Dickens – 4393/6393 (MLA)

Professor Jim Barloon
Office: 232 Malloy
Phone: 942-5033
Email: barlooj@stthom.edu
Office Hours: 9:10 to 10:00 M-W-F, 4:00 to 5:00 T, & by appointment

Required Texts:
Oliver Twist (Penguin Classics)
Bleak House (Penguin Classics)
A Tale of Two Cities (Penguin Classics)
Great Expectations (Penguin Classics)

Writing: You will write two critical essays of five to eight pages (eight to ten pages for MLA students) Short writing assignments will be made from time to time, and quizzes will be given weekly.

Reading: We will read the four required works in the order listed above. Specific reading assignments can be found on the syllabus or will be made in class. It is your responsibility to know the assignment—please call or email me if you have questions in this regard—and to keep up with the reading.

Attendance: What we do in class is important for meeting the goals of the class, and most of our class sessions depend upon your active involvement. Therefore, regular attendance is required. You are allotted one absence; for every additional absence—no matter the reason for the absence—your final grade will be lowered a half letter grade. If you leave at break, please let me know; that counts as half an absence.

Presentation: All students are required to give a presentation on a topic assigned, or selected, early in the semester. It is recommended, but not required, that presenters meet with me briefly a few days before the presentation to outline their remarks and, if necessary, ask questions.

Academic Honesty: Cheating in any form, including plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Any time one uses someone else’s ideas, words, or work without explicitly citing the source, one has been academically dishonest. The penalty for an incident of academic dishonesty is either an ‘F’ for the plagiarized work or an ‘F’ for the course.

Late and Missed Work: Unless we have made arrangements in advance, late papers and other work will be marked down. Check your schedule for potential conflicts and speak with me ahead of time if you might have trouble meeting a deadline. Make-up tests will only be given for very serious reasons.

Final Grade: Your final grade will be based on the following percentages:
15% - Essay 1
15% - Essay 2
15% - Midterm Exam
20% - Final Exam
  10% - Attendance, Participation & Professionalism
15% - Quizzes
10% - Presentation

*To pass this course, all required assignments must be completed.
**Please turn your cell-phones off before you enter class.
***Never, Never text in class
****Lap-top computers may only be used for taking notes.
*****Please let me know immediately if you have a disability that prevents the full expression of your abilities in this course.

Syllabus – Dickens (ENGL 4393/6393)

Aug. 30 - Read chapters 13-32 of Oliver Twist & presentation #1

Sept. 6 - Read chapters 33-53 of Oliver Twist & presentation #2

Sept. 13 - Bleak House (chapters 1-13) & presentation #3

Sept. 20 - Bleak House (chapters 14-23) & presentation #4

Sept. 27 – Bleak House (chapters 24-34) & presentation #5

Oct. 4 - Midterm Exam

Oct. 11 – No Class: October Break

Oct. 18 - Bleak House (chapters 35-53) & Essay #1 due

Oct. 25 - Bleak House (finish the novel) & presentation #6

Nov. 1 - A Tale of Two Cities & presentation #7

Nov. 8 - A Tale of Two Cities & presentation #8

Nov. 15 – Great Expectations & presentation #9

Nov. 22 - Great Expectations & presentation #10

Nov. 29 – Great Expectations & presentation #11 & Essay #2 due

Final Exam: Tuesday, December 13 from 4:30 to 7:00pm