Course Policies and Syllabus

Course Description
This course will provide introductory instruction in and practice with the skills necessary for the analysis of literature through reading, discussion of, and writing about a number of genres drawn from a variety of cultures and historical periods.

Course Outcomes:
Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:
· Discuss and make arguments about literary works (both orally and in writing) with your peers and instructor;
· Compose convincing interpretations of literary works and their ideas by applying the skills of close reading, textual analysis, and literary terminology;
· Examine human differences and similarities (including language, experience, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender) across historical, social, and cultural boundaries using literature;
· Practice and improve writing skills through frequent assignments both formal and informal, submitted to the instructor for regular feedback and/or shared with peers for critical review/response;
· Speak effectively through regular required participation and discussion of texts and ideas therein, whether in full-class, individual, or group settings, and whether through informal or formal assignments.
· Learn basic skills of reference and citation.

This course fulfills URI General Education requirements for the outcomes of Humanities and Write Effectively.

Course Policies
1. Attendance. The major benefits of the course are to be derived from the class sessions. Since this is a three week class, more than two absences for whatever reason will result in a failing grade.

2. Class Participation. We will spend much of our class time discussing the assigned reading. This will require that you complete your reading assignments ON TIME. If you choose not to keep up with the reading, you will do quite poorly on the examinations and will be unable to take part in class discussions. There is nothing quite as deadly as a quiet and uninvolved class! Also PLEASE bring your books to every class (they are not heavy). If you are not prepared and/or do not have your book with you, there is no point to your being in class.

3. Due Dates. Exams MUST be taken on the dates indicated on the syllabus, and quizzes MUST be taken on the dates assigned. If there is a problem, please contact me immediately.
4. **Academic Honesty.** Plagiarism or any other form of academic honesty will result in a failing grade for the course. As the catalog states, “all course papers…will be prepared, and all examinations taken, in conformance with accepted standards of academic integrity. This includes the proper citations and attribution of all material that is not the original product of the writer.”

5. As much as I love technology, our classroom is not the place for cell phones, blackberries, etc. **PLEASE** do not text message/tweeter/etc during class; it is rude and inconsiderate. Only birds should tweet during class time.

**Grade Distribution:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class discussion and Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Journal</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Active Reading</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Close Reading</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analytic Essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</tbody>
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Grading, by the numbers:

- 87-89 B+  
- 77-7 C+  
- 67-69 D+  
- 59 & below F

- 94-100 A  
- 83-86 B  
- 73-76 C  
- 60-66 D

- 90-93 A-  
- 80-82 B-  
- 70-72 C-

**Required Texts**

Baudelaire, Charles. Readings will be provided.

Dylan, Bob. Readings will be provided.


Wordsworth, William. Readings will be provided.

**Primer on grammar/mechanics/style/reference and citation:**

[https://owl.english.purdue.edu](https://owl.english.purdue.edu)
SYLLABUS

January 2 (W)  Introduction to the Course

Drama:  Athol Fugard’s *Master Harold…and the boys*

January 3 (TH)  Drama:  Susan Lori-Parks' *Topdog/Underdog*

January 4 (F)  Drama:  Dominique Morisseau’s *Skeleton Crew*

**First Assignment:**  due January 8

January 8 (M)  Novel:  *Blindness*, Chapters 1-4

January 9 (T)  *Blindness*, Chapters 5-8

January 10 (W)  *Blindness*, Chapters 9-12

January 11 (TH)  *Blindness*, Chapters 13-17

**Second Assignment:**  due January 16

January 16 (M)  Poetry:  William Wordsworth selections

January 17 (T)  Poetry:  Charles Baudelaire selections

January 18 (W)  Poetry:  Bob Dylan selections

January 19 (TH)

**Third Assignment:**  due January 20