

Syllabus for
ENG 201/ENG 201H Introduction to Literature
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2025

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introductory course designed for Education/Secondary English and Writing majors, emphasizing analysis skills and techniques for writing about literature. Uses representative readings from fiction, poetry and drama, with an emphasis on the elements of literature. Exercises include reading from various genres, exploring critical approaches, and writing analytical and evaluative essays.

Prerequisite: COMP 102

Honors Distinction: An extra project.

II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

Terminal Objectives – As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Demonstrate accuracy in reading by paraphrasing and summarizing;
- B. Identify basic elements of literature including structure, dialogue, plot, point of view, symbol, irony, characterization, theme, and poetic devices and styles;
- C. Demonstrate an understanding of the effective use of literary techniques through writing analytical and critical essays;
- D. Discuss various assigned readings, explaining the works' conventions, historical contexts, and their authors' methods, purposes, accomplishments, and assumptions about their audiences;
- E. Demonstrate ability to write a documented essay, accurately using and citing sources;
- F. Distinguish among various literary genres;
- G. Synthesize sources smoothly and accurately into essays.

III. ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS

This course meets degree completion requirements for the Writing program:

- A. Outcome 2 – Student is able to think critically, analyze linguistic structures, synthesize information, and evaluate information critically.
- B. Outcome 3 – Student can write with clarity and skill, can write original works avoiding formulaic writing, and can employ various literary devices.
- C. Outcome 5 – Student can write correct and effective academic papers, evaluating information and using it ethically and appropriately with correct grammar, mechanics, and presentation.
- D. Outcome 6 – Student demonstrates understanding of literary genres and characteristics of literature from various time periods.

IV. UNIVERSITY OUTCOMES

This course aligns with the following University Outcomes as indicated on the last page.

A. Intellectual Pursuit

II. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Textbooks

Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes were Watching God*. HarperCollins, 1990

Kennedy, X.L. and Dana Gioia. *The Literature Collection*, Longman. 2020. ISBN: 9780134668468 (Digital and paperback).

A Writer's Reference, 9th Edition, Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers. Bedford/St. Martins, 2018. ISBN 978-1-319-05744-2

B. Optional Materials:

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
2. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, electronic, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU's Honor Code: "I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments." Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one's own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - a. Submitting another's work as one's own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers;
 - b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
 - c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
 - d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
 - e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or failing the course or expulsion from the University, as determined by department and University guidelines.
3. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.

4. Students are to be in compliance with university, school, and departmental policies regarding Key Program Assessment requirements. Students should consult the Key Program Assessment handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
 - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an artifact is a zero for that assignment.
 - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.
- B. Department Policies and Procedures
1. **Class Assignments**
 - a. Students need to come to class with the appropriate textbooks, course materials, and other supplies as designated by the professor.
 - b. Professors may refuse to accept an assignment if it has inappropriate content, does not meet the assignment's criteria (e.g., not typed, incorrectly documented), is incomplete, is suspected of plagiarism, or is turned in too late.
 2. **Tardies**—Tardies are an inconvenience to the other class members and the professor, and they prevent the late student from obtaining maximum value from the class. Therefore, excessive tardies may adversely affect the semester grade. It is to the student's advantage to make sure that the professor is informed immediately following the close of the class that the student was tardy and not absent. It is not the professor's responsibility to stop the class to mark the tardy; the student is the one responsible for conveying that information immediately following that class, not at a later time.
 3. **Late Work**
 - a. The student is responsible for obtaining class assignments and material covered during an absence, and all work is expected to be completed as scheduled. Late work may result in a lower grade. An absence is not an excuse for turning in late work or for being unprepared with assignments for the class following the absence. Computer or printer malfunction does not constitute an excuse for late work; students should have their work prepared in time to ensure that they can get it proofread, edited, and printed prior to the instructor's due date. These responsibilities assist the student in professional development.
 - b. Assignments missed because of administratively excused absences are accepted with no penalty. Generally, assignments missed from an excused absence, such as sickness or family crises, can be made up and the instructor should be notified as soon as possible to reach an agreement on due dates and possible penalties. Each instructor has his or her own late-work policy that is given to students at the beginning of a course, so a teacher may decide that work missed because of an unexcused absence cannot be made up. Instructors use their own judgment in accepting late work resulting from all other absences. In cases where absences can be anticipated, such as for non-University sponsored mission trips, the work should normally be submitted prior to the absence.

4. **Attendance**

- a. **Excused and Unexcused Absences**—As stated in the university policy section of this syllabus, class attendance is mandatory, but because unavoidable circumstances can prevent perfect attendance, each student is allowed to miss class the number of times per week a class meets. This allowance is intended for illness, personal business, and emergency. Work missed because of an excused absence (e.g., illness, family emergency) can be made up; however, it is up to the teacher's discretion whether or not to accept work missed due to an unexcused absence (e.g., oversleeping, skipping class). If a student exceeds this number of absences, the student may lose points due to late work or for excessive absences, which may affect the semester grade. Extended illnesses are handled on an individual basis and require verification from a doctor.
- b. **Administratively Excused Absences**—Only absences that are required by approved University activities are given administrative excuses. Students who must miss class for University-sponsored activities must follow these procedures:
 - (1) Inform the professor before the event and make arrangement for the work to be submitted prior to the absence or at a mutually agreed upon deadline.
 - (2) Present an administrative excuse form with appropriate signatures when he or she returns to class. Doctors' or nurses' notes, or letters from groups sponsoring mission trips or activities do not qualify a student for an administratively excused absence.
 - (3) Obtain information covered during an absence. All work must be completed as scheduled.
 - (4) Not commit to class presentation (oral reports, speeches, group presentations, etc.) on a date that the student will be gone. Makeup work is not permitted if the student voluntarily committed to a performance on the date of an administratively excused absence.

5. **Plagiarism**—Each student attending Oral Roberts University is required to do his or her own academic work and must not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments.

- a. Students must document all sources and ideas that are not their own original information by following correct MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation procedures. Failure to do this produces a plagiarized paper, which results in an F for the paper. Flagrant cheating results in an F for the course.
- b. Students may be asked to submit their assignments to Turnitin.com (an online anti-plagiarism program) or have their work submitted to D2L, which also submits work to Turnitin.com.

6. **Incompletes**—As stated in the University catalog, incompletes are granted only for "good cause," such as extended hospitalization, long-term illness, or a death in the family. Students must petition for an incomplete using the form available in the School of Liberal Arts. Very few incompletes are granted.

7. **The Key Program**— If this course requires a KPA assignment, it is listed in the next section ("Course Policies and Procedures"). Students need to comply as indicated in this syllabus and/or by the instructor.

C. Course Policies and Procedures

1. **Grading**

- a. Each student is assigned four major papers, the final examination, and various other exercises, homework, and classroom activities assigned by the instructor. Each student writes at least one paper analyzing each of the three major genres explored in the course: fiction, poetry, and drama.
- b. Grading Scale--A=90-100%, B=80-89%; C=70-79%; D=60-69%; F=59% and below
- c. Students should not expect extra credit to help raise a grade.

2. **Key Program Assessment Requirements**

- a. The Aesthetics Development Paper is the KPA artifact that is required for this course.
- b. Students must upload the composition for Outcome 2D (Intellectual Alert—aesthetic appreciation) on Chalk & Wire.
- c. Not electronically submitting or incorrectly submitting the artifact results in a zero for that assignment.

3. **Evaluation**—Papers are evaluated for the following:

a. **Content**

- (1) The central idea grows from honest grappling with an issue; it is original, insightful, and interesting; and it is convincingly supported by details, examples, and illustrations.
- (2) The writer is reliable—honestly and sincerely avoiding inaccurate or misleading statements; correctly distinguishing between facts, opinions, and judgments; and acknowledging all borrowings.

b. **Organization**

- (1) A concise, comprehensive statement of the main idea (a thesis) as the focus of attention.
- (2) The focus is discernible and consistent in title, introduction, body, and conclusion.
- (3) Each paragraph contains a controlling idea relevant to the development of the subject.
- (4) Details and subtopics are arranged in a comprehensible order.

c. **Style**

- (1) The writer's words reflect a reasonable and responsible attitude toward his or her subject and audience.
- (2) The language is suitable for subject and occasion.
- (3) Right words (concrete and specific words) are in the right places and achieve exactness of meaning.
- (4) Sentence structure and vocabulary are varied and mature.
- (5) Phrasing has vitality.

d. **Mechanics**

- (1) There are no errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation.
- (2) Punctuation promotes clarity of meaning, stresses points that need emphasis, and controls rhythm.

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Weeks 1-3	Overview of Literary Devices
Weeks 4-8	Understanding Fiction & the Novel
Weeks 9-11	Understanding Poetry
Weeks 12-15	Understanding Drama

Primary Program: B.A. Writing
ENG 201/ENG 201H Introduction to Literature
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This course contributes to the University and program outcomes as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

OUTCOMES	Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution
Spiritual Integrity			
Personal Resilience			
Intellectual Pursuit			
Outcome 2 – Student is able to think critically, analyze linguistic structures, synthesize information, and evaluate information critically.		X	
Outcome 3 – Student can write with clarity and skill, can write original works avoiding formulaic writing, and can employ various literary devices.		X	
Outcome 5 – Student can write correct and effective academic papers, evaluating information and using it ethically and appropriately with correct grammar, mechanics, and presentation.		X	
Outcome 6 – Student demonstrates understanding of literary genres and characteristics of literature from various time periods.	X		
Global Engagement			
Bold Vision			

(Revised 02/27/23) Isk