

SYLLABUS

ENGL 200D – Reading Literary Forms: Where are We Living Now? Exploring New Places Through Literature and Film

Summer 2019

B Term - MTWTh 1200-210 [SMI \(Links to an external site.\)](#) 107 - VLPA and W credit

Instructor: Frances McCue

In this summer distillation of ENGL 200, we'll read stories, poems and vignettes and watch films that focus on travel and migration. Together, we'll consider how our reading and the films present the identities and struggles of "outsiders" who arrive in unfamiliar places. How do some stories tour us through places we have never visited and let us feel the texture of the settings? And how do others turn familiar places into ones that feel strange? We'll hope for good weather to explore our own city and imagine it anew through literature set here in Seattle. In the midst of this quickly growing tech borg, we'll also look for remnants of what Seattle used to be like and peruse a range of literary forms that capture our changing city, and the in-between spaces of virtual life, noting how these perspectives can inspire and deepen our own travels and migrations.

This course introduces techniques and practice in reading and enjoying literature in various forms and genres: poetry, vignettes (creative nonfiction), prose fiction, and film. We will examine such features of literary meanings as imagery, characterization, narration, and patterning in sound and sense.

Here are the four activity components of the class:

- 1) **Three field trips** out in the city—you will choose from a short list of places to visit in Seattle. Once in the place, you will take photos and take notes about the site and its surroundings. (You will have a set of prompts for this.) At a café or other site of your choosing, you'll write about what you've observed. Field Trips will take the place of Thursday classes on 8/1; 8/8 and 8/15. We will meet in the classroom on 7/25 and 8/22.
- 2) These pieces of writing will turn into "**Discussion Posts**," due on three Mondays. Then, you will respond to your classmates' posts a few days later.
- 3) **One Final Project**—the *equivalent* of 6 pages of your own writing and delivered in a form that you can present to the class. The projects will be about your reading and your tours of the city. You can use video, podcasts, writing, guidebooks as your form.
- 4) **Your reading** of the assigned texts. There will be **quizzes** on the reading.
- 5) **Your participation** in the class. By speaking up at least two times per class discussion, being a good collaborator (contributing to the group project and supporting the work of your classmates), having flawless attendance and doing all of the field trips will earn you full points for attendance/participation.

Course Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Enhanced student knowledge of literary forms and genre;
- 2) Hands-on practice with different types of writing: description, literary analysis, creative;
- 3) Written and dialogic reflection upon the texts and materials presented in the class;
- 4) Development of skills to read, analyze, and synthesize complex texts and incorporate multiple perspective purposefully in order to generate and support writing;
- 5) Development of flexible strategies for revising, editing, and proofreading writing;
- 6) Hands-on practice of observing a place, describing it in writing and analyzing it.

The writing will: 1) demonstrate substantial and successful revision; 2) respond to substantive issues raised by the instructor and peers and 3) be proofread and edited so that errors of grammar, punctuation, and mechanics do not interfere with reading and understanding the writing.

Expectations for Students: (Details in the Assignment pages on Canvas)

Activity	Submission Details	Points issued
Attendance	Attend all classes with reading completed, speak up at least 2x per class,	20
Quiz on Seattleness	Given in class—must be present to take quiz—bring your laptop.	10
Quiz on Heart is a Muscle	Given in class—must be present to take quiz—bring your laptop.	10
Quiz on Exit West	Given in class—must be present to take quiz—bring your laptop.	10

Field Trip #1 w/written responses	Travel to a place in the city that we approve together. Fill out notes on the place and post in Discussion, using designated prompts, for the field trip. Respond to all groupmates' posts.	40
Field Trip #2 w/written responses	Travel to a place in the city that we approve together. Fill out notes on the place and post in Discussion, using designated prompts, for the field trip. Respond to all groupmates' posts.	40
Field Trip #3 w/written responses	Travel to a place in the city that we approve together. Fill out notes on the place and post in Discussion, using designated prompts, for the field trip. Respond to all groupmates' posts.	40
Final Project	Create a final, small group project that is the equivalent of each person writing 6 pages of prose—video, podcast, paper, newsletter, travel guide BUT NOT POWERPOINT.	30
TOTAL		200 points

Required Texts

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Exit West	Hamid
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Seattleness	Hatfield	
Your Heart Is A Muscle The Size Of A Fist	Yapa	

Handouts provided on Canvas for other readings.

If you require accommodation owing to a disability immediately contact the Disabilities Resources for Students Office (DRS) in Schmitz Hall 448 (206-548-8924; uwdss@u.washington.edu) or the Disabilities Services Office (DSO) at dso@u.washington.edu. *It is your responsibility to notify me in writing and in advance of any accommodations to be arranged by either the DSO or DRS office and—should forms be involved—to deliver those to me in person during office hours, with time enough to allow for us to arrive at a mutual understanding of the means by which those accommodations are best met.*

Do not plagiarize. Plagiarism includes lifting material from the web, collusion, and the use of sources without citation. If you have any questions regarding what constitutes plagiarism, consult me. All sources must be documented, and papers are to be the result of your own labor.

This syllabus is subject to change. You are responsible for keeping up with any modifications to schedule or assignments.

Grades

96+ = 4.0

91-95 = 3.8

85- 90 = 3.2

80-84 = 3.0

75-79 = 2.0