Course Description
This course is an introduction to literature designed for English and non-English majors. It includes a survey of literary works from various genres and periods by culturally diverse authors. Students will gain introductory knowledge of literary terms and critical literary approaches in order to read, analyze, and write about literature in critical and informed ways. This course also establishes connections between literature and film, music, and live performance.

By the end of the course the student should be able to do the following:

- Read, discuss, and respond critically to literature from the genres of fiction, poetry, and drama
- Learn and utilize literary discourse (terminology) and critical/theoretical literary approaches to literature in order to show deepened understand
- Explore texts as artifacts as culture, society, time, and place.
- Use a variety of intersectional approaches to understand how texts are shaped and our readings are informed by the dynamics of gender, ethnicity/race, sexuality, class, etc.
- Apply the basic skills of reading literature to analyses of film, art, and other multi-media and cultural texts.

Text and Course Materials

- All readings labeled with (BB) are available on BlackBoard.
- Scantron forms 882-E (green) for quizzes and exams; available in bookstore and Information Center in UC.

University and Course Policies

- Students are allowed up to three absences per semester; any absence thereafter will result in points deducted from participation/quiz grade. The student is responsible for consulting with the syllabus and/or other students to follow-up on missed materials and information. Attendance will be taken every day!
- **Dropping the course** by the specified UTSA deadline is the responsibility of the student. Students who do not drop before published drop dates will receive a grade in the course, even if they have quit attending.
- The Writing Center: The WRC is here for students. Paid tutors with BA degrees in English and some Writing Program professors serve as tutors. You are strongly encouraged to visit the center for assistance with your writing. The tutors will not grade or edit your work, so come prepared. The Writing Center tutors are there to assist with your writing, organization, and development. You are certainly able to ask questions about mechanics and grammar. Check the Writing Center website for scheduling and appointments: [http://www.utsa.edu/twc](http://www.utsa.edu/twc).
- The Tomás Rivera Center: The Tomás Rivera Center (TRC) provides academic support services.
- These services are available to you at no additional cost. For more information regarding these services, please visit the TRC web site at [www.utsa.edu/trcss](http://www.utsa.edu/trcss).
- Learning Assistance provides one-on-one study skills assistance through Academic Coaching and group study skills assistance through our Expert Learner Series Workshops. Call the office to schedule an Academic Coaching
appointment at (210) 458-4694, visit the TRC web site for the Expert Learner Series schedule, or stop by MS 1.02.02.

- **Support services**, including registration assistance and equipment, are available to students with documented disabilities through the Office of Disabled Student Services (DSS), MS 2.03.18. Students are encouraged to contact that office at 458-4157 early in the semester. Also see [http://www.utsa.edu/disability/students.htm](http://www.utsa.edu/disability/students.htm)

- **Plagiarism** will not be tolerated and may result in an "F" for the course. Plagiarism consists of cheating on an exam, copying another student's work, copying a paper off the internet; not documenting the ideas and opinions of other writers—even when not quoting them directly. To access the UTSA scholastic dishonesty policy, go to the following site and scroll down to Section 203: [http://www.utsa.edu/infoguide/appendices/b.html](http://www.utsa.edu/infoguide/appendices/b.html)

- **I don't accept late work!**

This class will be a safe space for all students to share their opinions, critiques, and experiences. Homophobic, sexist, or racist language will not be tolerated. In addition, all cell phones, iPods, and other electronic devices MUST be either turned off or put on silent. Failure to maintain civility in the classroom will result in dismissal from the room as well as an immediate referral to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action. *Please do your part to remain diplomatic and respectful of your peers!*

### Grades

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Points Earned for this class</th>
<th>GPA Grade Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97-100%</td>
<td>970-1000</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-96%</td>
<td>930-969</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>900-929</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>870-899</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>830-869</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>770-799</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76%</td>
<td>730-769</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72%</td>
<td>700-729</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69%</td>
<td>670-699</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63-66%</td>
<td>630-669</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60-62%</td>
<td>600-629</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59%</td>
<td>0-599</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You will have the opportunity to earn 1000 points in this class, which I will use to calculate your final grade. The following grade scale is the new +/- grading scale adopted by the University this year. The “GPA Grade Points” reflect what your grade point is for the course as a whole; we will not really use this column in tracking your grade throughout the semester. The percentage column will be more useful to you during the course of the semester as it obviously correlates to the points out of 1000 you have earned.

### Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class attendance, participation, group questions</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test #1</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test #2</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Work #1 Lit Crit Project</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Work #2 Song Analysis</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Quiz</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students begin the semester with 100 points for class participation and attendance. Each absence, regardless of reason, results in a loss of 10 points. Students can make up the lost points by doing the following:

- Write a critical response to a cultural event 5
- Present an original poem or short story to the class 5
- Write a critical response to an approved work from the Heath Anthology 5
**Fiction**

**Thurs Aug 25** - Introduction to the course; Discuss, “What is literature?”

**Tues Aug 30** Narration & Point of View – Read Sandra Cisneros “Eleven” p. (Heath)

**Thurs Sept 1** - Theme - “Dead Men’s Path,” by Chinua Achebe (BB)


**Thurs Sept 8** – Setting, Symbols, and Metaphors – “The Yellow Wallpaper”

http://www.library.csi.cuny.edu/dept/history/lavender/yellowwallpaper.pdf

**Tue Sept 13** – Setting, Symbols and Metaphors, con’t—“Culinary Lesson,” Rosario Castellanos (BB)

**Thurs Sept 15** – Test #1: fiction

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**Poetry**

**Tue Sept 20** Introduction: Lyrical, dramatic, parody, satire, narrative/performance. Reading on poetry on BB.

Youtube slam poetry videos (TBD)

**Thurs Sept 22** – Theme and Purpose – “My Father in the Navy: A Childhood Memory” p. 3410; “Frame” 2684-2686

**Tues Sept 27** - Possible guest lecturer

**Thurs Sept 29** -Begin working on song analysis: Genre, style, theme, tone, purpose, symbolism, POV, setting, etc.

**Tue Oct 4 ** **Midterm**

**Thurs Oct 6** - Half of groups present song analysis

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**Drama**

**Midterm grades due October 10th**

**Tue Oct 11**– Intro to Drama and Tragedy; Reading on Drama (BB); Read Romeo and Juliet:

http://shakespeare.mit.edu/romeo_juliet/full.html; Song Analysis Due (typed)

**Thurs Oct 13** - Start Romeo and Juliet Film

**Tue Oct 18** – Conclude Film; Discuss *Romeo and Juliet*

**Thurs Oct 19** – Conclude discussion of *R&J*; group questions

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**UTSA Creed and Honor Code**

**The Roadrunner Creed**

The University of Texas at San Antonio is a community of scholars, where integrity, excellence, inclusiveness, respect, collaboration, and innovation are fostered.

As a Roadrunner, I will:

- Uphold the highest standards of academic and personal integrity by practicing and expecting fair and ethical conduct;
- Respect and accept individual differences, recognizing the inherent dignity of each person;
- Contribute to campus life and the larger community through my active engagement; and
- Support the fearless exploration of dreams and ideas in the advancement of ingenuity, creativity, and discovery.

**Honor Code**

The University of Texas at San Antonio community shares the responsibility and commitment to integrity and the ethical pursuit of knowledge and adheres to the UTSA Honor Code.

www.utsa.edu/about/honorcode
Drama, Satire, and Characterization: No Sacó Nada de la Escuela (BB)

Guided group comprehension activity: poetry and drama.

Test #2: Poetry and Drama

Critical Approaches

Introduction to critical approaches: Formalism, biographical, Jungian/mythological, feminist, and deconstructionist

Formalism: Reading on formalism on BB

Jungian and Mythological Lit Crit; Gloria Anzaldúa’s “Entering into the Serpent 7. La conciencia de la mestiza / Toward a New Consciousness” (Heath)

Feminist: “The Yellow Wallpaper”; Biographical: “Frame” pg. 2684-2686

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Deconstruction: Sandra Cisneros’ “My Name” (BB); Begin group lit crit analysis (pick from selected pieces from Heath text)

Finish Group lit crit analysis

Half of groups present lit crit analysis

Terms Quiz

Review for Final Exam

Study Day

Final Exam – Monday, Dec 12 10:30am-1:00pm same room Bring Scantron