Course Prefix/Number: LIT 2100-2966  
Course Title: Introduction to Literature/Online  
Course Credit Hours: (3)  
Instructor Name and Contact Information:

Instructor: Dr. Judith Steele  
Office Address: Bldg. 50/245  
Telephone Number: 474-2032; English Dept. 474-2923  
Email: jsteele@uwf.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00-12:00; other times by appointments and/or announced times; Online appointments available 7 days a week (usually) via e-learning/email

General Studies Course

Introduction to Literature is designated as a General Studies course. The General Studies curriculum at the University of West Florida is designed to provide a cohesive program of study that promotes the development of a broadly educated person and provides the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in university studies. This course has been approved as meeting your requirement in the Communications area. The major General Studies learning outcomes for this course are Writing and Academic Integrity.

If you are interested in a major in English you should contact the English and Foreign Languages Department at 474-2923. If you are undecided about you major you should contact your academic advisor or the Career Center at 850-474-2254.

Course Description from UWF Catalog

“Literature from various nations and historical periods chosen to reflect the evolution of the major genres of the Western literary tradition. Guides the student in defining the features which distinguish drama, fiction and poetry. (Gordon Rule Course: Wrtg) and (General Studies Course: HUM/LIT) Meets Multicultural requirement. Credit cannot be received in both LIT 2100 and LIT 2112.”

InquiryBased* Student Learning Outcomes (Objectives of Course):

Students excelling in the Lit 2100 will master the following proficiencies in reading, analyzing, and writing about literature:

- Demonstrate coherence in writing and creativity in expression via essay format  
- Demonstrate through quizzes and essays accuracy of grammar and citation  
- Apply cultural and historical concepts of various texts to life as demonstrated by interpretations of texts in essay writing  
- Identify and differentiate genres and sub-genres of fiction, poetry, and drama via essays,
discussions, and quizzes

- Demonstrate through essay development ability to recognize universal themes, patterns and archetypes
- Develop skill in using argumentative, descriptive, narrative, persuasive, comparative, critical, interpretive, and evaluative tools in writing
- Apply literary terms in analytical evaluation of particular texts
- Organize essays exemplified in balanced paragraphs, effective sentence variety, and syntax
- Discover and appreciate various critical perspectives by reading and exploring texts
- Understand the interaction between reader and writer in creation of meaning through reading texts
- Recognize and understand meanings of plot, character, point-of-view, setting, figures of speech, and various other interpretative tools
- Develop theses and topics with supporting details and citations
- Recognize and avoiding logic fallacies
- Understand and avoid plagiarism
- Develop electronic research skills
- Recognize and appreciate classic and modern literature, including multi-cultural themes and writers.

*As applied to this course, inquiry-based learning is associated with life-long learning (Gates) in which students choose from a broad list of writing topics designed to develop critical thinking skills in a student-centered environment with the instructor serving as a facilitator. However, a basic knowledge of writing, analyzing, researching, arguing, and so forth is assumed, and where these areas are deficient, a structured framework is built by the instructor to facilitate higher-order thinking (applying life broad concepts to a variety of literary works in fiction, poetry, and drama).

**Required Texts:**

No required texts; instructor will provide all materials and links.

**Method of Instruction:**

This section(s) of Introduction to Literature is taught in a distance learning environment, MEANING THAT THE STUDENTS IN THE COURSE DO NOT MEET PHYSICALLY AT ANY TIME; ALL WORK IS DONE VIA THE INTERNET AND EMAIL through UWF’s e-learning system: Desire2Learn (D2L). Through weekly interactive group discussions, links, individual writing projects, and quizzes, the online instructor assists students in learning and discovering new applications of good literature to life and to research and developing skills in critical thinking analyses.

**Course Requirements:**

1. Readings, Discussions, (10%)
2. Short Assignments (15%)
3. Three Essays 15, 15, 20 (50%)
4. Midterm and Final Exam 10, 15 (25%)

1. **Reading, Discussions, Short Assignments**
• After reading assignments, class (in groups) will discuss questions related to the text as assigned by the instructor. The questions will be organized in a way intelligent discussion will ensue (not questions with one or two-word answers, in other words). The instructor will guide the discussion, but the responsibility for research and response falls on the students. Each student will respond with thoughtful and reflective observations to the questions others ask. Students may use the Internet and online libraries for help in formulating and discussing responses, but each instance must include a URL or other identifying information, using MLA style of documentation.
• As a part of the discussions, students will respond to short written assignments, for a grade (research oriented questions, etc.)

2. Essays
• Students will write three essays on assigned texts and topics provided by the instructor. Each student should find at least one other person within his or her group to exchange papers with. The UWF Writing Lab also provides essay critiquing, and a link will be provided.
• Students will submit papers within elearning (it is as easy to attach a file in elearning as it is to attach a Word document to an email).
• The essays are weighted as follows: 15%, 15%, 20%

3. Quizzes
Two quizzes will be administered: midterm and at final exam period. The quizzes will be based on specific criteria announced in advance such as identifying applications of literary terms as signified by a certain passages of text. The quizzes will be m/c, t/f, and short answer. Quiz parameters (such as a limited time period or open book) will be determined at a later date by instructor. The midterm is weighted at 10%, and the final at 15%

Course Topics:

1) The Writing Process
2) MLA online citation
3) Modes and Methods
   a. Fiction: tone, plot, characterization, setting, point of view, irony
   b. Poetry: figurative language
   c. Drama: characters, setting, dramatic irony, plot
4) Themes: Reading and Responding to Fiction, Poetry, Drama
   a. Examining Conflicts:
      i. Person against Self
      ii. Person against Person
      iii. Person against God
      iv. Person against Nature
   b. Examining Contrasts:
      i. Love/Hate
      ii. War/Peace
      iii. Life/Death
iv. Innocence/Experience  
v. Conformity/Rebellion

Grading Scale:

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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>78-79</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>88-89</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>83-87</td>
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<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
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Instructor Interaction:

The instructor uses a team-oriented approach, meaning the instructor has an "open door" policy online; students are encouraged to ask the instructor via an open forum, email and/or instant messenger (pager) in D2L anything about topics, gramma, and so forth, but when it comes to the written assignments (the final due date after revisions), the instructor is obligated to assess student work as it is submitted, no matter what technical or other problems might arise. A late paper dropbox is provided, but late points will ensue for late work.

- An online instructor assumes a somewhat different role from that of the traditional in-classroom instructor.
- The online instructor is a mentor or facilitator of learning, often referred to as “life-long learning” or “discovery learning” (see inquiry-based definition above).
- The online instructor creates a learning environment by establishing goals, assigning readings, participating in discussions, and creating specific assignments. Students read the instructions, do the appropriate research, and respond to the discussions, and submit responses to assignments for grades.
- This online course is not self-paced. Due dates are assigned and enforced.
- Self-discipline is extremely important in an online course; students must take adult responsibility for time management and completing discussions, readings, essays, and all other assignments on time.

Required Technology:

Daily Internet access is important and necessary for this online course. If students do not have personal computers, they must make time to visit campus frequently to access computers—it is possible to miss a day or so, but checking in once a week is not advisable. This online course is a part of UWF’s elearning campus. You must master the elearning environment on your own. The class instructor offers minimal technical instruction because of time constraints. However, online tutorials and live help at the UWF helpdesk are offered for students who need help getting started, and experienced online class peers are often eager to help online with questions from their classmates.

Expectations for Academic Conduct/Plagiarism Policy:

As members of the University of West Florida, we commit ourselves to honesty. As we strive for
excellence in performance, integrity, personal and institutional, is our most precious asset. Honesty in our academic work is vital, and we will not knowingly act in ways which erode that integrity. Accordingly, we pledge not to cheat, nor to tolerate cheating, nor to plagiarize the work of others. We pledge to share community resources in ways that are responsible and that comply with established policies of fairness. Cooperation and competition are means to high achievement and are encouraged. Indeed, cooperation is expected unless our directive is to individual performance. We will compete constructively and professionally for the purpose of stimulating high performance standards. Finally, we accept adherence to this set of expectations for academic conduct as a condition of membership in the UWF academic community.  
Link to UWF’s Statement on Plagiarism

Dr. Steele’s Interpretation/Policy of Plagiarism:

I submit everything I suspect as being non-original through Turnitin.com (an originality reporting tool UWF makes available), or I do a web search. I always find what I’m looking for—book, chapter, and verse. If you (student) can find it, so can I. I have been teaching online for almost ten years, and I know more tricks than you do for finding information. It is at my discretion as to whether the assignment receives an F, the student receives an F for the course, or the student is recommended for academic suspension from the university. At any rate, I must report each incidence to Student Affairs, where a permanent record is kept. Just get into the habit of sourcing everything you find (discussions, essays), and you will be fine. I will provide the tools and information you need for MLA citation of online sources the first week of class. It’s not difficult to become a pro at citing sources, and I will help you. I will also provide many links to great websites that offer MLA help. Plagiarism is a very serious matter, and with the advent of technology, students have myriad easy ways of stealing the work of others or having someone take a test for him or her, or write an essay for him or her, and so forth. These actions constitute cheating and will be treated the same as plagiarism. You can quote from almost anything (although certainly not all sources are equal) as long as you give the correct MLA documentation for each quotation. To help you get started, here is a list of the usual plagiarism warnings:

1) Plagiarism is the representation of the words or ideas of others as one’s own including direct quotations and paraphrases without both introduction and documentation as to where the information came from (and from whom). Direct quotations (word-for-word) require quotation marks around the quoted material as well as the author’s name (see MLA for variations).
2) Plagiarism includes quoting from your own previously-written papers (by yourself or in a group).
3) Plagiarism includes quoting anything from the Internet, oral presentations, visuals, video and audio, PowerPoint, as well as from printed sources, etc.
4) Plagiarism includes quoting from your textbook without quotation marks or indication that you are paraphrasing (give the page number for all printed texts and articles). See MLA for complete list and ways to document.

Assistance:
Students with special needs who require specific examination-related or other course-related accommodations should contact Barbara Fitzpatrick, Director of Disabled Student Services (DSS), dss@uwf.edu, (850) 474-2387. DSS will provide the student with a letter for the instructor that will specify any recommended accommodations.