

**CCU ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**  
**MISS NORIAN BROWN**  
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

CCU English Literature and Composition is a dual college credit course that will engage students in the reading and critical analysis of literature, including novels, short stories, poetry, drama, and essays. Through the close reading students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students will consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller-scale literary elements such as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.

Grammar will be addressed throughout the course in the form of lectures and is a significant criterion in essays and major projects.

Vocabulary will be studied formally using a textbook as well as informally in conjunction with the reading.

**READING**

The reading in CCU English Literature and Composition is both wide and deep. Students will read works from several genres and periods—from the sixteenth to the twenty-first century. While studying each work, students will read deliberately and thoroughly, taking time to understand a work's complexity, to absorb its richness of meaning, and to analyze how that meaning is embodied in literary form. Students will also reflect on the social, historical, and biblical values each work reflects and embodies. In short, students will read, interpret, and evaluate literature from a biblical perspective.

**WRITING**

Writing is an integral part of the CCU English Literature and Composition course. Writing assignments will focus on the critical analysis of literature and will ask students to write to understand, to explain, and to evaluate literature. Well-constructed creative writing will help students see from the inside how literature is written. The goal of these assignments is to increase students' ability to explain clearly, cogently, even elegantly, what they understand about literary works and why they interpret them as they do. Students will be given opportunity to revise their essays after peer editing and/or student/teacher conferences. Emphasis is placed on helping students develop stylistic maturity, which is characterized by the following:

- a wide-ranging vocabulary used with denotative accuracy and connotative resourcefulness;
- a variety of sentence structures, including appropriate use of subordinate and coordinate constructions;
- a logical organization, enhanced by specific techniques of coherence such as repetition, transitions, and emphasis;
- a balance of generalization with specific illustrative detail; and
- an effective use of rhetoric, including controlling tone, maintaining a consistent voice, and achieving emphasis through parallelism and antithesis.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

- three-ring binder (at least 4 inches) with 12 dividers
- lined paper (college-ruled, 8 1/2" x 11")
- access to computer word processing, internet, and printer
- pencils/pens/highlighters
- erasers
- reliable dictionary
- Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms (not a thesaurus)
- 4" x 6" index cards
- current public library card

## TESTS AND QUIZZES

There will be one midterm halfway through each semester and a final exam given at the end of each semester, which will be cumulative of the semester. Final exams are worth 15-20% of the student's final grade.

Quizzes may or may not be preannounced and may take up to 10-30 minutes to complete. They will be small in the scope of material that they cover. Vocabulary quizzes will be every Friday.

## PROJECTS

Writing assignments will be given regularly and must be typed unless otherwise noted. MLA format will be used for all typed assignments.

Books assigned by the teacher will be read together and independently. Writing assignments and MLA formatted essays will accompany each of these reading projects.

Two long-term projects will be given this year:

- First semester- a research paper.
- Second semester- a poetry paper.

In addition to a hard copy, major writing assignments will be submitted electronically to Turnitin.com.

## ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS

Material/lecture covered in class is sometimes difficult to make up; thus, attendance is mandatory. If the student is aware of a forthcoming absence, notice to the teacher will be given and assignments will be turned in ahead of time for full credit. If the student is absent, he should turn in assignments the day he returns to school or within as many days as he was absent (if more than one). (This does not include previously assigned essays and projects. Essays and projects are due on the assigned dates. Ten points will be deducted for late essays and projects for each day late.)

## HOMEWORK

Assignments will be available everyday and will be due the following school day unless otherwise noted. These opportunities for self-study will also be available over holidays and breaks.

Assignments will be due at the beginning of the class period. Late homework assignments will NOT be accepted.

Assignments may be emailed as attached files *as a last resort*, but must be received by the beginning of the regular class period.

## COMMUNICATION

Grades are updated at least once per week, and students are expected to check grades regularly.

Email is the preferred form of communication. Emails will be responded to within 24 hours. Students should also check their personal email inbox regularly.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Student may study together and discuss topics or concepts covered, but any work turned in must be the student's own original work.

Should copying occur, both the student who copied work from another student and the student who gave material to be copied will automatically receive a zero for the assignment. Demerits will also be given, which may result in disciplinary probation or expulsion. Please see the attached pledge page for the definition of plagiarism.

Any collaborative behavior during a test or quiz will result in failure of the test or quiz and demerits.

## TEXTS

Casson, Allan. *Cliffs AP™ English Literature and Composition*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.  
Myer, Michael. *Literature to Go*. New York: Bedford/St. Martins, 2011.  
Bradbury, Ray. *Fahrenheit 451*  
Bronte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*  
Ibsen, Henrik. *A Doll's House*  
Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby*  
Shakespeare, William. *Hamlet*  
Shelly, Mary. *Frankenstein*  
Henry James *Daisy Miller*  
Wharton, Edith. *Ethan Frome*  
Wilde, Oscar. *The Importance of Being Earnest*