Description: This class is designed to guide students in the critical reading, analysis and evaluation of selected short stories, dramas, and poems. It will provide students with vocabulary and method for discussing and analyzing literature and assist them in reading more profoundly. Above all, it is designed to make reading literature relevant and fun and to encourage students to continue to enjoy reading long after this class is over.


Grades:
Essay on short story 200 points
Essay on drama 200 points
Essay on poetry 200 points
Attendance and Participation 100 points
Poem presentation 100 points
Final 150 points
Quizzes 50 points
Total 1000 points

A = 900+ points, B = 800-899 points, C = 700-799 points, D = 699-600 points, F = 599 points or less.

Readings and Assignments: Students are expected to have read the assigned works and literature prior to each class meeting and come to class with at least two questions or points of interest to discuss with the rest of the class. They are also expected to have considered and be able to discuss the questions in the book following each reading selection. Finally, they should be able to analyze the readings and write clear, well-documented papers which deal directly with the topics assigned, support their own particular theses and follow the MLA guidelines. All assigned work will be collected at the beginning of class, and points will be deducted for late papers. Be sure and keep back up copies of all your assignments.

All outside work must be typed, and any essay not turned in will receive 0 points which will be factored into the final grade. The first essay, possibly the second depending on time, may be rewritten by the student for a higher grade if the student wishes. The two grades, original and rewrite, will be averaged for the assignment grade, and any rewrites must be significantly reworked in order to be considered for a higher grades. The rewrites will be due 1 week after the original essay is returned to the student, and original essays must accompany all rewrites.
**Attendance** will be taken every class. To be counted as present, students must be present from the beginning of the class until they are dismissed. You may be dropped from the class if you miss more than a consecutive week of class or more than 4 classes without an excuse.

**Poem Presentation:** Each student will choose one poem from the poetry syllabus and be responsible for presenting this poem to the class. The presentation will entail leading the class through a close analysis of the poem, focusing on the theme of the poem and the literary elements which reinforce the poem’s message. Within a week of his/her presentation, each student must turn in a write up of his/her analysis.

**Academic Honesty** is a fundamental value in an academic setting. Plagiarism is one form of academic dishonesty and entails using the words or ideas of another without citing the source. Students are not expected to sue outside sources, but may, if they wish, as long as long as they correctly cite their sources using the MLA guidelines. Violation may result in dismissal from the class and at a minimum will result in an F on the particular assignment or exam. All students who cheat will be reported to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and placed on probation for one year.

**Withdrawal** from the class is the students’ responsibility. Do not assume I have dropped you because you have quit attending the class. If you do not drop the class, you may end up receiving an F in the course. Withdrawal dates are Oct. 24 to receive a W, and Nov. 19 to receive a W with a grade check (requires an C or better in the course and the instructor’s signature).

**Quizzes:** These will be given at the beginning of class. They will cover the reading assigned for that day and require analysis of the writing. Quizzes may not be made up if missed and the lowest grade may be dropped. There may be unannounced quizzes at any time.

**Readings:** All readings are contained in the text. The following is a partial list of the stories we will read:

Chopin, “Story of an Hour”
Gordimer, “Once Upon a Time”
Baxter, “Gryphon”
Poe, “Cask of Amontillado”
Hemingway, “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place”
Perkins, “The Yellow Wall-Paper”
Porter, “The Jilting of Granny Weatherall”

Depending on the time remaining, more stories may be added to this list.