discussion Board forums. Each student will also complete a final multimodal research project related to your chosen novel.

Why Read Fiction?

In Azar Nafasi's wonderful memoir, *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, about the years she spent teaching American Literature in Iran, her students asked her why they should read fiction. Her first response was to explain that much literature is subversive either politically or socially, obviously or subtly. She continues:

I explained that most great works of the imagination were meant to make you feel like a stranger in your own home. The best fiction always forced us to question what we took for granted. It questioned tradition and expectations when they seemed too immutable. I told them I wanted them in their readings to consider in what ways these works unsettled them, made them feel uneasy, made them look around and consider the world, like Alice in Wonderland, through different eyes. (94)

Not all the stories we will read this term will be subversive to you, but some stories may make you uncomfortable. Use that opportunity to delve into your discomfort and perhaps you will discover that perhaps the writer hoped her work would have that effect. Now examine why.

Required Texts: Since you should be annotating (taking notes in the margins) as you read, I strongly urge you to purchase print copies of all texts---you will need to be able to cite page numbers and refer to specific lines in the texts. Many students have trouble doing that with Kindle or e-books: if you are one of them, please purchase a print copy of the Reader and of the novel you select.

The Seagull Reader: Stories, 3rd ed., is required for all students:

ISBN (13 Digit):	Title:	Author:	Edition:	Year:	Publisher:
978-0-393-93821-0	The Seagull Reader: Stories, 3 rd ed.	Edited by Joseph Kelly	3 rd	2014	Norton

Each student will choose ONE of the following novels to read (see Blackboard for an overview of each to help you choose):

ISBN (13 Digit):	Title:	Author:	Edition:	Year:	Publisher:
9780385490818	<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>	Margaret Atwood		1998	Anchor Books/Random House
978-0-307-38789-9	<i>The Road</i>	Cormac McCarthy		2006	Vintage Books/Random House
978-0-345-80729-8	<i>The Circle</i>	Dave Eggers		2013	Vintage Books/Random House
978-0-8041-7244-8	<i>Station Eleven</i>	Emily St. John Mandel		2014	Vintage/Random House

Additional readings (articles, lectures) will be posted in Blackboard for you to download/print

Eng 104: Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, the successful student will be able to

1. Define and explicate key literary elements of narrative fiction, such as plot, character, theme, point of view, setting, symbol and style.
2. Analyze and interpret works of fiction through the use of close reading, contextual background information (e.g., authorial intent, literary historical periods and influences, cultural and biographical background information, critical reception, etc.), literary concepts and approaches, and a variety of critical perspectives
3. Apply additional disciplinary knowledge specific to the Humanities (e.g., comparative analysis, evaluation, synthesizing and citing source perspectives) to the treatment of events, issues, or ideas in the works of fiction using well-selected evidence from the literary texts to support one's analysis.

Eng 104 Also Meets the following AAOT Outcomes: Arts and Letters

- Interpret and engage in the Arts & Letters, making use of the creative process to enrich the quality of life; and
- Critically analyze values and ethics within a range of human experience and expression to engage more fully in local and global issues.

Assignments and Grading:

The following assignments are designed to address the outcomes:

- Discussion Board Postings (55%)
 - Discussion board postings require you to answer a specific prompt about the readings: you are graded on how well you answer each prompt (in 300+ words) and how well you respond to your peers. The postings are meant to help you “practice” or test ideas that you will be asked to develop further on the essay exams, so it’s important that you not only post in the discussion board but also read what your colleagues have posted!
 - These assignments are worth about 5% each (with posts and responses counting as a single post). Not a lot, but they do add up, so if you skip them, it will affect your overall grade. If, however, you complete them all, it will help your overall grade AND help you on the midterm and final exams.
 - Late posts or responses will only be accepted up till 36 hours late with a late penalty of one letter grade. After that grace period, they will not be accepted. I will drop 2 missing/low graded posts or responses, however.

- Multimodal project (15%)
 - This project will be a review of the literary criticism of the novel you select. The research component will be a group effort; however, the digital project you develop (a blog, a website, a Powerpoint, a Prezi, or an Infographic) will be individually created and graded.
 - **Late Multimodal projects will be accepted up till 36 hours late with a late penalty of one letter grade. After that grace period, multimodal projects are NOT accepted.**
- Midterm and Final Exams: (15% each for a total of 30%)
 - You will have a choice of short essay questions that relate to the readings in the first half of the term (midterm) and again for the second half of the term (final), though the final may also include questions related to readings in the first half of the term.
 - **The midterm will be accepted up till 48 hours late with a late penalty of one letter grade. The final will not be accepted late since it is due by the last day of finals week.**

The following Grading Scale will be used in this course:

A	94-100	Exceptional
A-	90-93	Superior
B+	87-89	Excellent
B	83-86	Very good
B-	80-82	Good
C+	77-79	Better than satisfactory
C	70-76	Satisfactory [Note that there is no C- or D+ grade at COCC]
D	65-69	Passing [Note that you must earn a C or above for Writing classes at COCC]
F	0-64	Not passing

DUE DATES: Do not wait until a due date to complete an assignment.

- 1. Discussion Board posts are due almost every Sunday night by or before midnight; however, you are welcome to post them early.**
- 2. Required responses to discussion board posts are due almost every Wednesday night, by or before midnight; however, you are welcome to respond early. You must respond to someone who has NO responses yet.**
- 3. On some Wednesdays or Sundays, instead of (or in addition to) a discussion board post or response, you may have another assignment due, such as the midterm, the final or the multimodal project.**

[Weekly Schedule of Assignments \(see Blackboard for changes\)](#)

- Go to the START HERE link in the course menu and read all of the documents there.
 - Finding Your Way Around this Online Blackboard course
 - Course Syllabus
 - What is fiction, why should we study it, and how should we read it?

- After you finish reading those documents, go to the Discussion Board (follow the link in the course menu on the left side of the screen) and follow the instructions for your first posting (there are several parts: make sure you complete all of the parts). [This first week attendance post is due Monday, Sept. 25th by or before midnight for ALL students, registered and wait listed.](#) If you do not post by then, I will be forced to drop you from the course or you will no longer be on the wait list. This is in keeping with COCC's administrative withdrawal policy during the first week of classes. That also allows me to add students from the wait list. Depending on how much room is left in the class, I will begin to let in wait listed students who completed the first week attendance posting.

<u>To do by or before Monday, Sept. 26th, Midnight:</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GO to the START HERE link in the course menu on the left side of your screen and read the documents there (including the syllabus) • POST to the First Week Attendance/Introductions Discussion Board forum (the link is in the course menu on the left side of the screen) by or before Monday, Sept. 26th, midnight 	
Week 1: Sept. 25-Oct. 1: What is Fiction?	TO DO BY OR BEFORE SUNDAY, OCT. 1ST, MIDNIGHT
TO DO BY OR BEFORE WED, SEPT. 27TH, MIDNIGHT	TO DO BY OR BEFORE SUNDAY, OCT. 1ST, MIDNIGHT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GET the book, <i>The Seagull Reader: Stories, 3rd ed.</i> • READ: Mini Lecture: How to read (and take notes) like an English major (I annotate the very short story “Girl” by Jamaica Kincaid) • READ: Mini Lecture: A Brief History of the Short Story • POST to the Discussion Forum titled FIRST lines by or before <u>Wed., Sept. 27th, midnight</u> • [Instructions for WHAT to post are in the individual discussion board forums] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: Read <i>Seagull Reader</i> on the Elements of Fiction: pp.xi-xxxii <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ READ (optional, but amusing): <u>16 Fancy Literary Techniques Explained by Disney</u> ◦ WATCH (Optional, but amusing): <u>This Hip Hop Overview of the Elements (most of them) of Fiction</u> • READ: <u>How to annotate this Word document below (“To Do”) in the margins digitally using the comment feature</u> • READ: “To Do” by Jennifer Egan • POST to one of the Week 1 Discussion Board prompts by or before <u>Sunday, Oct. 1st, midnight</u>
Week 2: Oct. 2-8th: Elements of Fiction: Plot and Character	TO DO BY OR BEFORE SUNDAY, OCT. 8TH, MIDNIGHT
TO DO BY OR BEFORE WED., OCT. 4TH, MIDNIGHT	TO DO BY OR BEFORE SUNDAY, OCT. 8TH, MIDNIGHT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: Discussion Board Posting and Responding Advice and Criteria • READ: How to Cite Direct Quotations and Use MLA Documentation format • NOTE: Instructions for how to RESPOND to the previous week’s posts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOTE: I put the mini lectures on each story after the story in the list of readings, but you are welcome to read the mini lectures first if you prefer—it’s entirely up to you. • READ: Kate Chopin’s “The Story of an Hour” pp.98-101

<p>are in the discussion board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST: Respond to one of your peers' posts in the week 1 Discussion board forum by Wed, Oct. 4th, midnight • READ: Mini Lecture: Plot • READ: Mini Lecture: Character • READ Margaret Atwood's "Happy Endings" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: Hemingway's "Hills Like White Elephants" pp. 180-185 • READ: Mini Lecture on "The Story of An Hour" • READ: Mini Lecture on "Hills Like White Elephants" • POST: to one of the week 2 discussion forum questions by or before Sunday, Oct. 8th at midnight.
<p>Week 3: Oct. 9-15: Elements of Fiction: Setting and Point of View</p> <p>TO DO BY OR BEFORE WED., OCT 11, MIDNIGHT</p>	<p>TO DO BY OR BEFORE SUN, OCT 15TH, MIDNIGHT</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST: Respond to one of your peer's week 2 posts by Wed, Oct. 11th, midnight. NOTE: Instructions for how to RESPOND to the previous week's posts are in the discussion board • READ: Mini Lecture on Setting • READ: Mini Lecture on Point of View • READ: Mini Lecture on Symbols • Remember: you are welcome to read the mini lectures before the story if you prefer. While I'm suggesting you read this story by Wed. night, the goal is to read all the week 3 readings before you begin working on the post that is due on Sunday night. Thus, you might find it best to make sure you have all of the readings done by Friday, so you can work on the prompt on Saturday. • READ: "The Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman on pp.150-166 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: Mini Lecture on "The Yellow Wallpaper" • READ: Edgar Allen Poe's "The Tell Tale Heart" (available online here: http://xroads.virginia.edu/~hyper/poe/telltale.html) • READ: Mini Lecture on "The Tell Tale Heart" • POST to one of the week 2 discussion forum questions by or before Sunday, Oct. 15th at midnight.
<p>Week 4: Oct. 16-22nd: Elements: Theme and Interpretation</p> <p>TO DO BY WED, OCT 18TH, MIDNIGHT</p>	<p>TO DO BY SUN, OCT 22, MIDNIGHT</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST: Respond to one of your peer's week 3 posts by Wed, Oct. 18th, midnight—see instructions in the week 3 discussion board • READ: Mini Lecture on Theme and Interpretation • READ: Tim O'Brien, "The Things They Carried" p.333-351 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: F. Scott Fitzgerald's "Babylon, Revisited" (available at http://gutenberg.net.au/fsf/BABYLON-REVISITED.html) or you can download and print this version. • READ: Mini Lecture on "Babylon, Revisited" • POST to one of the week 2 discussion forum questions by or before Sunday, Oct. 22nd at

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: Mini Lecture on “The Things They Carried” 	<u>midnight</u>
Week 5: Oct. 23- 29: Historical Context	
TO DO BY WED., OCT 25TH, MIDNIGHT	TO DO BY SUN, OCT 29TH, MIDNIGHT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST: Respond to one of your peers’ week 4 posts <u>by or before Wed Oct. 25th</u> • READ: Mini lecture on Considering Historical/Cultural Context in Literature • READ: Tillie Olsen's story "I Stand Here Ironing" on pp.381-389 • READ: Mini Lecture on “I Stand Here Ironing” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose ONE of these stories to read (YOUR choice!): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ READ: James Baldwin's "Sonny's Blues" on pp.29-60 ○ OR, READ Alice Walker’s “Everyday Use” on pp.469-478 ○ OR, READ Bobbie Ann Mason’s “Shiloh” on pp.230-243 ○ OR, READ Jhumpa Lahiri’s “Interpreter of Maladies” (not in book, but the pdf is in Blackboard) • READ: Mini Lecture on “Sonny’s Blues” OR READ Mini Lecture on “Everyday Use” OR READ Mini lecture on “Shiloh” • POST: to one of the week 6 discussion forum questions <u>by or before Sunday, Oct. 29</u>
Week 6: Oct. 30- Nov. 5th: Midterm and Looking Ahead	
TO DO BY WED., NOV. 1ST	TO DO BY OR BEFORE SUN, NOV 5TH, MIDNIGHT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: How to choose a novel for Weeks 9-12 • POST: to the discussion board (week 6) on the novel which novel you think you will obtain and start reading soon and why, <u>due by WED., Nov 1</u> • READ: Seagull pp. xxxi-xxxiv • READ: How to do well on the midterm and final exams • READ: Midterm short essay assignment and criteria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>WRITE AND SUBMIT your midterm due Sunday, Nov. 5th, submitted to the submission link in Blackboard</u>
Week 7: Nov. 6-12: Literary Criticism	
TO DO BY WED., NOV 8TH	TO DO BY OR BEFORE SUN, NOV 12TH, MIDNIGHT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-MAIL: By or before Wed night: send me an email asking me 3 questions about the course so far and how I can help you as we enter the 2nd half of the course. • NOTE: Make sure you HAVE your novel to begin reading: must be finished by week 10 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: Raymond Carver’s "Cathedral" pp.61-75 • READ: Ways of Reading Fiction: Literary Criticism vs. Book Reviews vs. Website “Study Guides” • READ: Mini Lecture on “Cathedral” • POST: to one of the week 7 discussion forum

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: Flannery O'Connor's "A Good Man is Hard to Find" pp.352-367—SEE NEXT PAGE • READ: Mini Lecture on "A Good Man is Hard to Find" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional Audio: Listen to Flannery O'Connor read "A Good Man is Hard to Find": http://www.openculture.com/2012/05/rare_1959_audio_flannery_oconnor_reads_a_good_man_is_hard_to_find.html 	<p>questions <u>by or before Sunday, Nov. 12th, midnight</u></p>
Week 8: Nov 13-19: Dystopian Novels	
TO DO BY WED, NOV 15TH	TO DO BY OR BEFORE SUN, NOV. 19TH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST: Respond to one of your peer's post in the week 7 link <u>by or before Wed, Nov. 15th</u> • READ: Mini Lecture: Dystopian fiction • READ: "The Rise of Dystopian Fiction" • READ: Advice on reading your novel • READ: Mini Lecture, Part I: on your novel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> ◦ <i>The Road</i> ◦ <i>The Circle</i> ◦ <i>Station Eleven</i> • READ: Sample Annotation of a page from <i>The Road</i> (useful for ANY novel you choose to read this term) • READ at least to page 50 in your novel • For fun: How to Read a Novel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: Multimodal literary analysis project /assignment (due week 11 as a draft, and revised week 12) • READ at least to page 150 in your novel <p>For the next few weeks, you will be posting in the forum that is for the novel you chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST: Respond to one of the week 8 discussion forum questions <u>by or before Sunday, Nov. 19th</u>
Week 9: Nov 20-26: Power Read your Novel	
Focus on trying to finish your novel this week and see Sunday's assignment	TO DO BY OR BEFORE SUNDAY, NOV 26TH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: at least to page 300 of your novel • For Wed, no posting—power read your chosen novel. Take notes as you rea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST: For <u>Sunday, Nov. 26th</u>: respond to one of the questions in this week's DB forum on your novel
Week 10: Nov 27-Dec 3: Literary Criticism and Book Review	
TO DO BY WED., NOV. 29TH	TO DO BY OR BEFORE SUN, DEC 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST: For Wed., Nov. 29, see the week 9 discussion board post for instructions on how to respond to your peers' post 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST: For <u>Sunday, Dec. 3</u>, find 2 sources that analyze your novel. Post links in the DB on your novel (or if it's a pdf upload), make

<p>READ: Finish your novel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: Mini Lecture, Part 2: on your novel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> ○ <i>The Road</i> ○ <i>The Circle</i> ○ <i>Station Eleven</i> 	<p>sure the links work, and explain why these might be useful to those reading the novel. OR, read two of the sources I list in the mini lecture, and explain why those two are useful to those reading the novel.</p>
Week 11: Dec 4-10: Multimodal Projects	
TO DO BY WED., DEC 6TH	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WORK ON: Finish Multimodal project • POST your draft multimodal project in the Multimodal Project Discussion Board no later than Wed, Dec. 6 for peer feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • READ: How to peer evaluate your peer's multimodal project draft • POST: Respond to one of your peer's multimodal projects by Sunday, Dec. 10th
Week 12: Dec 11-15: Finals Week	
TO DO BY WED., DEC 13TH	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST: Revised Multimodal project due by Wed, Dec. 13th Post in the REVISED Multimodal Discussion Board forum for week 12. • READ: Final exam instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WRITE AND SUBMIT: See week the Final Exam link on the course menu. The final exam is due, submitted to the submission link, by or before Friday, Dec. 15th at noon: note the change in time.

COCC Policies:

Plagiarism Statement: Proper citations and documentation of any sources that you quote, paraphrase, and/or summarize in your writing are required whenever you borrow the words, facts, and/or ideas of others. In general, putting others' ideas into your own words still means you are borrowing, and to avoid plagiarism, the source must be cited and documented, both (a) at the point in your essay where there borrowing occurs (parenthetical citations for most academic documentation systems), and (b) in a list of all sources cited given at the end of your essay. Plagiarism—intended or not—is considered a serious academic violation of intellectual property rights, and may earn your written assignment an automatic “F.”

Students Rights and Responsibilities: Please read the [Students Rights and Responsibilities](http://www.cocc.edu/Student-Life/Rights_and_Responsibilities/) (http://www.cocc.edu/Student-Life/Rights_and_Responsibilities/) handbook.

PLEASE NOTE: Resubmitting an assignment from another class is a form of cheating. All work you do for this class must be original, not recycled from another class. If you submit an assignment that was also submitted for another class, you will earn an “F” on that assignment.

Americans with Disabilities Statement: Any student with a documented disability (physical, learning, psychological, vision, hearing) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must inform the College

and Stacey as soon as possible. If you require any assistance related to a disability, contact the Disability Services Office located in Boyle Education Center: call (541) 383-7583 or email

DisabilityServices@cocc.edu .

COCC Non-Discrimination Policy:

The goal of Central Oregon Community College is to provide an atmosphere that encourages our faculty, staff and students to realize their full potential. In support of this goal, it is the policy of the Central Oregon Community College that there will be no discrimination or harassment on the basis of age, disability, sex, marital status, national origin, ethnicity, color, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, citizenship status, veteran status or any other classes protected under Federal and State statutes in any education program, activities or employment. Persons having questions about equal opportunity and non-discrimination may contact Human Resources for referral to the appropriate personnel, 541-383-7236.

Personal Counseling: COCC offers free, confidential personal counseling to students, provided by licensed, professional counselors: it is intended to help students address any sort of personal issue that is getting in your way. Call the CAP Center on the Bend campus at (541)-383-7200 to find out more or to make an appointment.

Academic Advising: Please know that if you have questions about anything related to your coursework at COCC, you should consult first with your instructor, who is here to help you. Your academic advisor can also be a useful resource for more long term college and career plans. And COCC provides free Writing Center tutoring, “live” and online, for all students. Those tutors are here to help you!

Incompletes and Withdrawals: A request for an incomplete will only be given if the student has successfully attempted and completed at least 75% of the coursework. If you cannot finish the class and have not completed at least 75% of the coursework, you should withdraw from the class before the Wednesday of week 10. Withdrawals are the responsibility of the student: I cannot withdraw you from the class after week 1 of the term. However, you do need my permission to withdraw after week 7.

Important Enrollment Deadlines:

- 5pm Friday of 2nd week of the term: Last day to drop with a full refund.
- 5pm Friday of 7th week of term: Last day to drop with no grade on transcript: instructor approval not required.
- 6pm Wednesday of 10th week of term: Last day to drop, requires instructor approval and shows as a “W” on your transcript.