

EN 2203 section 12: Introduction to Literature

Mr. Price

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MW 2:00 – 3:20

EN 2203 is designed to provide students with an acquaintance with the standard genres of literature. Students are expected to learn some of the basics of reading, such as identifying terms for poetic construction ranging from ‘sonnet’ and ‘blank verse’ to ‘assonance’ and ‘cacophony.’ More importantly, we are expected to teach students to read literature for meaning, to appreciate the explorations of a diverse range of writers’ viewpoints, and to write cogently about the writers’ words.



With this purpose, I am offering a range of poems which we will analyze in class. We will read a number of short stories, which we will likewise discuss. We will look at one short novel, Margaret Atwood’s *The Handmaid’s Tale*, and a screenplay, “Twelve Angry Men.” Our poetry sample will include works from Emily Dickinson, Shakespeare, John Keats, Walt Whitman, Hilda Doolittle, T.S. Eliot, Langston Hughes, and others. We will read short fiction from Chaucer (a prose translation of his “The Pardoner’s Tale”), Nathaniel Hawthorne, Flannery O’Connor, Joyce Carol Oates, and a range of others.

This section will make heavy use of online resources: the poems will all appear on myCourses via links from a range of freely available internet sources; some of the short fiction will, likewise, be found online; an extensive writing guide and glossary will be posted to myCourses. Notes will be posted for most of the material we discuss in class (mini-lecture essays and charts, **not Powerpoints!**).

Required texts:

These are inexpensive paperbacks; students are expected to buy them.

Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid’s Tale*. Anchor Books ISBN 978-0-385-49081-8

Rose, Reginald. *Twelve Angry Men*. Penguin ISBN 978-0-14-310440-7

***American Short Story Masterpieces*, ed. by Raymond Carver. Dell ISBN 978-0-440-20423-7**