

ENGLISH 1112 – Introduction to Fiction
Spring 2014, Block 1 (CPCC Harris campus)

Professor: Dr. Aaron Butler

Classroom: TBD

Office Location: Hedrick Administration 301 (Catawba campus)

Office phone number: (704) 637-4390

Home phone number: (704) 637-0489 (no calls between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., please)

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Office hours: Since this class is on the CPCC Harris campus, the main times to meet with me there will be before and after class. You may also make an appointment to meet with me on Catawba's campus, or you can consult with me by e-mail or phone.

Class meetings: 1/13, 1/16, 1/23, 1/27, 1/30, 2/1, 2/3, 2/6, and 2/10 (Monday and Thursday class meetings are from 6 to 9:45 p.m.; class on Saturday, Feb. 1st is from 8 to 11:45 a.m.; there is no class on Monday, Jan. 20th.)

Texts

40 Short Stories: A Portable Anthology, fourth edition, edited by Beverly Lawn (Be certain that you have the correct edition of this book.)

The Quiet American by Graham Greene

Please bring *40 Short Stories* to the first class meeting.

Course Description

This class will explore elements that writers of short stories and novels use to convey ideas and impressions to their readers. In the course of this exploration, you will learn ways to analyze and interpret the works we read so that you can better appreciate how a work of fiction operates. We will also investigate connections between the works we read and events in our world, so that you can understand how literature can present fictional events in ways that are meaningful to readers' lives. Classes will consist primarily of discussions of the works we read, and you will be expected to participate regularly in these discussions.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will read and understand primary works in literature, religion, philosophy, or the fine arts.
2. Students will analyze how these works reflect, respond to, and shape social, political, religious and/or intellectual contexts.
3. Students will write about these works from rhetorical, aesthetic, analytical, or ethical perspectives.

Student achievement of these outcomes will be determined by means of writing assignments, quizzes, and specific portions of the final exam.

Assignments, Attendance, and Grading

Your course grade will consist of the following elements:

Writing assignments and quizzes – 50%

Final exam – 30%

Class participation and some in-class work – 20%

An assignment turned in late will receive a lowered grade unless you obtain prior permission from me to turn it in late. In-class work and quizzes generally cannot be made up. Work turned in which does not represent a real attempt to complete an assignment will receive a grade of zero.

Students are expected to be in attendance every class period and to be ready to contribute to the discussion of the readings. Missing more than one class will lower your final average, and missing more than two class meetings means that you fail the class, except in extraordinary circumstances. Missing part of class counts as a partial absence equal to the proportion of the class missed. Attendance and lateness problems also affect your participation grade.

While class is going on, your focus should be on the work that we are doing. There should be no texting or other electronic communications except during breaks. Also, electronic devices are not to be used during the final exam; such use will be considered an honor code violation.

Schedule

A schedule of reading assignments will be provided at the first class meeting.

Honor Code

Students enrolled in this course are obligated to observe the College Honor Code as stated below and to conduct themselves in accordance with the standards set forth in it:

As a member of the Catawba College community, I will practice academic honesty, communicate truthfully, and show respect for the rights and property of others. I will also encourage others in the community to behave honorably.

Instances of cheating and plagiarism will be dealt with severely. Please ask me if you have questions about proper use and documentation of sources.

Resources for help

Please feel free to make an appointment with me or to contact me by phone or e-mail to discuss your work or other aspects of the course. I am always glad to talk with students and to give them feedback on their writing, reading, and other concerns.