

∞ ENGLISH 4W: CRITICAL READING AND WRITING ∞
SECTION [number] – [term]
[meeting time and location]

Instructor: Heather Wozniak

Office Hours: [tba] and by appointment, in Royce B-14

Office Phone: 825-3825 (during office hours only)

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- I will make every effort to respond within 24 hours
- I will NOT view attachments or accept papers submitted via email

Course Website: access through *ecampus.humnet.ucla.edu* or *my.ucla.edu*

∞ Course Description

This course aims to develop the critical thinking and writing skills necessary to analyze literature. Reading a variety of texts, we will think very carefully about the ways that language creates meaning. The course will introduce you to literary terminology and the major genres—poetry, drama, short story, and novel. It will also strengthen your ability to write critical essays that present an argument (as opposed to a description) that is supported by evidence and careful analysis (that is, breaking down the features of the text and explaining how they mean what you say they mean). Knowing how to transfer your ideas onto paper and persuade others to see your viewpoint is an essential skill for any career.

Most of the readings revolve around *gothic* themes: terror, madness, death, and the supernatural. As we analyze the formal features of these texts, we will consider their relationships to the content. Why are certain stories scary? How does a writer represent madness? Why do horror stories overlap with science fiction? The readings will stimulate questions about personal assumptions as well as the workings of popular culture.

∞ Required Texts

The following materials should be available at ASUCLA Textbook Store:

- *APS Course Reader* (for Section 11)
- English Department *Style Sheet*
- William Shakespeare, *Macbeth* (Signet Classics)
- Percy Shelley, *Poetry and Prose*, 2nd edition (Norton)
- Robert Louis Stevenson, *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (Norton)
- H. G. Wells, *The Island of Dr. Moreau* (Signet Classics)
- Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway* (Harcourt)

For help with literary terminology, or further guidance on writing and formatting papers, I recommend the following books, also available through ASUCLA. Please note that these texts are OPTIONAL:

- M. H. Abrams, *A Glossary of Literary Terms*, 7th edition
- John Gibaldi, *MLA Handbook*, 6th edition
- John R. Trimble, *Writing with Style*, 2nd edition

☞ Course Requirements

Reading and Classroom Participation: Active participation in this workshop-style course is crucial to its success, so relax and speak up! Please come to class prepared to ask questions and to discuss the assigned readings in small groups or with the class as a whole. Remember that (1) attending every class meeting (and arriving on-time) is necessary to participate fully (2) you must always show respect to your classmates and their ideas (3) in-class activities cannot be made up by outside work. Readings are to be completed by the day indicated on the Course Schedule (see below). All readings that are not listed as separate books under Required Texts will be in the Course Reader (this includes most of the poems and short stories). *The Cenci* is included in Shelley's *Poetry and Prose*.

Quizzes: There will be six unannounced in-class quizzes. These brief quizzes will consist of question types that will appear on the Final Exam: term identifications and passage explications. They will allow you to practice your developing skills and receive additional feedback on your performance. There will be no make-ups for missed quizzes. The lowest quiz score will be dropped.

Website Discussion Board: I will require you to post a message on the class website at least once per week (except weeks 0, 1, and 10); additional posts are encouraged but not required. You can use the website to raise ideas for discussion, ask questions about the readings, or continue conversations begun in class. Complete instructions about this requirement appear in the Course Reader.

Library Mini-Paper: We will spend part of one class period at the library, learning how to access and use its resources. This assignment will follow up on the library visit.

Papers: Essay topics will be distributed in class. These assignments will ask you to construct a critical argument and support it with close textual analysis. Papers must use MLA format, as described in the English Department *Style Sheet* or *MLA Handbook* (failure to use correct format will result in a grade deduction). When turning your paper in to my mailbox, timestamp the front page. See below for due dates and late paper policies.

Note that Paper #2 has two due dates. On the first due date, you will bring two copies of your paper to class for take-home Peer Reviews. This initial version must be a complete paper that could be turned in for a grade (including correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation). Classmates will review your paper, and you should consider their comments as you revise for the final draft. If you fail to submit an initial draft, you will lose the constructive comments of your peers AND your Paper #2 grade will be lowered by one full grade. You must include all Peer Review comments and first drafts when you turn in the revised draft. (Peer Review comments count towards your Participation grade.)

Final Exam: This examination will test your proficiency in close reading, analytical writing, and literary terminology. There will be three sections: term id's, passage explications, and essay.

☞ **Late Policy**

The three papers and the library mini-paper are the only assignments that I will accept late. Please be advised of the following:

1. Papers will receive a one-third letter grade deduction for each day they are late, including weekends.
2. If more than one week late, the paper will receive a grade of "F."
3. The three full-length papers must be submitted for you to earn a grade in the course.

☞ **Grading**

Participation and Class Exercises	15%
Quizzes	5%
Website Discussion Posts	5%
Library Mini-Paper	5%
Paper #1 (3-5 pages)	15%
Paper #2 (3-5 pages)	15%
Paper #3 (6-8 pages)	20%
Final Exam	20%

Please note: To fulfill the University writing requirement, you must pass this course with a grade of "C" or higher.

☞ **Plagiarism**

The English Department *Style Sheet* defines plagiarism as "the use of another's ideas or words as if they were one's own" (5). If you borrow an idea, whether from a book, magazine, the Internet, or another student, you must acknowledge the source with a citation (even if you don't use the source's exact words). Plagiarism is a serious offense that could result in your dismissal from UCLA. University Policy requires me to report all instances of suspected plagiarism to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action, and I will not hesitate to do so. When students plagiarize, they do not develop their thinking and writing abilities, but they do jeopardize their entire academic career. If you have questions about proper documentation, please feel free to ask me. *When in doubt, cite.*

☞ **Composition Tutoring**

The University offers the following free services to assist students with their writing, and I urge you to take advantage of them. They provide a great supplement to office hours, and if you start using them early in the quarter, you should see substantial improvements in your writing:

- Covell Tutorials Composition and ESL Lab, 228 Covell Commons, (310) 206-1491: choose from standing weekly appointments, individual appointments, or drop-in sessions.
- Academic Advancement Program, 1214 Campbell Hall, (310) 206-1581: AAP students may sign-up within the first three weeks for regularly scheduled sessions.

☞ Course Schedule

Any changes will be announced in class.

Week 0	R 1/8	Introduction Why study literature? Why study literary form? Dickinson, "A narrow Fellow in the Grass" (handout)
Week 1	T 1/13	Wheatley, "To the Right Honorable William, Earl of Dartmouth," "To the University of Cambridge, in New England" Barrett Browning, "The Runaway Slave at Pilgrim's Point" Keats, "Ode on a Grecian Urn" Dickinson, "I died for Beauty—but was scarce"
	R 1/15	Selected sonnets by Sidney, Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Keats, Rossetti, and Barrett Browning Paper #1 assigned
Week 2	T 1/20	Hemans, "Casabianca" Owen, "Dulce et Decorum Est" Marvell, "To his Coy Mistress" Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"
	R 1/22	Dickinson, "I felt a Funeral, in my Brain," "I know that He exists," "Much Madness is divinest Sense" Blake, from <i>Songs of Innocence</i> "The Ecchoing Green," "The Lamb," "The Chimney Sweeper"; from <i>Songs of Experience</i> "The Chimney Sweeper," "The Sick Rose," "The Tyger," "The Garden of Love," "London"
Week 3	T 1/27	Rossetti, <i>Goblin Market</i> Sexton, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves," "Rumpelstiltskin," "The Twelve Dancing Princesses"
	R 1/29	Coleridge, <i>Rime of the Ancient Mariner</i>
	F 1/30	Paper #1 due in my mailbox by 4:30pm
Week 4	T 2/3	Shakespeare, <i>Macbeth</i> Paper #2 assigned
	R 2/5	Shakespeare, <i>Macbeth</i>

Week 5	T 2/10	Shelley, <i>The Cenci</i>
	R 2/12	Shelley, <i>The Cenci</i> Paper #2 due in class (2 copies for take-home Peer Reviews)
Week 6	T 2/17	Hawthorne, "The Birth-mark" Ferré, "The Youngest Doll" Carter, "The Bloody Chamber" Peer Reviews of Paper #2 due in class
	R 2/19	Poe, "The Premature Burial," "The Tale-Tell Heart" Gilman, "The Yellow Wall-Paper"
	F 2/20	Revision of Paper #2 due in my mailbox by 4:30pm
Week 7	T 2/24	Irving, "Legend of Sleepy Hollow" Viewing of <i>Sleepy Hollow</i> (1999 film)
	R 2/26	Conclude and discuss <i>Sleepy Hollow</i> Library workshop: Library Mini-Paper assigned
Week 8	T 3/2	Stevenson, <i>Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> Library mini-paper due in class
	R 3/4	Wells, <i>The Island of Dr. Moreau</i> Paper #3 assigned
Week 9	T 3/9	Wells, <i>The Island of Dr. Moreau</i>
	R 3/11	Woolf, <i>Mrs. Dalloway</i> Thesis and Outline of Paper #3 due in class (2 copies)
Week 10	T 3/16	Woolf, <i>Mrs. Dalloway</i>
	R 3/18	No class – Review Day
	F 3/19	Paper #3 due in my mailbox by 4:30pm
Finals Week	T 3/23	Final Exam 8:00 am: bring two bluebooks