Course Description: This class will introduce the skills and vocabulary necessary for analyzing, discussing, and writing about short stories and novels. Questions we will address in the term include what is a story, what is literary interpretation, and how can literary interpretation help to uncover the social, cultural, and/or political significance of stories. Note: The course satisfies the university’s Group Requirement in the Arts and Letters category, but it does not count for credit in the English major.

Required Texts:
The Art of the Short Story (ISBN: 0321363639)
Ceremony (ISBN: 0140086838)
Access to Blackboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Assignments</th>
<th>Percentage of Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation/ In class assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Character Analysis (2-3 pages)</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay #1 (3-4 pages)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay #2 (3-4 pages)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>25%</td>
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Participation: Class discussion is a vital part of this course. Your participation is required and expected. Participation includes actively listening (not sleeping, texting, listening to music, or talking when I’m talking or another student is talking) and contributing to class discussions. Simply showing up to class is not enough. To prepare, you need to read carefully and take notes, bring your book to class everyday, and review the weekly study questions prior to class. If class participation is low, I will randomly call on individual students, so always come ready to contribute to class.

Quizzes: There will be 8 unannounced quizzes throughout the term based on the readings. I will drop your lowest scores and count only 7. To get ready for the quizzes, you should read the assignments multiple times and understand them thoroughly, including definitions of key terms. These quizzes will consist of multiple choice, fill in the blank, short answer, and true/false questions. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class; no make-ups. Some quizzes will be open book; so you need to bring your book to class everyday.

Writing Assignments: You will have three writing assignments: a character analysis and two essays. I will provide you with instructions for the character analysis and topics for the two essays. We will discuss the writing assignments in detail in class. You can always discuss any further questions with me during office hours.
**Examinations**: We will have two in-class examinations, a midterm and final, testing reading comprehension, vocabulary, and ideas discussed in class. The final is not cumulative; it will cover only the material after the midterm. **No make-up exams.**

**Policies**

**Attendance and Tardiness**: Regular attendance is required. I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. You can miss two class periods with no penalty to your final grade. After three absences, your final grade will be lowered by one third grade for each additional absence (from a B to a B-). Habitual tardiness is disruptive and will result in a lowering of your grade. Three tardies equal one absence. When you miss a class or are late, it is your responsibility to find out what you have missed. **You are also responsible for making sure you sign the attendance sheet, even when you are late to class, otherwise you will be counted as absent.**

**Format Guidelines**: All essays and assignments must be typed, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins, in a readable font (preferably 12-point Times New Roman). Type your name, instructor, course, and date in the upper left-hand corner of the first page; you don’t need a separate title page. Place the paper’s title in the center below this information. **Be sure to staple all your pages.**

**Late Work**: Late assignments will be lowered by one full letter grade for every calendar day that they are late. I expect the assignments to be printed out on the day and time they are due.

**Grades**: I am available to discuss grades during office hours and by appointment (not before or after class and not over email). I ask you to wait 24 hours after receiving an assignment or exam grade before meeting with me. This gives you time to read the comments, consider the grade, and leads to a more productive conversation.

**Communication and Office Hours**: The best way to contact me is by email. I will answer email sent during weekdays within 24 hours and email sent during the weekend within 48. Please feel free to drop in during office hours or make an appointment to discuss any questions, concerns, or ideas you have about the class.

**Academic Honesty**: All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. The uses of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented. **You are not required to use any secondary sources for your writing assignments.** But if you decide to use additional sources, please see me or consult the Student Conduct Code on the Student Judicial Affairs website if you have any questions about how to cite them.

**Students with Disabilities**: If you have a disability (physical or learning) which you think may affect your performance in this class, please see me during the first week of the term so we can make arrangements, if necessary, for your full access to all classroom activities.

**Your continued enrollment in this course indicates that you have read this syllabus and that you understand and accept its stated expectations and requirements.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>A+</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
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<td>Below 60</td>
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<td>60-63</td>
<td>Below 60</td>
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</table>
Tentative Class Schedule (subject to revision)
Readings and assignments must be completed by the day they are listed on the schedule. It is important that you complete all the reading assignments to get the full benefit out of this class eventhough we may not always have time to discuss all the readings during classtime. Readings are from The Art of the Short Story, Frankenstein, Ceremony, or are posted on Blackboard. Be sure to print out a hard copy of the Blackboard readings and bring them to class.

### Week 1

**Date:** M: 1/3

**Topics, Readings, and Terms**

**Plot**
Syllabus, Introduction (3-6), “Plot” (849-54)
Terms: short story, plot, Realism

**W: 1/5**

Terms: exposition, conflict, resolution, foreshadowing, flashback

**Practice Quiz**

**Date:** M: 1/10

“The Metamorphosis” (465, 467-500), “A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings” (287-93)
Terms: episodic plot, unified plot, Magical Realism

**W: 1/12**

Term: close reading, allegory

### Week 2

**Date:** M: 1/17

**Week Analysis Due**

**Characterization**

**W: 1/19**

Terms: character development, round character, flat character

**Date:** M: 1/24

Terms: Gothic fiction, symbol

**T 1/25**

**Character Analysis Due** by 5:00pm in my office 18 PLC

**W: 1/26**

*Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley’s Introduction (169-73), Preface (5-6), vol. 1 (7-58), Haweis Introduction (200-201)
Terms: Romanticism

### Week 3

**Date:** M: 1/31

*Frankenstein*, vol. 2 (59-102), “Frankenstein and the Tradition of Realism” (208-14)
Terms: protagonist, antagonist

**W: 2/2**

*Frankenstein*, vol. 3 (103-156)
Term: motif

### Week 4

**Date:** M: 2/7

**Midterm Exam**
Point of View
6 W: 2/9
Terms: first-person narration, unreliable narrator

7 M: 2/14
Terms: third-person narration, Minimalist Fiction

T: 2/15
Essay #1 Due by 5:00pm in my office 18 PLC

Setting
W: 2/16
Terms: setting, atmosphere

8 M: 2/21
Terms: Regionalism, Naturalism

W: 2/23
Term: style, tone

9 M: 2/28
Ceremony (1-63)
Term: Ecocriticism

W: 3/2
Ceremony (64-130)

10 M: 3/7
Ceremony (131-201)

W: 3/9
Last day of class, Ceremony (201-62)

F: 3/11
Essay #2 Due by 5:00pm in my office 18 PLC

M: 3/14
Final Exam at 10:15