

Critical Approaches to Literary Texts (I)

113-1 文學作品讀法（一）

Fall 2024

Monday 2:10-5:00 pm, 人社二館 B103

Instructor: Prof. Jen-yi Hsu (許甄倚)

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Course Description: This course will introduce students to the fiction genre and unpack a complex field of interpreting and analyzing literature. We will learn how to approach literature as a distinctive genre with its own specifications and acquaint ourselves with the cultural and historical contexts surrounding the texts. The concern of this class is to engage literature with a critical eye and to introduce students to the complex interactions of region, gender, race, class, and narrative technique in shaping literary works.

***ATTENTION: For non-English majors who want to take this course, please consider if you are really interested in “literature” and can answer essay questions in English. If you are not, you are advised not to take this course.

Required Course Reader:

Course Reader can be purchased at the Xerox center located on the second floor of the Humanities and Social Sciences Building I (人社一館八角亭二樓影印部)

Grading Policy:

***Please go to Zuvio (course number 127912224) for weekly vocabulary lists and miscellaneous announcements related to the class.

- Midterm: 30%
- Final exam: 30%
- Brief presentation: 10% (first, read the paragraph of your choice; second, spend about 5-8 minutes explaining why you chose this paragraph and why you like it or think it's important or interesting)
- Attendance & class participation: 10% (leave of absence for illegitimate personal reasons will not be granted)
- vocabulary quizzes: 20% (There are no makeup quizzes for any reason!)
- ATTENTION: All the above requirements must be fulfilled to pass this course.

Course Schedule:

Week 1: 9/9 General Introduction

Week 2: 9/16 “The Lady with the Dog” by Anton Chekhov (連靜思, 劉姿伶);
“Cathedral” by Raymond Carver (馬光華, 郝皓婷)

Week 3: 9/23 “A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings: A Tale for Children” by Gabriel Garcia Marquez (陳鉉泊, 郭宗鑫, 張綵芯); “A Hunger Artist” by Franz Kafka (鍾薊而, 李維, 伍逢諭)

Week 4: 9/30 “The Black Cat” (簡邑宸, 黃奕菲, 廖翊余) and “The Cask of Amontillado” by Edgar Allan Poe (蔡好倫, 林元心, 林宜樺)

Week 5: 10/7 “Araby” by James Joyce (林家伊, 潘學為, 王洪子瑜); “Lusus Naturae” by Margaret Atwood (楊淨涵, 林宥均)

- Week 6: 10/14** “The Things They Carried” by Tim O’Brien (羅世鑫，黃詡皓，郭盈婕)；“Roman Fever” by Edith Wharton (胡瑞芳，趙若丹，簡晨叡)
- Week 7: 10/21** “Hills Like White Elephants” by Ernest Hemingway (蔡侑均，粘立昕，陳立和)；“Interpreter of Maladies” by Jhumpa Lahiri (蔡侑宸，戴好安，林思好)
- Week 8: 10/28** Film Screening: *The Namesake* (2006)
- Week 9: 11/4** Midterm Exam
- Week 10: 11/11** “A Rose for Emily” by William Faulkner (林思穎，陳宣好，黃芊華)；“Puppy” by George Saunders (張祐鳴，陳英仁，謝筱筑)
- Week 11: 11/18** “The Birth-Mark” by Nathaniel Hawthorne (蔡優賢，吳盈蕙)；“A Wall of Fire Rising” by Edwidge Danticat (徐萱霖，吳毓馨)
- Week 12: 11/25** “A Good Man Is Hard to Find” (遲宇辰，何貫譽，柯逸欣) & “Good Country People” by Flannery O’Connor (徐樂軒，劉羽芹，陳奕安)
- Week 13: 12/2** “Everything that Rises Must Converge” by Flannery O’Connor (紀沅廷，劉家伊，Julisia)；“The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin
- Week 14: 12/9** “The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman (孫銘璟，廖珮淇)；“A Jury of Her Peers” by Susan Glaspell (蔡擷儀，胡芳芸)
- Week 15: 12/16** “King of the Bingo Game” by Ralph Ellison (楊書瑜，魏友宸)；“Sonny’s Blues” by James Baldwin (吳珮愷，梁家寧)
- Week 16: 12/23** film screening: *Get Out* (2017)
- Week 17: 12/30** Final Exam