

### **Online English 2201: Literary Heritage**

**Texts:** *Literature for Life*, ed. X. J. Kennedy, Dana Gioia, and Nina Baym. Pearson 2013.  
ISBN 13:978-0-205-74514-2

William Shakespeare, *Macbeth*, Folger Library, Simon&Schuster ISBN 978-0-7434-7710-9

#### **Aims and Organization:**

The basic purpose of this course is to develop critical and creative thinking about texts, fiction as well as non-fiction. In the process, students should acquire a stronger vocabulary and contextual grasp of fundamental literary genres, forms and texts. Acquiring these skills will further greater appreciation and understanding of both popular and canonical literature in English and world literature in translation. A secondary but equally important purpose is to assist students in producing more concrete, well-argued, and specifically focused writing not just about literature but about the many social, political, and philosophical issues it raises. These issues subdivide into three major themes: families and children; loneliness, alienation and dissent; marriage, power, guilt and war. Students will also acquire a strong foundation in all major literary genres from parable to short story, from Realism to Gothic, and from lyric poetry to classical tragedy, Greek as well as Renaissance. The other major focus will be on basic linguistic devices: precise setting, metaphor, symbol, allusion, irony, and “voice.”

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

- 1) improved reading skills across the curriculum
- 2) improved creative, critical, and analytic thinking across the curriculum
- 3) improved grasp of the standard college essay--tools equally useful for standard business letters
- 4) improved standard English usage for all university courses and job or internship applications
- 5) improved oral and written communication skills

#### **Assignments and Written Work:**

Regular class attendance will consist of two online responses to each bi-weekly set of readings. Students will choose from at least 4-5 questions on each set, thus allowing for a maximum of individual choice. After choosing a question students should submit a solid, detailed paragraph answer online and respond to at least one other student paragraph; these two responses take the place of weekly class discussion. There will also be three quizzes on the three genres surveyed in this course, fiction, poetry and drama; midterm exam, a formal paper, and a final exam. The students' two weekly responses, graded on a scale of 0-10, together with the quizzes constitute 25% of their grades. The midterm exam and a relatively short, 4-5 page formal essay constitute another 25% each, while the final exam makes up the final 25%. In all borderline grades, regular contributions and improvement in student work will be a strong factor.

#### **Accommodation/Disability Statement:**

Students who have a disability or condition that may impair their ability to complete assignments or otherwise satisfy course criteria are encouraged to meet with the Student Disabilities Services Center to identify, discuss, and document any feasible instructional modification or accommodations.

#### **Using Turnitin.com:**

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