

ELIT 10: Spring 2023 (Online, Asynchronous, and No Zooming)

Introduction to Fiction: Syllabus

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Office Hours: Feel free to email me throughout the week, and I will email you back as soon as possible, so that our individual office hours will be continuously on line and **via zoom appointment. Feel free to request a zoom office hour appointment anytime during each week**, and I will accommodate your schedule throughout the quarter. (There will be no set Office Hours time this quarter, because this is what students have requested to give you more flexibility.)

Course Description: This course is an introductory examination of literary fiction. Throughout the quarter we will read and analyze a variety of fictional texts, styles, conventions and techniques from multiple critical perspectives.

Course Calendar: **The Calendar for the class is in Canvas** in the first Module, so you can see when the books/texts are due to be read and when major assignments are so you can plan for the whole quarter if that is helpful for you.

Prerequisite: Advisory: English Writing 1A or English as a Second Language 5.

Student Learning Outcome Statements (SLOs):

***Student Learning Outcome:** Identify, articulate and evaluate the nature and variety of fictional texts, styles, conventions and techniques.

***Student Learning Outcome:** Analyze fiction in writing from multiple critical perspectives.

Objectives: During the quarter, we will be studying texts via a genre-based focus where we will consider the classic short story, flash fiction, historical based fiction, the graphic novel, epistolary novel, novella, and young adult fiction. In so doing, we will reading authors from differing cultural backgrounds who have written in or about the United States, and transnationally, throughout the latter part of the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty-first. We will focus our attention on writers who explore themes of identity, in particular, along lines of race, ethnicity, genders, class, and sexuality in an effort to stimulate our analysis of works that represent multiple perspectives. Students will also be introduced to a range of theoretical approaches at an appropriate level and pace for the course.

Methods: Because ELIT 10 is an English course, it is also designed for students to further develop, and study the following critical practices: complex composition skills necessary to write clear, effective essays; further aspects of rhetorical situation and authorship; a range of transfer level writing assignments both outside and in the classroom. We will employ group discussion, guided presentations, in-class pre-writing, as well as other methods to ground our responses to the texts. We will also include exploring various theoretical perspectives and critical approaches common to contemporary literary analysis. In addition, we will be viewing film adaptations of fictional texts to understand and offer comparative genre analysis.

Weekly Organization: Each **Canvas weekly module** will have a combination of **ASSIGNMENTS, READINGS**, and a class **DISCUSSION** question. There will also be "**lecture**" materials that you are meant to read over to guide you through the assignments.

Assignments for Home: These are pre-writings to facilitate your formal essays. They are meant to do early in the week to help you prepare. You submit them, but they are not letter graded and are part of class participation.

Assignments: Students will be responsible for completing the following assignments: writing three increasing complex essays; taking an in-class midterm and a final exam, reading the assigned texts, and class participation and attendance. Ongoing emphasis will be placed on class discussion; therefore, your participation will be strongly encouraged. Failure to do the assigned reading will negatively affect your class participation grade, as well as your ability to participate in fruitful class discussions, so please do your best to keep up with your colleagues.

Grading: Course requirements will be letter graded according to the following weights:

Essay #1 (Reader Response)

20%

Midterm Exam (Timed essay exam)	20%
Essay #2 (Critical Textual Analysis)	20%
Final Exam (Timed essay exam)	20%
Class Participation	20%

Turning in Assignments: Formal assignments will be due on Mondays at 2:00 p.m. (rather than Sunday nights at midnight to give you a bit more time). Each weekly Module will open to students every Monday by 2:00 p.m., and you will receive a weekly letter via email from me and I will give you upcoming reminders. Hopefully, this will give you flexibility throughout the quarter.

Please comment in the DISCUSSION FORUM section during each weekly Module. The posts are part of your Class Participation grade. I read all of the Discussions posts.

Policies: Late papers will be downgraded 1/3 of a letter grade for each late day. In order to pass this course, *all* required work must be completed. If any student plagiarizes on an essay or an exam, then that student will receive a failing grade for the course and be subject to further disciplining by the college. A student will be dropped from the course after two unexcused absences. (I will speak to students individually regarding issues with attendance.)

Required Texts: (The short stories will be included in Canvas and/or you can access via google.)

Classic and New Short Stories:

“Fever Dream” – Ray Bradbury
 “the crow and the snake” – Joy Harjo
 “The Tell-Tale Heart” – Edgar Allan Poe
 “The Lottery” – Shirley Jackson
 “The Catch” – Felix Stefanile
 “La Ciramella” – Mary K. Mazotti
 “The Paper Menagerie” – Ken Liu

Fiction Forms:

MAUS I and MAUS II – Art Spiegelman
The Hate U Give – Angie Thomas
Kitchen – Banana Yoshimoto
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe – Benjamin Alire Sáenz
The Testaments – Margaret Atwood

You can order our books through the bookstore, when they arrive, or you can find PDF versions on line. We will also be watching related films and videos to support the reading and writing process throughout the quarter. Those will be noted in our weekly modules and can be accessed through our library with Kanopy.

Films:

The Lottery On-line
The Tell-Tale Heart (animation) On-line
A Promise to My Father [Documentary on Kanopy.]
The Hate U Give [Feature film streaming. Optional because of expense.]
Your Name (anime) [Feature film streaming. Optional because of expense.]
Love, Simon [Feature film streaming. Optional because of expense.]
The Handmaid’s Tale [Feature film. Optional because of expense.]

For Students with Learning and Disability Accommodations: Please email me with any accommodations needs; I am here to assist you throughout the quarter. **Disability Support Services** will be doing Zoom appointments throughout the quarter. Their telephone number is (408) 864-8753/TTY (408) 864-8748. Website: <https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/dss/>.

Resources Outside the Classroom: Students can still access the **Writing and Reading Center (WRC)** for tutorial help via Zoom. The **Student Success Center** offers free tutoring for most De Anza classes in English, Math, and other subjects. See <http://www.deanza.edu/studentssuccess> for details and their ongoing workshop schedule.

College Resources: Please continue to look at the De Anza College “**Basic Student Needs**” webpage to see

ongoing resources for students including Food Assistance and Emergency Funds:
<https://www.deanza.edu/resources/>.

Please Note: We will work together on our major assignments and communicate via Canvas and email knowing that there may be ongoing on-line and/or covid challenges that we will address together as the quarter progresses. Please email me any time throughout the quarter with any questions and comments. I hope you enjoy the readings!

Welcome to ELIT 10: Introduction to Fiction!