

English 491/493 – Fall 2008 Course #2620/2630

“Heartland Exiles: Expatriate Literature by Major Midwestern Authors”

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 2:00-2:50 AM, Physics- Math Bldg (PM) 102

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Office: PSY 130-D, Hours: MW 9:00-10:00 & 1:00-2:00; Th 5:00-5:30; F 1:30-2:00 and by appointment

“What would American art do without the Midwest, so averse to artifice or embellishment in its manners and morals? From Willa Cather (born 1873) to Langston Hughes (born in 1902), and with Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Marianne Moore and T.S. Eliot in between, our Midwest produced writers who transformed the stern and plain into the rich and strange. They were looking for the route that ties the spare to the ecstatic, and reserve to passionate intensity.”

-- Margo Jefferson

Required Texts

Henry James:

Daisy Miller, Penguin – 2007

The American, Signet – 2005

Ernest Hemingway:

A Farewell to Arms, Scribner – 1995

The Sun Also Rises, Scribner – 2006

A Moveable Feast, Scribner – 1996

F. Scott Fitzgerald:

Tender is the Night, Penguin – 2001

T.S. Eliot:

The Waste Land, Norton Critical Edition – 2001

Murder in the Cathedral, Harvest – 1964

Kurt Vonnegut:

Cat's Cradle, Dell – 1998

Slaughterhouse-Five, Dial – 1999

English 491/493: Outcomes

By the end of this class, students should:

- Be familiar with and conversant in the range of literature we interact with in the class
- Be familiar with and conversant in the range of literature theory we interact with in the class
- Be able to apply and connect the theory with the literature in meaningful ways
- Integrate their own ideas with those of others
- Demonstrate the ability to critique their own and others' work
- Use computer technology throughout the learning and writing process
- Control such surface features as syntax, grammar, punctuation, and spelling
- Demonstrate a knowledge and application of MLA documentation techniques
- Demonstrate their knowledge through essays, examinations, and research projects

Class Expectations

This class requires a major commitment of your time for reading. You will be expected to read 40-50 pages per day, five days per week, for most of the class.

As upper-division college students, you will be expected to act in a manner consistent with a professional work environment. You are expected to arrive on time and not leave until the class is dismissed. You are expected to be polite to your fellow students and the instructor. Profanity will be cause for you to be dismissed from the day's class, with possible additional consequences.

The quality of your class participation is even more important than the quantity. Saying something just to say something is less valuable than saying something thoughtful that will enhance the discussion. Vigorous discourse is encouraged – actually expected – but civility will be expected at all times. No group of people can have the same opinion about all things, but all legitimately argued opinions will be entertained.

Students wishing to know their (approximate) grade status in the course may inquire PRIVATELY (NOT in front of other students) at any time.

You may bring bottled or covered drinks (water, soda, juice, coffee, tea, etc.) to class, but no other food or drink is allowed. Attire should be appropriate for a respectful academic environment and not disruptive, distracting, or offensive.

I will communicate with you by e-mail using ONLY your CSU-Pueblo e-mail address. Feel free to set your e-mail to forward from your university address to another personal address, but I will always send only to the CSU-Pueblo address.

All assignments are due at the BEGINNING of class. If you will not be in class on the due date, make arrangements to turn in the assignment BEFORE class. E-mailing the assignment as an attachment (in doc, rtf, txt, or docx format ONLY) is acceptable, but the time of the e-mail must be by the beginning of the scheduled class period. Get your work done early to avoid problems if something unforeseen happens.

If something unavoidable happens to prevent you from meeting this requirement, the instructor MAY, at his sole discretion, accept a late assignment. This will usually be contingent upon a SERIOUS reduction in the grade for that assignment (50% for one day late, 75% for two days late). If you haven't completed the assignment to your complete satisfaction, at least turn in what you have done to that point. Something is better than nothing.

Note: In-class work and assignments cannot be made up.

Attendance in this class is MANDATORY! Missing class(es) will reflect poorly in your final Participation & Professionalism grade. The English and Foreign Languages Department believes that consistent attendance and regular participation are necessary elements to your overall success in this class. We recommend, therefore, that students attend each scheduled class day. Please refer to CSU-Pueblo's policy on course attendance in the Colorado State University Catalog, 2008-2009 for more information on the university policies on attendance (p. 52).

Writing Room

Help with any type of writing is also available through the Writing Room. The Writing Room is located in the Psychology Building, room 232. Help is available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information contact Keli Hibbert at 549-2756.

This link includes important information on Financial Aid, add/drop deadlines, and other academic dates you may find useful: <http://www.colostate-pueblo.edu/Records/Academics/>

Academic Dishonesty

“Academic Dishonesty” is defined in the Colorado State University-Pueblo Catalog, 2008-2009 as “any form of cheating which results in students giving or receiving unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise or receiving credit for work that is not their own.” For more information on CSU-Pueblo’s position on academic dishonesty and for a detailed description of specific acts of academic dishonesty or misconduct, please see pages forty-two and forty-three of the catalog.

The English Program takes matters of academic dishonesty seriously. Any instance of academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade for the work in question, a failing grade for the course, and lesser penalties as determined by the course instructor and/or Department Chair. Furthermore, in severe cases, misconduct of this sort may be subject to disciplinary action by the Dean of Student Life.

In all instances of academic dishonesty, the instructor will notify the Department Chair prior to meeting with the student and before implementing any punitive action. If it is determined that the case is severe, the chair of the department will then notify the Dean of Student Life.

Accommodations

This University abides by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which stipulates that no student shall be denied the benefits of an education "solely by reason of a handicap." If you have a documented disability that may impact your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see the Disability Resource Coordinator as soon as possible to arrange accommodations. In order to receive accommodations, you must be registered with and provide documentation of your disability to: the Disability Resource Office, which is located in the Psychology Building, Suite 232.

Grading

10%	Participation & Professionalism
10%	In-class and shorter assignments and quizzes, etc.
10%	James Essay (4-5 pages)
20%	Mid-term Hemingway Take-home Exam (8-10 pages)
10%	Fitzgerald-Eliot-Vonnegut Essay (4-5 pages)
40%	Final Major Project (15-20 pages)
	32% (80% of FMP) = Written component
	8% (20% of FMP) = Oral Presentation
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100%	

Grading Criteria

A-range (A- = 90-91%, A = 92-100%): The overall level of all or nearly all coursework is outstanding, reflecting significant student insight, critical thinking, understanding of course content, and communication skills – both written and oral. Work at this level should be of near-graduate school quality.

B-range (B- = 80-81%, B = 82-87%, B+ = 88-89%): The average level of coursework demonstrates a solid understanding of course content, along with good and occasionally excellent student insight, critical thinking, and communication skills – both written and oral. Work at this level should reflect a solid foundation of previous upper-division coursework in the English program.

C-range (C = 70-77%, C+ = 78-79%): The average level of coursework demonstrates a satisfactory, though basic, understanding of course content. The student's insight, critical thinking, and communication skills – both written and oral – are adequate for a 400-level class, though rarely exceptional. Work at this level should reflect a basic familiarity with previous upper-division coursework in the English program.

D-range (D- = 60-61%, D = 62-67%, D+ = 68-69%): The average level of coursework demonstrates an understanding of course content inadequate for a 400-level course. The student's insight, critical thinking, and communication skills – both written and oral – are poor for a 400-level class, with occasional exceptions. Some assigned work may be missing or inadequately completed. Work at this level reflects a poor familiarity with and understanding of previous upper-division coursework in the English program.

F (below 60%): Coursework does not meet the minimum requirements of a 400-level course. The student's understanding of course content and her/his insight, critical thinking, and communication skills – both written and oral – are noticeably poor for a 400-level class, with occasional exceptions. Some, much, or even most assigned work may be missing or inadequately completed. Work at this level does not qualify for credit at this institution.

WEEKLY OVERVIEW

This section gives an overview of what will be done during each week of class. Specific dates and assignments will be provided at the appropriate time.

All readings are to be completed BEFORE class, so that each student will be prepared to participate in class in an informed way. Writing assignments are due at the BEGINNING of the class period indicated.

WEEK 1 – Aug. 25, 27, 29

Course Introduction
Student writing sample
Intro Henry James
Daisy Miller – James

WEEK 2 – Sept. 1, 3, 5

(Note: Sept. 1 is Labor Day and we DO have class)
Daisy Miller – James
The American – James

WEEK 3 – Sept. 8, 10, 12

September 8 **END OF DROP/ADD PERIOD**

The American – James

“The Art of Fiction” - James

Friday, September 12 – NO CLASS – Instructor at Bedford/St. Martin’s Conference

Work on James paper

WEEK 4 – Sept. 15, 17, 19

Intro Ernest Hemingway

“Mr. & Mrs. Elliot” – Hemingway

“Hills Like White Elephants” – Hemingway

“Hills’ and the Tradition of the American in Europe” – David Grant

A Farewell to Arms – Hemingway

Friday, September 19 – James paper due (at BEGINNING of class)

WEEK 5 – Sept. 22, 24, 26

A Farewell to Arms – Hemingway

WEEK 6 – Sept. 29, Oct. 1, 3

“A Clean Well-lighted Place” – Hemingway

“The Snows of Kilimanjaro” – Hemingway

“The Short, Happy Life of Francis Macomber” – Hemingway

WEEK 7 – Oct. 6, 8, 10

The Sun Also Rises – Hemingway

Mid-term Hemingway Take-home Exam prompt distributed (Fri)

WEEK 8 – Oct. 13, 15, 17

The Sun Also Rises – Hemingway

A Moveable Feast – Hemingway: sections on Fitzgerald and Stein

Intro F. Scott Fitzgerald

“Babylon Revisited” – Fitzgerald

WEEK 9 – Oct. 20, 22, 24

Tender is the Night – Fitzgerald

Friday, Oct. 24 – Mid-term Hemingway Take-home Exam due (at BEGINNING of class)

WEEK 10 – Oct. 27, 29, 31

October 27 (Mon) **Amy Tan presentation, 4:00-5:30, site TBD**

Intro T.S. Eliot

“The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” – Eliot

Eliot the Critic: Art v. the Artist

WEEK 11 – Nov. 3, 5, 7

The Waste Land - Eliot

“Daring, Despairing Prufrock” – Whited

Distribute prompt for shorter essay on Fitzgerald/Eliot/Vonnegut (Fri.)

WEEK 12 – Nov. 10, 12, 14

Intro Kurt Vonnegut
“Harrison Bergeron” – Vonnegut
Slaughterhouse-Five – Vonnegut

WEEK 13 – Nov. 17, 19, 21

Slaughterhouse-Five – Vonnegut
Wednesday, Nov. 19 – Final Major Project (FMP) proposals due

THANKSGIVING WEEK BREAK – NO CLASSES Nov. 24-28

WEEK 14 – Dec. 1, 3, 5

Monday, Dec. 1 – Fitzgerald/Eliot/Vonnegut paper due (at BEGINNING of class)
Work on FMP

WEEK 15 – Finals Week

FINAL EXAM period – Thursday, December 11, 1:00-3:20 PM, HSB 122.

Final Major Project due

10-minute Oral Presentation on FMP

All students are required to attend this period. Response sheets (3 for and from each student) on fellow students' FMP's will be required from all students.