English 170 | Introduction to Literature

Fall 2018

**Ms. Preston’s Contact Information:**

Phone: 509-253-4331

Email: mpreston@harringtonsd.org

Google Classroom Code: wuucnx

Introduction to Literature

Welcome to English 170! This is a college-level class is designed to review and enhance your understanding of the literary genres of fiction, poetry, and drama. Through reading assignments, class discussion, and written work, you will hone your interpretive and analytical skills. At the end of the course, you will be able to identify the fundamental elements and stylistic attributes of these three genres, and also offer and consider a variety of interpretive perspectives. Plus you’ll have read some really great texts.

This course will be an examination of literary approaches in human experience including short fiction, poetry, and drama. Principal attention to the elements that make up literature, with supporting discussion of ideas, attitudes, problems, and values.

**Eastern Washington University Course Goals**

By the end of English 170, students will be able to:

1. identify and use literary terms to explicate and analyze literary texts and connect this analysis to other texts
2. describe, explain, analyze, and discuss the common themes of literature and how those themes relate to the intellectual ideas and cultural values, beliefs, and practices of our time
3. distinguish the basic literary forms of prose, poetry, and drama

**What to expect... Reading Requirements:**

EWU requires you to complete six literary units, covering the genres of prose, poetry, and drama. You will be asked to read all or portions of the following texts: *Beowulf, Canterbury Tales, Lord of the Rings,* and *The Samurai's Garden,* as well as a series of poems and a play.

**Writing Requirements:**

EWU requires you to write a minimum of ten double-spaced pages *throughout the span of the course*, including some literary analysis. Understand that you will write more than ten double-spaced pages throughout the span of the course. You should be able to analyze both prose and poetry, showing your knowledge and identification of literary terminology; the ability to connect the use of literary devices to content and theme; and the ability to use contextual evidence to support an interpretative and universal thesis. We will focus on three major writing-related skills: 1) recognizing the difference between summary and analysis; 2) incorporating textual evidence in the form of quotes to support your ideas; and 3) creating a unique analytical thesis.

**Other assignments/activities may include:** Short in- and out-of-class writing and reading assignments; in- and out-of-class video viewing; online quizzes and discussion boards; multiple intelligence friendly projects, Socratic Seminars and in-class presentations.

**Important Resources**

* **Canvas/Google Classroom:** I am currently in the works of setting up an online site where we will take quizzes, post assignments, and use discussion boards. Stay tuned as this develops.
* **Skyward and EagleNet:** You will be provided with log-in information to access your grades on both websites. Be sure to keep track of your progress!
* **EWU Writers' Center:** The Writers’ Center is a free resource for EWU students (that's you!). In one-to-one, online or face-to-face 50-minute sessions, Responders offer thoughtful feedback on any kind of academic or personal writing, at any stage in the writing process. During sessions, Responders encourage students to consider and implement strategies for improving their writing and becoming a more successful writer. The Writers’ Center also provides feedback on forms of visual and digital communication like PowerPoint presentations, posters and websites. For more information about the Writers’ Center and to schedule an appointment with a Responder, visit www.ewu.edu/writerscenter.
* **EWU Libraries:** EWU Libraries provides access to 750,000 books and over 50,000 journals, magazines and newspapers online and in print. Librarians are available to assist students in all of their research needs in person, IM chat, email, or by phone. To access our resources, contact us, or for more information, visit http://www.ewu.edu/library.

**Eastern Washington University Policies**

**ADA Statement**

Eastern Washington University is committed to providing support for students with disabilities. If you are a student with physical, learning, emotional, or psychological disabilities needing an accommodation, you are encouraged to stop by Disability Support Services (DSS), TAW 124 and speak with Kevin Hills, the Manager DSS or call 509-359-6871.

**Equal Opportunity Statement**

EWU does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, genetic information, age, marital status, families with children, protected veteran or military status, HIV or hepatitis C, status of mother breastfeeding her child, or the present of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, as provided for and to the extend required by state and federal laws.

**Affirmative Action Statement**

Eastern Washington University adheres to affirmative action policies to increase the number and retention of students and employees form historically underrepresented groups.

**Academic Integrity**

Academic Integrity is the corner stone of the university. Any student who attempts to gain an unfair advantage over other students by violating the Academic Integrity policy may be reported to the university and may receive a sanction up to and including XF for the course, suspension, or expulsion from the university. This policy is on the EWU website, <https://sites.ewu./policies/policies-and-procedures/wac-172-90-student-academci-integrity-3/>

Students participating in the EWU in the Highs School Program are held to and should be familiar with the Academic Integrity policy.

Violations of academic integrity involve the use of any method or technique enabling the student to misrepresent the quality or integrity of any of his/her university related work. Students committing academic dishonesty will be reported to the appropriate university officials. Also, students may fail the particular assignment and/or receive a failing grade (XF) for the course.

**Homework and Make-up Work Policy**

Homework will be due by the end of the day (midnight) on the day that it is due. Late work will not be accepted unless prior arrangements have been made and approved by Ms. Preston.

In the case of an **excused** absence, you will have the same number of days to turn in your late work as the number of days you were absent. For example, if I was absent for Thursday and Friday, I would have until the end of Tuesday to submit any work that was due during that time or to make up work that I missed.

**It is the student's responsibility to complete any work missed during an absence.** If you have a planned absence or are going to miss class for a school related activity, please meet with me ahead of time to collect your assignments early. I will have lectures saved to a thumb drive that you may borrow.

If you are unexpectedly absent due to illness or another event, please contact me outside of class as soon as possible to discuss what you've missed. Remember, this is your responsibility; I will not seek you out.

Technically, my late-work policy is that I do not take late work. However, there is a form that you can fill out to petition for an extension. If your petition is accepted, you will need to complete and turn in the work by the new due date. Because timeliness is important in the learning process, it is imperative you stay on schedule with your work. My feedback on a paper turned in six weeks late is of far less educational value to you than my feedback when given during the actual unit of study.

Please make a habit of checking Skyward to be sure you aren't missing work.

**Classroom Procedures**

* You are welcome to eat and drink in my classroom as long as you don't disturb me or the rest of the class. This privilege may change at any time if students abuse it or leave trash behind.
* Please make sure that you have a sharpened writing utensil, paper, and all required materials **before class begins**. If you have to return to your locker for an item, you may be marked late.
* Cell phones, iPods, headphones, and other similar devices are not allowed during class without approval. If I see a device out during class that is not being used for learning purposes, I reserve the right to confiscate it and/or deduct credit from the current assignment.
* If it is discovered that you have cheated on or plagiarized an assignment, you will receive an automatic zero with **no option to make up the missed points**.

**Materials**

Please expect to use a pen or pencil, college-ruled paper, and any assigned text on a daily basis.

I recommend that you also have the following: 1-2 composition books, a binder, sticky notes, and highlighters.

**Grades**

I will update Skyward on a regular basis so that you may track your progress in this class. I will gladly meet with any students earning an overall grade below a 'C'-level, or any student concerned about his or her grade. **Students must receive a 2.0 or higher in this class to earn the five college credits offered by EWU.** Students will receive one full grade higher than their EWU grade on their high school transcript.

**Classroom Expectations Contract**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I believe that the key to student success begins with a classroom environment that is both structured and consistent. To ensure your child's optimum success in my classroom, I have established a short list of expectations that will make our classroom learning experience as productive and positive as possible. Along with these rules, I have attached a list of consequences that will be enforced if your student chooses not to follow expectations. Because this is a college-level class, **I expect students to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to an elevated academic setting. It is the student's responsibility to use his or her time effectively.** Please make sure you and your student discuss and clarify these expectations this week, so that your student can turn in a signed portion (see below) by Tuesday, September 4, 2018.

If your child does not want to take the class for college credit they can opt-out, and there will be some modifications made to the coursework for them. However, the course is designed to encourage all students to receive college credit and give students a positive first-time experience working at a post-secondary level. It is the hope of Eastern Washington University that this course will inspire students to attend college and give students confidence knowing that they are capable of college-level learning. I encourage all students to take this course for college credit.\*

I know a big concern for both students is grades and that this course may damage their GPA. However, as with the other EWU in the High School courses taught in Harrington, students will receive a full letter grade higher than their EWU grade in the High School grade book. Please use Skyward to monitor grades regularly. It is my hope that all students may participate in sports and clubs. Please notify me if you feel that any mistake has been made. Otherwise, a failing grade **will** result in an ineligible status, regardless of last-minute work turned in.

Expectations:

* Make Good Decisions: arrive on-time, with all needed supplies and a willingness to try.
* Show Respect: put your phone away, listen, and participate.

I have read and understand the syllabus and classroom expectations, and I am prepared to comply. Consequences:

* + - Verbal warning
    - Being moved
    - Discuss a possible solution to the problem after class
    - Phone call home.
    - Referral to administration: In extreme cases this may be the 1st consequence.

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\*Students can withdraw from the course until a specified date that I will communicate once I get it from EWU. I encourage students to give it a try until that date; and, if their grade is not where it needs to be on that date, we can withdraw them from course at that time.