

**ENGL 220: INTRODUCTION TO THE ENGLISH MAJOR: DISCUSSION  
CRN: 12086  
FALL 2015**

**THURSDAY 8:00-8:50, ANS 193**

Instructor: Justin Brock (PhD Student, English)

PLC 20

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Office Hours: Thursday 10:00am-12:00pm

**SECTION OVERVIEW**

As a supplement to lecture, our discussion section for ENGL 220 is designed to help you think critically about the texts and themes from the course lectures by focusing on and reframing particular issues, questions, and problems that the course materials have inspired. During each session, we will practice how to talk about our texts using literary terminology and frameworks that are crucial for developing methods of reading. Active engagement during every class session is crucial to your success as our class provides a place where you can ask questions that you have about the texts or lectures and unpack issues of genre, metrics, narrative, and, in particular, the historical context of our texts with your peers.

**Grade Breakdown**

Class Engagement and Twitter Activity.....	10%
Written Work.....	7%
Quizzes.....	3%
<b>TOTAL for Discussion Section Grade.....</b>	<b>20%</b>

**Class Engagement (10%)**

Being a discussion section, you must be present at every session prepared to engage with the texts and lecture material in a thoughtful manner with me and your peers. We will draw upon an array of discussion modes and strategies to prepare a text, opening up different ways to “play” with a text. You will be expected to bring texts to **every** class meeting.

**Twitter Activity:** You will be expected to contribute at least one “tweet” per week about either the reading or the lectures, due **5pm the night before our class meeting**. These “tweets” can be in the form of a question or an insight on the class material (note the number of character restriction for Twitter), creating a second space for discussion. I will use your “tweets” to help direct our discussion in class. Your “tweets” must be thoughtful and significant, but can be informal (feel free to use abbreviations, acronyms, short form, and additional hashtags. As a reminder, be accountable for your virtual presence). Every “tweet” needs to include the class hashtag below.

**My Twitter:** @16bitBrock (direct “tweets” to me if you have questions)

**Class Hashtag:** #Brock8AM (add this hashtag to every “tweet” you submit)

**Attendance:** Attendance is required. You may miss ONE discussion session for any reason – I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. Additional absences will negatively impact your grade by **one full letter grade**. You are responsible for any material you miss if you

are not in class. I expect all students to arrive on time. Excessive lateness will count as an absence.

**Quizzes (3%)**

I will give quizzes periodically throughout the term to test your comprehension of the readings for the course. Quizzes cannot be made up; however, I will drop your lowest quiz grade at the end of the term.

**Written Work (7%)**

We will often do group or individual activities that culminate in a short written assignment that allow you to work more with course content, as well as develop writing and analytical skills. These activities will include two brief responses on terminology and themes, as well as two textual mark-up exercises.

**Format:** All typed work must follow MLA or Chicago format, in 12 point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, and 1" margins on all sides. You must include appropriate header info on your work, including name, date, course, and section number in the left hand corner, along with a title.

**Late Work:** All assignments for our discussion section must be turned in on time for credit. No late work will be accepted.

**Cell Phones:** Cell phones must be turned off before class. As this is a small, discussion-based class, the use of cell phones are disruptive. If there is a class session when we will require the use of cell phones, then I will announce it in class.

**Tentative Schedule of Assignments**

Week	Date	In Class	Writing Due
1	TR 10/1	Introductions Syllabus overview	
	SAT 10/3		Note Taking Assignment Due on Canvas by <b>5pm</b>  <b>Email Twitter Handle (Username)</b>
2	TR 10/8	Discuss “Dream of the Rood” and <i>Beowulf</i> Close Reading / Mark Up Formal Paper 1.1 Details	Tweet Due <b>Wednesday</b> by 5pm  Response Paper #1 Due By Beginning of Class
3	TR 10/15	Discuss <i>Beowulf</i>	Tweet Due <b>Wednesday</b> by 5pm  Mark-Up Assignment Due by Beginning of Class

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>In Class</b>	<b>Writing Due</b>
	F 10/16		Submit a copy of Formal Paper 1.1 On Canvas by Noon
<b>4</b>	TR 10/22	Midterm Prep Revision Planning Discuss <i>Beowulf</i>	Tweet Due <b>Wednesday</b> by 5pm
	F 10/23		<b>MIDTERM IN LECTURE</b>
<b>5</b>	TR 10/29	Discuss Bayeux Tapestry	Tweet Due <b>Wednesday</b> by 5pm
	F 10/30		Submit a copy of Formal Paper 1.2 On Canvas By Noon

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>In Class</b>	<b>Writing Due</b>
<b>6</b>	TR 11/5	Discuss <i>SGGK</i> Formal Paper 2.1 Details	Tweet Due <b>Wednesday</b> by 5pm  Mark-Up Assignment Due by Discussion Start
<b>7</b>	TR 11/12	Discuss <i>SGGK</i>	Tweet Due <b>Wednesday</b> by 5pm
<b>8</b>	M 11/16		Submit a copy of Formal Paper 2.1 On Canvas By Noon
	TR 11/19	Discuss Chaucer	Tweet Due <b>Wednesday</b> by 5pm  Response Paper #2 Due by Beginning of Class
<b>9</b>	TR 11/24	<b>No Discussion Section Meeting This Week</b>	

Week	Date	In Class	Writing Due
10	M 11/30		Submit a copy of Formal Paper 2.2 On Canvas By Noon
	TR 12/3	Final Exam Prep Discuss <i>Utopia</i>	Tweet Due <b>Wednesday</b> by 5pm
<b>Finals Week</b>		<b>Wednesday, December 9th 10:15-12:15 in Lecture Classroom</b>	