The Modern World: Literature and Composition III

English 2312 Section C Spring 2016

Instructor: Prof. Miller
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Office: Malloy 231
Office Hours: M/W 2:00-3:00; Tu/Th 8:30 to 9:30 and by appointment.

Objectives:

Literature and Composition III completes the Core Curriculum in English, building upon the foundations of the Classical Tradition (1341) and the Christian and Humanist traditions of the Middle-Ages and Renaissance (1342). We will begin with a discussion of the meaning of “the modern world” from the philosophical and historical perspectives of Romano Guardini and Christopher Dawson respectively. We will then examine literary selections chosen for their universally recognized mastery of their respective genres and for the expressiveness of their articulation of the major themes of modern literature. In this course we will engage the distinctive qualities of the major literary genres consisting of narrative, poetry and film drama.

This course also continues to build upon the practices of academic writing begun in English 1341 and 1342. Students will continue to learn the rudiments of classical rhetorical theory and practice while studying the techniques of persuasion and argumentation. The direct assessment of writing will constitute the major portion of the final grade. Students will engage primary texts to develop interpretive arguments, formulate substantial thesis statements, and compose coherent critical essays and a research paper.

Required Texts:

Students are required to bring hard copies of the following texts to class according to the assigned reading schedule:


The instructor will provide copies of other required readings for the course which are to be considered as texts.
Requirements:

To receive credit for this course students are expected to attend class regularly, read critically all of the assigned readings, and submit writing assignments on time. Students will compose one formal essays of 4-6 pages, a research paper of 8 to 10 pages, and several practicum papers of 2 pages each. Students will sit for a mid-term and a final examination and take occasional quizzes throughout the semester. Finally, students can enhance their grade by constructive participation in class discussions.

Unexcused absences and habitual tardiness will result in a reduction of the final grade at the instructor’s discretion.

Written work is due on the dates designated on the syllabus or determined by the instructor at the time they are assigned in class. Work submitted late without prior approval will be penalized with a reduction of a letter grade for each two-day period beyond due date. All assignments must be handed to the instructor or left with English department secretary. Do not submit assignments via email unless particularly instructed to do so.

The university’s policy on academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced, and students are expected to familiarize themselves with the relevant sections of The University Catalogue and The Student Handbook. Any instance of plagiarism is grounds for summary failure of the course.

Students with an officially recognized learning accommodation must provide me with a copy of their specific accommodation, and they are strongly encouraged to discretely discuss with me their particular needs.

Please refrain from using electronic devices during class lectures unless you discuss your particular need for such devices with me.

Grading:

For the satisfactory achievement of these requirements, letter grades will be awarded and will constitute percentages of the final average as follows:

1 Essay = 15%  1 Research Paper = 20%  4 Practicum Papers = 20%
Quizzes/Participation = 10%  Mid-term Exam = 15%  Final Exam = 20%
Schedule of Readings and Assignments

January


25 M Guardini and Dawson and “the modern world”: discussion.

27 W *Crime and Punishment* Part I

February

1 M Practicum #1 (“Modern World”) due. *Crime and Punishment* Part II.

3 W *Crime and Punishment* Part III.

8 M *Crime and Punishment* Part IV

10 W *Crime and Punishment* Part V.

15 M Practicum #2 on *Crime & Punishment* due. *Crime and Punishment* Part IV.

17 W *Crime and Punishment* Epilogue.

22 M *The Waste Land* and Other Poems (handouts).

24 W *The Waste Land*.


March 2 W *The Waste Land*. 

9 W  *Brave New World*: Chapters 7-9.

14 M  *Brave New World*: Chapters 10-18.

16 W  Mid-term Exam.

**Spring Break/Easter Holiday**

28 M  *The Thanatos Syndrome* Part I.

30 W  *The Thanatos Syndrome* Part II.

April

4 M  *The Thanatos Syndrome* Part III.

6 W  *The Thanatos Syndrome* Part IV.


13 W  “Good Country People”. Essay “The Church and the Fiction Writer”.


25 M  **Practicum#4 on Flannery O’Connor due.**  Film/ Viewing and Discussion.

27 W  Film/ Viewing and Discussion.
May

2 M  **Research Papers Due.** Film/ Viewing and Discussion. What’s on the Final?

Final Exam: Monday, May 9 at 3:00 to 5:30 pm