

Fall 2015

ENGL 2043

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University of New Orleans

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ENGL 2043 New Orleans Literature
Dr. Elizabeth Miller Lewis

Office: LA 165
Office Hours: T 11:00-1:30 W 11:00-1:30
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Course Description

This online course is designed to give students an overview of New Orleans literature from its earliest years to the current writing scene. We will begin with works written in the early 19th century, including those in the first ever anthology of African American literature, and naturally read works by such notable New Orleans writers as Tennessee Williams and Kate Chopin. We will surely come away with a better understanding of the longstanding tradition of New Orleans literature over the years as well as in the present day. The goals of this course are to introduce various genres including fiction, literary non-fiction, poetry and drama, to encourage you to express your reactions to these genres through writing and discussion and to teach the fundamentals of literary analysis.

Texts: *N.O. Lit: 200 Years of New Orleans Literature*. Ed. Nancy Dixon. Lavenderink, 2013 ISBN: 978-1-935084. The text is available on Amazon and in the bookstore

Our readings for the end of term are Lillian Hellman's *Toys in the Attic*, Tennessee William's *A Streetcar Named* and an additional selection which will be announced.

Please note that the online course is more rigorous than the onsite course. Students must possess fundamental computer knowledge, as computer instruction is beyond the scope of this course. In addition, the student must have a degree of scholarly independence and initiative, since communication between the instructor and student is limited in an online course. Previous online course experience is a definite advantage in this course.

Although we will not meet at regular times, even in cyberspace, you must keep up with all of the work and meet all deadlines. This is not a work-at-your-own pace course. There will be at least one deadline to meet every week. Expect to log on to our course at least five times a week at regular intervals to check the announcements and do other coursework. You will also be expected to do all of the readings in the time allotted on the syllabus, and post all other written assignments by their due dates. I will be checking the tracking statistics to make sure that each student is reading my lectures every week. A knowledge of the lectures must be reflected in both the paper assignments and the exam responses.

****All assignments must be completed on time, or you will receive a 0. I will not accept late work or make up work in this course.**

Course Requirements: Two exams, two formal papers and scheduled quizzes are required for this course, as well as participation in Discussion Board assignments. There will be an onsite exam and an online exam in a timed format (approximately one and a half to two hours) in addition to a take home exam. **Students are required to arrange their schedules so they can be online and onsite at the designated exam times.**

Saturday, Oct. 10On Campus 11:00-1:00**

Saturday, Dec. 5 – Final Exam Online 11:00-1:00

The length for the formal papers is approximately five pages (minimum). I will hand out detailed paper assignments for the papers. Students are also required to participate in discussion board forums, which I will assign throughout the course of the semester. The class participation grade will be comprised of the discussion board assignments and quizzes. You will have a designated amount of time to take the quizzes, and there will be specific deadlines for the discussion board assignments. ****Please note that the Discussion Boards will be graded cumulatively at the end of the semester.** Individual discussion board grades will not be posted during the course of the semester.

Lectures and assignments will be posted continually throughout the semester. I will always alert you by e-mail of any new postings in our course. Check your UNO e-mail on a regular basis. **Students must arrange their schedules so that they can take the online and onsite exams, which will be posted at specific times** (check syllabus). All assignments will be turned in to Turnitin. **Use rtf (rich text format)** for your work, so we can avoid any digital translation problems. It is essential that **I am able to open all of your documents immediately, or you will be penalized.** As I noted earlier, students must have basic computer skills and a fundamental knowledge of Moodle. Obviously, students who cannot negotiate digitally will fall too far behind in the course.

Grading Policy: Please note that because of class size and online grading complexity there is an approximate two week (more or less) turn around time to receive grades on major assignments.

Class Attendance The English Department has adopted an attendance policy that requires instructors to report students to their deans if they miss more than the allowed number of classes. The dean will then put those students on academic probation for the rest of the semester. Attendance will be tallied by the quizzes and discussion board assignments. If you miss the deadline for a quiz, it will count as one absence and you will receive the grade of 0 for the assignment; if you fail to participate in a discussion board forum, you will receive one absence and receive a 0 for the assignment. Obviously, failure to submit these assignments will adversely affect your grade.

Plagiarism: I will not tolerate plagiarism in this course. Academic honesty is required of UNO students. All of your work must be exclusively yours. Refer to the policies on plagiarism listed in the university student handbook. Students suspected of plagiarism may jeopardize their academic career if found guilty. If a paper is plagiarized, it automatically receives a zero (0). If you receive a 0 on any paper, you will fail the course. Please be aware that Turnitin will detect plagiarism and all of your papers will be submitted through Turnitin.

*Please note that **the online and onsite exams are neither open book or open notebook.** The exams will consist of passages from the readings that you are required to identify in a detailed fashion, direct questions and short essays. These responses must reflect my lectures and the discussion board forum. Quite simply, **if you do not keep up with the work it will be reflected in the exam, because you will not have time in a two hour exam to do any outside consultation.**

Grades I use the traditional ten point letter grades, A-F. The breakdown for the grades in this course is as follows:

Take Home Exam	12%
On Campus Exam	25%
Final Exam	15%
Paper 1	15%
Paper 2	15%
Discussion Board/Quizzes	18%

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the semester, students will have acquired proficiency in the following area

- 1. Course Content through the study of literary genres*
Students will have an understanding of the tradition of New Orleans literature and the history of the city from the early nineteenth century to the early twenty-first century by reading the works of canonical authors in the genres of fiction, literary non-fiction, poetry, drama and the novel.
- 2. Analytical writing*
Students will perfect their analytical writing skills through the composition of literary analysis papers and exam essay responses, which are critiqued by the instructor.
- 3. Critical thinking*
Students will hone their critical thinking skills through interactive peer discussion forums, directed by the instructor, on the assigned literary works.

ENGL 2043 Syllabus

Please note that the syllabus is subject to change. Some reading selections may be omitted and others may be added. Page numbers correspond to the text NO Lit 200 Years

WEEK ONE – August 19-22

Preliminary Discussion Forum due by 11:59PM on Saturday, August 22

Intro to Course: Policies and Procedures

Chopin. “Desiree’s Baby” link will post on Moodle

Chopin. “At the Cadian Ball.” 257-262

WEEK TWO August 23-29

Hearn, “Inventing New Orleans” (link will be posted on Moodle)

Cable “The Haunted House on Royal” (link will be posted on Moodle)

Discussion Board #1 due by 11:59 PM on Saturday, August 29

WEEK THREE August 30-Sept. 5

Cable, “Jean-ah-Poquelin” (Cable reading file in Moodle)

Cable, “Jean” cont

Take home test Exam 1 due by 11:59 PM on Wed. Sept. 9

WEEK FOUR: September 6-12

Cable, “Tite Poulette” 178-190

Armand Lanusse “A Marriage of Conscience” (on Moodle)

WEEK FIVE: September 13-19

Victor Sejour “The Mulatto” (link will be posted on Moodle)

Poems of *Les Cenelles* 110-17

Discussion Board Assignment #2 due by 11:59 PM on Friday, Sept. 18

WEEK SIX: September 20-26

Alice Dunbar Nelson, “The Goodness of St. Rocque” 315-319

King, Grace “La Grande Demoiselle” 269-271

WEEK SEVEN: September 27-Oct 3

King, Grace. “The Little Convent Girl” 272-276

Sallie Rhett Roman, “Bastien, A Xmas in the Great Salt Marshes of Louisiana” 170-177

WEEK EIGHT: October 4-10

Dmitry, John. “Le Tombeau Blanc” 142-161

Midterm Exam: Saturday October 10 ON CAMPUS 11:00-1:00 **Bring a business size self addressed envelope with 2 stamps to the exam*

WEEK NINE: October 11-17

Paper One: due by 11:59 PM on Wednesday, October 14

Hamilton Basso. “I Can’t Dance” will be posted on Moodle

WEEK TEN: October 18-24

Welty, Eudora. "No Place for You, My Love" 389-401

Martin, Valerie "Death Goes to a Party" will be posted on Moodle

Quiz 1 due by 11:59 PM on Saturday October 24

WEEK ELEVEN: October 25-October 31

Hellman, Lillian, *Toys in the Attic* (Bookstore)

Discussion Board #3 due by 11:59 PM on Friday, Oct. 30

WEEK TWELVE: November 1-7

Williams, Tennessee. *A Streetcar Named Desire* (bookstore)

WEEK THIRTEEN: November 8-14

Streetcar, continued

Quiz 2 due by 11:59 PM on Saturday November 14

Reading selection tba

WEEK FOURTEEN November 15-21

Reading Selection tba

Discussion Board #4 due by 11:59 PM on Saturday November 21

WEEK FIFTEEN November 22-28

Keyes, "And She Wore Diamond Earrings," 329-337

Truman, "Christmas Memories" reading file posted on Moodle

WEEK SIXTEEN November 29-December 5

Paper Two due by 11:59PM on Thursday, December 3

Final Exam: Saturday December 5 ONLINE 11:00-1:00