

Course: English 2310 - Short Story
Credit Hours: 3
Instructor: Dr. Sue Bennett
Office: MCDON 213
Office Hours: M 2:15-4; Tu 2:15-4; W noon-1; Th noon-1
Phone: W – 652.7925; H – 673.6357
E-mail: bennett@dixie.edu - Use this e-mail address only as a back-up in case you cannot access WebCT e-mail.

SYLLABUS – FALL 2006

TEXTBOOK

- Required: Charters, Ann, ed. The Story and Its Writer. An Introduction to Short Fiction. Compact 7th ed. Boston: St. Martin's, 2007.
- Suggested: Dixie State College Research Paper Guide (if you've never written a research paper)
- You can also find help at Dixie's online writing lab - <http://dsc.dixie.edu/owl>

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 2310 is appropriate for students in all disciplines with an interest in improving their enjoyment of short stories. This course fulfills a literature requirement in the general education section and provides opportunities for developing greater skill in the critical reading and appreciation of short stories. The class includes a text, group discussion, written responses to short stories, quizzes, and a final exam. Successful students will demonstrate skill in reading different types of stories; in understanding the devices creative writers use, such as plot, character, point of view and theme; and in sharing what they understand through written discussion.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of English 2310, you will be able to:

- Appreciate the internal order of a short story and its relation to biography, history, and culture.
- Appreciate the short story and its development.
- Experience a variety of short stories and desire to continue reading them when the course ends.
- Learn how to find information about short stories, authors, and critics.
- Learn and use the terminology for discussing short stories.
- Contribute to class discussions.

- Develop clear, challenging thesis statements and develop your ideas using a variety of methods, such as explication, analysis, comparison and contrast, and context.
- Build your stock of vocabulary and sentence patterns.
- See a connection between situations, issues, and values in short stories and in life.

GRADING

Semester grades will be determined by the following:

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| • | Assignment 1 | 10% or 100 points |
| • | Assignment 2 | 20% or 200 points |
| • | Assignment 3 | 20% or 300 points |
| • | Weekly Discussions | 20% or 200 points |
| • | Weekly Quizzes | 10% or 100 points |
| • | Final Exam | <u>20% or 200 points</u>
100% or 1000 points |

GRADING SCALE

A = 94-100
 A- = 90-93
 B+ = 87-89
 B = 84-86
 B- = 80-83
 C+ = 77-79
 C = 74-76
 C- = 70-73
 D+ = 67-69
 D = 64-66
 D- = 60-63
 F = 59 and below

QUIZZES

You will have an online quiz every week. The quizzes are open book, correspond to the reading assignment for that week, and must be completed before midnight each Sunday. I do not give "make-ups" for these quizzes. If you miss a quiz, you will receive a zero. I suggest you take your quiz early to avoid last-minute problems.

WEEKLY DISCUSSIONS

You are expected to post a minimum of two times to the discussion board each week. These two posts must occur at least 24 hours apart; however, you are welcome to post more often if you wish. For example, if you post your first message at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, the soonest you can post again and have it count toward your minimum two posts for the week is 1:00 p.m. on Thursday. Your participation in the weekly discussions will be graded according to the quality and quantity of your responses. For instance, for the first posting, students who write original, thoughtful ideas early in the week (before Thursday) will receive more points than students who wait until the last minute (after Thursday) or students who simply repeat what has already been said. Likewise, for the second posting, students who write responses that show they have read the previous postings for the week will receive more points than students who do not respond to previous postings. Again, students who wait until the last minute will receive fewer points. A lively discussion with various points of view usually provides more insight into the literature; therefore, I encourage you to use your critical thinking skills and write challenging, thought-provoking responses. On the other hand, I expect students to be respectful of opposing points of view.

For the discussion board, the cycle for posting will begin and end at midnight on Sundays. Regardless of holidays or absences, students are expected to fulfill their quota of two posts per week. Discussion board posts may not be made-up. I will begin the posting each week with questions/thoughts for the week. You will then answer those questions and/or respond to each other throughout the week.

LATE PAPER POLICY

Assignments are due on the date indicated on the syllabus. If you know you will be absent the day an assignment is due, turn in your assignment early. Because of unforeseen emergency situations, I do accept late assignments; however, late assignments will be docked 10 points for every day they are late. Assignments must be submitted in Microsoft Word (.doc) format through the appropriate WebCT assignment icon dropbox on the homepage; assignments are due before midnight on the date listed on the course schedule. If you have a problem submitting to WebCT, you may e-mail your assignment to me (before midnight) with an explanation of the problem. Any work submitted after midnight (regardless of the cause) will be considered late and will be docked 10 points for each day it is late. Therefore, I encourage you to submit your assignments early to avoid these late penalties.

If you are having trouble with an assignment, go to the Writing Center (on the first floor of the Browning Building), send an e-mail to the online Writing Center <http://dsc.dixie.edu/owl>, or contact me. It's best to get help before the assignment is due.

CONFERENCES

All correspondence should take place over WebCT; nonetheless, my office hours, e-mail address, office phone #, and home phone # are all posted on the front of this syllabus. If, for some reason, you cannot contact me through WebCT, you are welcome to use another method.

PLAGIARISM

Under the "Student Rights and Responsibilities Code," Section 33.5.1.4 on Dixie's home page, plagiarism is thoroughly defined. Please read this definition carefully: <http://www.dixie.edu/humanres/polstu.html>. Note that plagiarism includes "collaborating with any other person during a test [or quiz]"; "substituting for another student or permitting any other person to substitute for oneself to take a test [or quiz] or complete an assignment"; and "collusion, which is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit."

The Dixie State College Research Paper Guide contains a more concise definition: plagiarism is "an act of willfully or carelessly attempting to pass off as one's own work the words (oral or written) of someone else" (6). You can buy a copy of the Dixie State College Research Guide in the bookstore, you can access the online research paper guide at <http://dsc.dixie.edu/owl>, or you can talk to me. Your understanding of this concept is essential because plagiarism *is grounds for failure in this course*.

DROP DATE

If you stop attending class, it is your responsibility to drop the class before **September 27** to avoid receiving an "F" on your transcript.

DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

If you are a student with a medical, psychological, or learning disability and would like accommodations, contact Sherri Dial at the Disability Resource Center (652-7516) located in the Student Services Center. The Disability Resource Center will determine your eligibility and determine the appropriate accommodations related to your disability.

WRITING CENTER

The college provides a free service for students desiring additional assistance with their writing assignments in all courses. The Writing Center is located in the Browning Bldg. Call 652.7813 for hours and more information. Their website is <http://dsc.dixie.edu/owl>

TESTING CENTER

Hours of operation are posted online at <http://dsc.dixie.edu/testingcenter/officehours.htm>

LIBRARY

Hours of operation are posted online at <http://library.dixie.edu/info/hours.html>

ENGLISH 2310 – Fall 2006
Assignment Schedule

Week 1 (Aug 22-25)

3-5 (Introduction)
161-63 ("The House on Mango Street")
782-87 ("A & P")
1060-69 (Appendix 3 – "A Brief History of the Short Story")
Discussion 1
Quiz 1

Week 2 (Aug 28-Sept 1)

338-48 ("Young Goodman Brown")
153, 158-60 ("The Story of an Hour")
364-71("The Lottery") and 877-80 (commentary)
1070-86 (Appendix 4 - "Writing about Short Stories")
Discussion 2
Quiz 2

Week 3 (Sept 4-8)

74-81 ("An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge")
608-21 ("The Things They Carried") and 885-86 (commentary)
660-69 ("Guests of the Nation")
1044-59 (Appendix 2 – "The Elements of Fiction")
Discussion 3
Quiz 3
Assignment 1 Due (Rough Draft)

Week 4 (Sept 11-15)

14-19 ("The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven") and 832-34 (commentary)
116-31 ("Paul's Case")
312-25 ("The Yellow Wallpaper") and 867-73 (commentary)
Discussion 4
Quiz 4

Week 5 (Sept 18-22)

622-59 (all of O'Connor) and 980-88 (commentary)
Discussion 5
Quiz 5
Assignment 1 Due (Final Draft)

Week 6 (Sept 25-29)

434, 441-75 ("The Metamorphosis") and 927-29 (commentary)
Discussion 6
Quiz 6

Week 7 (Oct 2-6)

27-31 ("Hands")
285-92 ("A Rose for Emily")
306-11 ("A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings")
1097-1102 (Appendix 5 – "Literary Theory and Critical Perspectives")
Discussion 7
Quiz 7
Assignment 2 Due (Rough Draft)

Week 8 (Oct 9-13)

164-207 ("Heart of Darkness")
Discussion 8
Quiz 8

Week 9 (Oct 16-20)

207-26 ("Heart of Darkness" con.) and 827-32 (commentary)
1087-96 (Appendix 4 – "Writing the Research Paper")
Discussion 9
Quiz 9

Assignment 2 Due (Final Draft)

Week 10 (Oct 23-27)

87-115 (all of Carver) and 957-63 (commentary)
Discussion 10
Quiz 10

Week 11 (Oct 30-Nov 3)

594-607 ("Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?") and 896-900
(commentary)
698-704 ("The Cask of Amontillado")
Discussion 11
Quiz 11

Week 12 (Nov 6-10)

36-59 ("Sonny's Blues")
492-504 ("The Rocking-Horse Winner")
Discussion 12
Quiz 12
Assignment 3 Due (Rough Draft)

Week 13 (Nov 13-17)

740-81 ("The Death of Ivan Ilych")
Discussion 13
Quiz 13

Week 14 (Nov 20-24)

399, 404-33 ("The Dead") and 901-03 (commentary)

Discussion 14

Quiz 14

Assignment 3 Due (Final Draft)

Week 15 (Nov 27-Dec 1)

381-89 ("A White Heron")

788-95 ("Everyday Use")

799-806 ("A Worn Path") and 932-34 (commentary)

Discussion 15

Quiz 15

The **Final Exam** is comprehensive and will be available in the **DSC Testing Center** (top floor of the Browning Building). Check our website for the hours of operation: <http://dsc.dixie.edu/testingcenter/index.htm>

You will need to know the name of this class and section # (English 2310-40) and my name (Dr. Bennett). In addition, you will need a student ID. You will not be allowed to use any books or notes.

The test will be available from **Friday, Dec. 8 through Thursday, Dec. 14.**

If you are unable to take your exam in the Testing Center, you must find a comparable location and have it approved by me before Week 15 begins.