

EN 133 Narrative and Interpretation

Professor Frederick

REQUIRED TEXTS

Amis, Kingsley	<i>Lucky Jim</i> (novel)
Brehm, John	"Sea of Faith" (poem)
Gallop, Jane	"Feminist Accused of Sexual Harassment" (essay) "Consensual Amorous Relations" (recommended essay)
Gilman, Rebecca	<i>Spinning into Butter</i> (play)
Jackson, Lisa R.	"The Influence of Both Race and Gender on the Experiences of African American College Women" (essay)
Mariani, Paul	<i>The Great Wheel: Poems</i> (poems)
Readings, Bill	<i>The University in Ruins</i> (Chapters 1, 9, and 10 recommended)
Reed, Ishmael	<i>Japanese by Spring</i> (novel)
Smiley, Jane	<i>Moo</i> (novel)
Trilling, Lionel	"Of this Time, Of that Place" (short story)

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

Definition of Terms

Genre

"Drama," "Novel," "Poetry," "Short Story"

Narrative

M. H. Abrams	<i>A Glossary of Literary Terms</i> , "Narrative and Narratology"
Chris Baldick	<i>The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms</i> , "Narrative"
Lentricchia (et. al.)	<i>Critical Terms for Literary Study</i> , "Narrative"

Interpretation

M. H. Abrams	<i>A Glossary of Literary Terms</i> , "Interpretation and Hermeneutics," "Criticism"
Lentricchia (et. al.)	<i>Critical Terms for Literary Study</i> , "Interpretation"

Critical Method

Bartholomae, Petrosky	<i>Ways of Reading</i> , "Introduction: Ways of Reading"
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RECOMMEND GRAMMAR/STYLE GUIDES:

Corbett & Finkle	<i>The Little English Handbook, Eighth Edition</i> <i>MLA Handbook, 5th Edition</i> (or later)
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This section of Narrative and Interpretation is concerned with the effective use of criticism in the analysis of literature written about the University. Students will read different types of literature (poetry, short story, and novel) first to investigate definitions of "narrative" and "interpretation" and then to examine the relationships between form and content. Students will learn to draw on literary and cultural criticism to make sense of ideas contained in our readings. We will use selected non-fiction to analyze how creative writers address the University as an institution and as a social construct. Methodologically speaking, this course is structured by "close readings" of fiction and non-fiction as well as by the arguments presented in non-fictional and fictional texts. This is a writing intensive course, requiring critical response papers for each fictional text (these papers must draw on required non-fictional readings, lecture, and class discussion), and one formal research essay of 7 to 10 pages. There will be a take-home midterm exam comprised of short essays. Attendance and engaged class participation are required.