"You see I'm trying in all my stories to get the feeling of the actual life across, not just to depict life, or criticize it, but to actually make it alive." - Ernest Hemingway

Course English 200, Section 502, Introduction to Literature

Professor Roy L. Burkhead, MFA

Term Fall 2013

Meetings Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. to 8:15 p.m., Cherry Hall Room 0004

Hello and Welcome to English 200: Introduction to Literature!

While this syllabus will explain this course's expectations, I wanted to take a moment to welcome you to the course. Please keep the following in mind:

- As Hemingway once said, do not confuse movement (and motion) with action. There's a lot to do for this course, and you need to make sure that you stay on task. If you have any questions about an assignment, please contact me and ask them.
- Take the week-to-week homework and writing assignments seriously, including the Reading Blog. If you don't, all of those little points will add up to great big points, and they will clobber your final course grade. In addition, you won't be able to go back at the end of the semester and make up work that you did not do or submit on time.
- One of your textbooks is WKU's Guide to General-Education Classes. This book is your grammar and punctuation reference guide for this course, but it's much more! You'll be reading their entire book as part of the semester's assignments.

I'm looking forward to working with you all this semester. READ this entire syllabus in order to have the best experience possible this Spring!! Cordially, RLB

Professor's Contact Information

Primary Contact Info roy.burkhead@wku.edu
Office Location Cherry Hall, Office 7j

Office Hours Wednesdays, 8:15-As Needed

Virtual Office Hours

One-on-One student telephone conferences available upon request. Send me an e-mail the day before with two times that work, including your area code and phone number, and I will respond via e-mail to confirm one of the times. If a fast response time is desired, calling me is not recommended. Always email; I check my email throughout the day. For informational purposes only, my Cherry Hall office telephone number is: (270) 745-2206. You may call the number, but I will only be in the room for an hour after class. It is NOT a reliable way to reach me.

Important Dates

September 3: Last day to add a class; last day to drop a class WITHOUT a grade.

October 3 & 4: Fall Break

October 16: Last day to drop a class with a W.

October 28: F/N Date. 60% point of the semester. Students who stop attending class before this date are assigned a final grade of FN, not F. The grade of FN, according to the undergraduate catalog, indicates "Failure due to non-attendance (no semester hours earned and no quality points)." This grade could have implications for financial assistance.

Email Policies & Expectations

If you email me with a question or issue, I will make every attempt to respond in a timely fashion. You can expect an email response from me either from 11 a.m. to noon or after 7 p.m. daily. You are expected to check your WKU email at least once a week for class announcements. I will use it as the primary communication device for the students in case of an emergency or a change in an assignment.

ATTENDANCE ALERT: Please do **NOT** email me, asking if it is okay to miss a class. It is **never** okay to miss class. For additional clarification, please see the course's attendance policy.

If you miss a class, talk to me in person to learn how to get caught up, but only if you have a valid reason for missing class. Please do **NOT** send me an email in which you ask what you missed when you missed a class. As a rule, I do not distribute class handouts and materials via email. In addition, I don't report grades, give paper assignments, or accept papers via email. IF you attend a class and have a follow up question about an assignment or something discussed in class, then (yes) please email. I will clarify if/as needed.

Technology Requirements and Expectations

Besides reliable access to the Internet (this means that ideally you will be able to access info from your home or dorm room on a daily basis) and email, preferably on a fast internet connection, you will need some basic word processing and e-mail skills for this course; you should be able to type, upload and download documents, attach files to e-mails, and manage your e-mail account. You should already have these basic technological skills if you are to succeed in this course. For all papers in this class, you're expected to TYPE the work and present it in paper form in the class in which the assignment is due.

Syllabus Statement

Consider the assignment-portion of this syllabus a fluid approach to the semester. In all likelihood, these assignments will not change. But the semester may bring with it many opportunities for educational experiences. Lessons could change. As a result, please DO NOT skip ahead to assignments. Otherwise, you run the risk of completing homework that could change.

General Course Information

Prerequisite English 100 or equivalent.

Catalog Description

English 200. Introduction to Literature: Introductory study of fiction, poetry, and drama demonstrating techniques by which literary artists reflect human experience. **Substantial student writing** about literature will be required.

English 200 fulfills the B.1 (Humanities/Literature) general education requirement. This course will help students attain these general education objectives: (1) proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking; and (2) an informed acquaintance with major achievements in the arts and humanities.

Required Texts

Book in Common - Shiloh: A Novel, by Shelby Foote Publisher: Vintage (April 9, 1991)

ISBN-10: 0679735429 ISBN-13: 978-0679735427

Richard III (Norton Critical Editions) [Paperback] William Shakespeare (Author), Thomas Cartelli

(Editor)\ Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company (December 19, 2008)

ISBN-10: 0393929590 ISBN-13: 978-0393929591

Guide to General-Education English Classes. TX: Fountainhead Press, 2007. (2nd edition)

Grade Notice: You MUST get these books in time for the semester. You will **NOT** be allowed to turn in work late as a result of not having the books in time or not having the **correct editions. PLEASE PLAN AHEAD.**

Additional Expenses

As I am sure you know, textbooks for a single college class can cost into the triple digits and hundreds of dollars. Please note that the above three books should cost you less than \$50. And if you're proactive and sneaky, you may be able to grab the novel from the WKU library or another library, saving you even more money. I will be providing you with A LOT of the handouts and information that you will be expected to study and use throughout this semester. In return, you will be expected to spend a small amount of money here and there on collateral educational events, such as the cost of a ticket for a play...or some other item that may come up.

Additional Supplies and Suggested Materials

- 1) Three-ring binder or pocket folder; 2) Flash drive or other media to save your work, in case you happen to need to go to the computer lab before class; 3) A blue or black ink pen—no other colors, please; and
- 4) College ruled paper. Also, it is not required but recommended that you obtain a basic collegiate dictionary and thesaurus. NEVER, EVER come to class without paper, a pen/pencil, and your books.

Student Effort Expectations

I was an undergraduate student, once, as well. I know all about courses that are considered to be an "Easy A." This course is **NOT** one of those. In fact, if you don't take the weekly assignments seriously and make a solid effort, this course will turn out being an easy C, D, or F. Trust me: every semester I have a certain amount of students who contact me at final grade time about their grades, and it never makes a difference. You either follow the assignments, or you don't follow the assignments.

How can your grade get in trouble with this class? By you not buying the correct edition of the books (or buying the books AT ALL!) and trying to fake your way through the semester. By playing games with the smaller papers and assignments, not taking them seriously. By offering unbelievable excuses in an attempt to submit work beyond deadlines, which you won't be able to do.

Not to worry: follow the guidelines outlined in this syllabus, and you will do fine and have a great semester. But take your participation in the course seriously.

Schedule Breakout

Class meets 16 times, including the final. The Fall break will NOT impact this class.

Assignments, Academic Calendar, & Dates of Interest

Week of Activities, Assignments, and Expectations August 26 First Day of Semester/Classes

August 28

1) Review syllabus; 2) take quiz over syllabus content; 3) receive book in common remarks; 4) make first entry in the writing journal; 5) spend any spare time reading through textbooks and handouts; 6) read Anne Lamott's essay; and 7) read the essay by Kim Brooks. Write an essay in reaction to essays by Lamott and Brooks. Word count: 500-600 words.

September 2 Labor Day

September 3 Last day to drop a full semester course without a grade.

September 4

- 1) Review over grammar/punctuation, essay writing structure/types, and MLA; 2) Receive/review spec sheet for the two out-of-class long papers; 3) complete weekly journal entry on your own; 4) This I Believe lecture, including listening to sample essay, reviewing spec sheet, and write you own This I Believe essay in class; 5) Continue reading *Shiloh*, by Shelby Foote, on your own; and 6) Receive/start reading this week's handout reading:
 - Responding to Literature, pages 3-6 and 30-36
 - Form and Documentation, pages 71-75
 - Critical Approaches, pages 1129-1137
 - Literary Terms, pages 1204-1215

Theatre Note: At some point in the semester, we will be attending a rehearsal of a WKU play. When that happens, it will have a slight impact upon the semester. I've built in time to readjust some assignments as/if needed.

- September 11 1) Take quiz over grammar/punctuation; 2) Drama lecture/initial comments on *Richard III*; 3) Watch The Hobart Shakespeareans; 4) Assign reading parts for Richard III; 5) assign this week's handout reading, drama pages 22-30; 6) complete weekly journal entry on your own; and 7) Continue reading *Shiloh*, by Shelby Foote, on your own.
- September 18 1) Go over spec sheet on *Richard III* long out-of-class paper; 2) Lecture on Shakespeare and *Richard III*; 3) Complete exercise over Writing about Literature handouts; 4) Conduct in-class student reading aloud of the play; 5) Continue reading on own *Richard III*; 6) complete weekly journal entry on your own; and 7) Continue reading *Shiloh*, by Shelby Foote, on your own.
- September 25 1) Lecture on When/how to read and why; 2) Receive/read handouts The Geometry of Dialogue, You in a Bottle, Our National Literature, My Word/Plagiarism, and College Culture; 3) Start working on *Richard III* Paper; 4) complete weekly journal entry on your own; 5) Continue reading *Shiloh*, by Shelby Foote, on your own; and 6) Receive Fiction handouts pages 6-11 & stories (TBA).
 - **October 2** 1) Turn in *Richard III* Paper; 2) Take quiz over How to Read and Why Lecture; 3) Complete weekly journal entry on your own; and 4) Continue reading *Shiloh*, by Shelby Foote, on your own.
- October 3 & 4 Fall Break. No impact to the class schedule.
 - October 9 Mid-Semester One-on-One Conferences.
 - October 9 1) Fiction Lecture, including handouts and stories from September 25 class; 2) Turn in homework from the short stories; 3) Go over spec sheet for Fiction/Short Story essay; 4) Complete weekly journal entry on your own; and 5) Continue reading *Shiloh*, by Shelby Foote, on your own.
 - **October 16** Last day to drop a class with a W.
 - **October 16** 1) Turn in Fiction Essay; 2) Research Night/Lecture at the Kentucky Library; 3) Complete weekly journal entry on your own; and 4) Continue reading *Shiloh*, by Shelby Foote, on your own.
 - October 23 1) Receive spec sheet on *Shiloh* paper; 2) Hands-On Work at the Kentucky Museum; 3) Complete weekly journal entry on your own; and 4) Continue reading *Shiloh*, by Shelby Foote, on your own.
 - October 28 F/N Date. 60% point of the semester. Students who stop attending class before this date, or in online classes, students who stop participating before this date, are assigned a final grade of FN, not F. The grade of FN, according to the undergraduate catalog, indicates "Failure due to non-attendance (no semester hours earned and no quality points)." This grade could have implications for financial assistance.
 - 1) Turn in paper on *Shiloh* & Classroom Discussion on the novel, 2) Discussion of Research Night at the Kentucky Library; 3) receive spec sheet for Small Research Paper (1000 words); and 4) Complete weekly journal entry on your own.
 - November 6 1) Lecture on The Poem; 2) Receive/read handouts (Poetry pages 11-22) and Poems (TBA); 3) Poetry paper spec sheet; and 4) complete weekly journal entry on your own.

 Complete Writing Journal entry.
- **November 13** 1) Astronomy viewing and poetry reading on campus and 2) complete weekly journal entry on your own.
- **November 20** 1) Turn in poetry paper; 2) Write in-class reaction essay to viewing/poetry reading; 3) Go over semester project spec sheet; and 4) Turn in all journal entries.
- November 27, 28, 29 Thanksgiving Break. No homework this week. Be safe.
 - **December 4** Bring resources to class to start working on semester project in class. Time given for research on campus.
 - **December 11** Finals Week. Turn in semester projects during final period. No Formal Final.

December 14 Commencement

December 17 Final grades due to administration.

Course Policies

Grading (credit) Criteria

Complete and submit assignments, do the reading, write your weekly journal entries, complete the work, and you will be successful in this class. I expect the student's writing and work to reflect the student's success in/completion of English 100. In addition, I expect the student to have a sound background in writing skills. I will NOT be line editing your papers, but papers with spelling errors and grammar issues will be graded accordingly. (Take grammar and punctuation seriously: I do.)

All formal written essays and papers will receive numerical grades. Students must complete all major assignments (all formal essays and papers) in the course to receive a passing grade. The final grades are non-negotiable and are based strictly on the student's earned points. The final grade is calculated on a 1000-point scale. The student needs 900-1,000 total points at the end of the semester for an A, 800-899 for a B, 700-799 for a C, and 600-699 for a D. Failure to earn 600 points results in an F. Point breakout for this course's work is as follows:

Semester Project: 150 points (1500-2000 words)

Papers & Essays:

Reaction Paper to essays by Anne Lamott and Kim Brooks: 50 points (400-500 words)

This I Believe essay: 50 points (500 words)

Paper written in reaction to Research Night at Kentucky Library: 50 points (1000 words)

Short Story Essay: 100 points (800-1000 words) Poetry Essay: 100 points (800-1000 words)

Essay written in reaction to poetry reading/stargazing night: 50 points (500 words)

Richard III/Shakespeare Paper: 100 points (1000-1500 words)

Essay over Book in Common: 100 points

Tests, Quizzes, & Exercises:

Quiz over Syllabus: 25 points

Pop Quiz: 25 points

Grammar/Punctuation quiz: 50 points

Exercise over Writing about Literature: 25 points Quiz over *Why/How to Read* Lecture: 50 points

Additional Assignments:

Homework from Text: 50 points Writing Journal: 25 points

Resolving Complains about Grades

Any student who takes issue with a grade or another aspect of a course should first speak with the instructor. If the student and instructor cannot resolve the issue, the student may refer the matter to the director of composition, who will assist the instructor and the student in reaching a resolution. If either party is dissatisfied with the outcome at that level, the matter may be appealed to the department head. The Student Handbook (available at http://www.wku.edu/handbook/) outlines procedures for appeals beyond that level.

Class Attendance, Behavior, and Tardiness

Your attendance and participation is an essential ingredient to you passing this course and moving on to the next section in WKU's English Composition general education program.

YOU are expected to be on time and to attend class at each session, and you will be responsible for other assignments and material covered, regardless of absence. Contact the instructor in advance if you are going to be absent for an excused absence. Do NOT contact the instructor (especially via email) and ask if it is okay to miss class for an unexcused absence, especially/particularly on the day of the class. It is NEVER okay to miss class unless it is an excused absence.

An excused absence is a documented illness, death in the family, or required official university function. Proof for excused absences needs to be submitted within two weeks of returning. Travel to visit friends and family, assisting family members, conflicts with work, childcare, etc. do NOT constitute an excused absence.

No unexcused absences will be allowed without penalty. At first absence, there will be a 50-point deduction from the student's final grade. A second absence will result in one full letter-grade drop from the student's final grade on top of any quizzes or required work missed. A third absence will fail the student for the course. (REMEMBER: When you miss a single night class, you are missing an entire week's worth of classes!!!!)

Tardiness: Students who are persistently tardy (more than three times) may receive a penalty of one letter on the final grade at the instructor's discretion. A student is considered tardy if s/he arrives after the class is scheduled to begin OR leaves before being dismissed. And any tardiness 30 minutes or longer will be counted as a full absence, but the student will be allowed to enter and participate in the class. (Quizzes are given at the start of each class, and if the tardiness causes the student to miss a quiz, then the student will NOT be allowed to make up the quiz.) In addition, leaving class to use a cell phone counts as a tardy.

ATTENANCE ALERT: Any student with PERFECT attendance and NO tardiness may opt out of the final exam.

Course Expectations

I expect students to be on time to class, to read the texts and do assignments for the class, and to deliver all papers on time. If you come in late and miss a quiz (which will always be given at the start of a class), you will be admitted to the class but you will NOT be allowed to make up the quiz UNLESS the tardiness is prearranged with the instructor. I expect students to treat one another with respect in every way possible. Any criticism given should focus on "the work" and "the writing." The pronoun YOU should be used with great caution. Turn OFF all cells phones. NO TEXTING during class.

Please silence all electronic devices before coming to class. The class encourages discussion, and it will be maintained in a dignified manner. Please do not hold side conversations during lectures. And please do not speak while others are reading. As a rule, participate as much as possible while using common sense to avoid disruptions...always treating your classmates with respect.

Course Methodology

The Fall semester of **English 200 will be writing intensive.** I will deliver curriculum to the students using a combination of lectures, reading from assigned texts, quizzes and tests, short papers/essays, and a semester project. Students will keep a writing journal that is specific to their major/profession, and they will use this communication medium to practice the techniques learned in class.

Writing Journal	This class requires a reading journal, and it is part of the student's participation grade. By the end of the semester, students using traditional 8.5 X 11 paper must have 15 full pages of text to receive credit for the journal writing; students using smaller notebooks will need 20 pages of text. Students will turn the journals in at the final session. The blog is worth 25 points (max) toward the final grade.
	Points of Interest:
	 Students may write about any topics they wish, as long as it is done in a professional manner and relates to such items as their majors, minors, and homework. The journal entries MUST contain original text created for this assignment in this semester. No copying/pasting from other assignments is allowed. Credit will not be given for the entry if it is discovered that the work is from another source, i.e.: recycled homework entries, and so on. All entries may only be completed during the week that they are due. Students will not be given credit for a weekly entry that was created after the deadline.
	Content Alert: Journal writing allows for free expression; however, making serious threats, writing about felonious activity, or seriously expressing suicidal thoughts in a blog/journal entry may require action on the part of the teacher.
Extra Credit	There is one opportunity for extra credit this semester for English 200. During the semester, you will write a
Opportunities	This I Believe essay. For five extra credit points, provide me with proof that you submitted it to NPR.
Due Dates and Late Work	There are no acceptable excuses for turning papers and assignments in late; therefore, please do not offer any. Give yourself plenty of time to acquire ink for printers, to print your paper, to redo the paper if your computer eats your homework, i.e.: your hard drive crashes or flash drive vanishes. Papers and assignments must be turned in during class the day they are due. Papers and assignments will NOT be accepted early under any circumstances. (Students are required to show up to class and turn in assignments when they are due.)
Course Goals & Objectives	English 200 is an introduction to reading literary prose, poetry, and drama at the college level. Reading assignments in the course are designed to encourage critique and analysis and to increase discernment about the nuances of language use. Students will write literary analyses of at least three different genres, with a total word count of at least 3600 for all formal writing in the course. These essays should demonstrate their ability to apply appropriate terms, strategies, and textual evidence. English 200 should reinforce students' knowledge of how to utilize MLA guidelines to document their use of primary texts and, if required in the course, secondary source material.
	Learning Outcomes:
	By the end of English 200, students should be able to:
	 Use basic literary terminology to interpret literary texts. Write thesis-driven analytical papers about literature. Use MLA guidelines to document use of primary source material.

Plagiarism and Honesty	Plagiarism is a serious academic offense.
Expectations	Any student found guilty of plagiarism will receive an "F" for the plagiarized assignment and a final grade of "F" (at the instructor's discretion) for the entire course.
	Any student having difficulty with an assignment should speak with me for additional help and guidance. Don't plagiarize. Don't let one bad decision on your part force me to fail you. The department has and uses plagiarism detection tools. If you're having trouble with an assignment (or a certain skill set), ASK for help and/or additional instruction! I am here to help <i>you!</i>
	According to Webster's International Dictionary, the definition of plagiarism is "to steal or purloin and pass off as one's own the ideas, words, or artistic production of another; to use without credit the ideas, expressions, or productions of another."
	Plagiarism comes in three forms: "fraud," "patchwriting," and "insufficient or undocumented paraphrasing." In brief, each paper that you turn in and every sentence in it must be written completely by you, or you must give proper credit to the other writers for their ideas and words. In addition, most teachers consider handing in papers that were written for other classes to be a form of plagiarism. New papers should be written for each assignment. Do not download papers from the Web or "recycle" papers from other students.
Facilities	CH 124 is the Student Study & Activities Room. Tables, chairs, and a microwave are available for current English students to use. Food and beverages are permitted.
	The Writing Center is located in Cherry Hall 123 on the Bowling Green campus and also offers online consultations for students who live at a distance or who cannot visit during our operating hours. Their writing tutors have been trained to provide helpful feedback to students at all phases of a writing project: they can help you brainstorm ideas, structure your essay, clarify your purpose, strengthen your support, and edit for clarity and correctness. But they will not revise or edit the paper for you. See instructions of the Web site http://www.wku.edu/writingcenter/ for making online or face-to-face appointments. Or call (270) 745-5719 during their operating hours (also listed on their website) for help scheduling an appointment.
	CH 127 is a computer lab operated by the university, not the department. If students need to print copies of assignments, this room could be a resource if inside Cherry Hall. Do not attempt to print copies off in the department office. The printer in the office is for faculty use only.
Paper Guidelines	All papers must be computer-generated using 12-point, Times New Roman font, with double-spacing, one-inch margins on all four edges and non-justification on the right side of the paper (i.e.: normal paragraphs verses having all your paragraphs come out in square blocks). Use BLACK ink only. Hedging length with large margins, wide line spacing, and incorrect font sizes will result in significant grade reductions . Please be aware that all papers will be graded on WORD COUNT, not on page length. Therefore, there is no reason to try and manipulate page properties and formats. It will only cause you to lose additional points. TYPE YOUR NAME ON ALL ASSIGNMENTS ; otherwise, there will be a FIVE-POINT PENALTY.
Wikipedia	NEVER, ever use Wikipedia for any assignment in this class. Any assignment found to be using Wikipedia will receive zero points for the total grade.
ADA Notice	Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services, Room A200, Downing University Center. The OFSDS telephone number is (270) 745-5004 V/TDD. Please do not request accommodations directly from the instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.
Program Assessment Notice	As part of a university-wide accreditation study, a small sample of papers may be collected from randomly-selected individuals in all ENG 200 classes this semester. The papers will be examined anonymously as part of a program assessment; results will have no bearing on student assessment or course grades.
Instructor Evals	Toward the end of the semester, you will be able to evaluate your instructor and this course. Please take the time to do so. It is essential that the university knows how you feel about me and this course in order to maintain and increase quality. Survey results are anonymous. Please give your fair, honest opinions.

The Learning Should you require academic assistance with your WKU courses, The Learning Center (located in the Downing Student Union, A330) provides free supplemental education programs for all currently enrolled Center www.wku.edu/tlc WKU students. TLC @ Downing Student Union and TLC @ FAC offers certified, one-on-one tutoring in (270) 745-6254 over 200 subjects and eight academic skill areas by appointment or walk in. Online tutoring is offered to distance learners. TLC is also a quiet study area (with side rooms designated for peer-to-peer tutoring) and offers a thirty-two machine Dell computer lab to complete academic coursework. Additionally, TLC has four satellite locations. Each satellite location is a quiet study center and is equipped with a small computer lab. These satellite locations are located in FAC, Douglas Keen Hall, McCormack Hall, and Pearce Ford Tower. Please contact TLC @ Downing Student Union for more information or to schedule a tutoring appointment. TLC @ DUC Sunday: 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm Monday – Thursday: 8:00 am – 9:00 pm Friday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pmTLC @ FAC Monday - Tuesday: 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm Wednesday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Friday: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pmTLC @ Keen Sunday – Thursday: 6:00 pm - 11:00 pmTLC @ McCormack Sunday – Thursday: 6:00 pm - 11:00 pmTLC @ PFT Sunday – Thursday: 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm (PFT residents and their guests only. WKU Student Handbook: http://www.wku.edu/handbook/ **Related Sites** WKU's Department of English: http://www.wku.edu/english/index.php WKU Style Manuals & Writing Guides: http://libguides.wku.edu/stylewrite The Writing Center: http://www.wku.edu/writingcenter/ The Learning Center's Online Tutoring Sessions: http://www.wku.edu/tlc/ WKU Library Resources: http://www.wku.edu/online/lib-resources.php This I believe: http://thisibelieve.org/

Descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.