INSTRUCTOR: DR. RALPH MILLIS  
OFFICE: MB 2.248M  
OFFICE HOURS: TR 12:20-1:55, and by appointment  
E-MAIL: Ralph.millis@utsa.edu  
TELEPHONE: HOME: 698-5113 (H) 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., M-F;  
Use the answering machine, please.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: “Introduction to Literature” provides an opportunity for students to analytically read and respond to poetry, plays, and short fiction.

OBJECTIVES:  
1. Learn to recognize the structural elements of poetry, plays, and short fiction and how they contribute to the “meaning” and enjoyment of the works.  
2. Recognize literary themes and perspectives and evaluate the validity of these as expressed in specific works.  
3. Develop the ability to think critically about literature and the human condition as it is portrayed across literary genres.  
4. Analyze literature the way one ideally analyzes all “problems,” by using abstraction, generalization, particularization, concrete examples, deduction, and induction.  
5. Form aesthetic evaluations.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:  
Two in-class tests. 200 pts. each  
One final examination. 300 pts.  
Regular class attendance; on-going class participation. 100 pts.  
Quizzes. 100 pts.  
Additional out-of-class readings on the Internet when assigned.

ATTENDANCE: If you have more than three unexcused absences, I will have the option of lowering your final grade 5% for each, including the first three. If you must miss class for school activities such as athletics, band, etc., you must bring to me a list, signed by the appropriate faculty or athletic department member, of the dates this absence(s) will occur. Medical emergencies, validated by a doctor’s note are excusable. Regular scheduled doctor or dentist appointments made in advance are not. You are responsible for getting the notes for any class you miss from your colleagues. You cannot make up any test or final examination you miss due to an unexcused absence. You can make up a test or final examination you missed due to an excused absence—just be aware they
tend to be more difficult than the one you missed. Quizzes missed for any reason cannot be made up.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: If you miss class, you obviously cannot contribute to class discussion, so this will be reflected in your grade. If you attend class regularly but never participate, you will receive a C for your attendance/participation grade.

PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Don’t even THINK about committing this. You can receive an “F” for the course if you cheat on or plagiarize an assignment. In addition, other bad things can happen. There is NO excuse for submitting work that is not yours. Here is the UTSA Handbook of Operating Procedures definition of:

2.37 Scholastic Dishonesty

Part I, Chapter VI, section 3.22 of the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System provides the following: Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Please familiarize yourself with the materials on scholastic dishonesty in the UTSA Student Code of Conduct.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: The University provides support services, including registration assistance and equipment, to students with documented disabilities through the Office of Disabled Student Services (DSS), MS 2.03.18

SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION POLICY: It is the policy of this institution that there shall be no unlawful discrimination against any individual in employment or in its programs or activities at the University of Texas at San Antonio because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national or ethnic origin, disability or status as a veteran. The University prohibits sexual harassment of any form in all aspects of employment and in its programs and activities and prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual and racial or ethnic orientation in employment and admissions.

GENERAL RULES:

1. Teaching this class is my job, my profession. Your job is to be a student, a good one, so don’t disrespect yourself by failing to work hard. Here, then, is a partial recipe for failure:
   A. Don’t read the assignments, or don’t have them read by the assigned date. Don’t study for tests and the final.
   B. Flaunt an “I Don’t Give a Darn” attitude. Just sit there with a “Thousand Yard Stare” if I call upon you in class.
   C. Talk loudly with your neighbor once class has begun.

2. Class begins at precisely at the posted time. If you arrive more than five minutes after class has begun, please do not attempt to enter the classroom. You are absent and will be counted, and penalized, as such. Class periods are short and intensive, this is a VERY large class, and any interruptions rob me and your classmates of our time. Don’t even consider entering the classroom and distracting us. Remember, attending class is your job. What happens to
you when you are late for your non-university, “real world,” job? Does the boss give you a pass?

CONDUCT AND OTHER STUFF:
DO:
- Keep up with the reading. Quizzes will be unannounced.
- Contribute in class,
- Interrupt me with questions, observations, etc. at any time.
- Realize it is perfectly fine to disagree with me. In fact, I encourage thoughtful disagreement.
- Let me know if you must leave a particular class early.
- Come and see me during office hours. Most of the time I feel like the Maytag Repairman, “the loneliest guy in town.”

DON’T:
- Be habitually late. It is distracting and discourteous. If you are often late it will be reflected in your attendance grade
- Leave and return to class intermittently.
- Leave cell phones on.
- Surf the net during class.
- Suddenly disappear without telling me, only to show up two or more weeks later.
- Insult or put down your colleagues, including me.
- Ask for special treatment not available to your colleagues.
- Inform me that you will be ten minutes late for every class because the professor in your class just before mine always runs over his/her allotted time.
- Start stuffing your backpack ten minutes before class ends.

If we all cooperate and follow the rules, we can have an enjoyable, valuable experience in immersing ourselves in literature.

THE UNIVERSITY CATALOG: All regulations regarding academic conduct, responsibilities, and rights, as they appear in the current university catalogue, apply in this course.

GRADING SCALE:

100-90 = A
89-80 = B
79-70 = C
69-60 = D
Below 60 = F

Note that “C” means “Average” university work. It means you have performed acceptably; you have met the minimum standard. It does not mean you have failed or that you are a failure as a human being. I understand that many of you must maintain a certain minimum GPA to retain scholarships or other financial aid. To achieve this you
should plan on working hard, rather than trying to slow roll me into giving you a grade higher than the one you earned.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: *The Bedford Introduction to Literature*, 9th edition, Michael Meyer

ASSIGNMENTS: Students should come to class having already read the assignment for that day. The instructor can add, delete, or otherwise change the assignments as necessary.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 26</td>
<td>Introduction to Course</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>“Word Choice” and “Death of the Ball Turret Gunner,” 799-804;</td>
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<td>Sept 7</td>
<td>“Figures of Speech,” 864-74; “Symbol, Allegory, and Irony,” 888-98; “Naming of Parts,” 907</td>
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<td>Sept 9</td>
<td>“Sounds,” 916-28; “Patterns of Rhythm,” 946-54; “My Papa’s Waltz,” 967; “Dog’s Death,” 746</td>
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<td>Sept 14</td>
<td>“A Study of Robert Frost,” 1089-1102</td>
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<td>Sept 16</td>
<td>“A Study of Robert Frost,” 1102-1116</td>
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<td>Sept 21</td>
<td>“A Thematic Case Study: Love and Longing,” 1232-1244</td>
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<td>Sept 23</td>
<td>Review and catch-up</td>
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<td>Sept 28</td>
<td>Test #1</td>
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<td>Sept 30</td>
<td>“Reading Drama,” 1363-1380; Elements of Drama,” 1381-88</td>
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<td>Oct 5</td>
<td>“A Study of Sophocles,” 1414-1464</td>
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<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>“Study of Sophocles,” 1509-1512</td>
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<td>Oct 19</td>
<td><em>Hamlet</em></td>
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<td>Oct 21</td>
<td><em>Hamlet</em></td>
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<td>“Modern Drama,” 1704-1708; begin <em>Death of a Salesman</em>, 1868-1933</td>
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<td>Oct 28</td>
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<td>Nov 2</td>
<td><em>Death of a Salesman</em></td>
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<td>Nov 9</td>
<td>“Reading Fiction,” 13-29; “Plot,” 72-82; “A Rose for Emily, 90-97</td>
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FINAL EXAMINATION THURSDAY 9 DECEMBER 10:30 A.M.

I encourage you to use the academic support services available to you through the Tomás Rivera Center (TRC) to assist you with building study skills and tutoring in course content. These services are available at no additional cost to you. The TRC has several locations at the Main Campus and is also located at the Downtown Campus. For more information, visit the web site at www.utsa.edu/trcss or call (210) 458-4694 on the Main Campus and (210) 458-2838 on the Downtown Campus.

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO REVISION AT MY DISCRETION AND AS CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE.