

**English 399: Literary and Research Methods**  
**Spring, 2013**  
**Dr. Susan Louise Stewart**

Hall of Languages 314  
[susan.stewart@tamuc.edu](mailto:susan.stewart@tamuc.edu)  
<http://faculty.tamu-commerce.edu/slstewart/>

903-468-8624 (office phone)  
903-886-5260 (dept. phone)  
903-886-5980 (fax)

**Catalog Description:**

This course provides an advanced study of the basic principles and methods of literary analysis. Emphasis is placed on the mastery of formal literary terminology, a coverage of basic critical methodologies, and a thorough understanding of research techniques specific to the field. Required of all English majors.

Prerequisite ENG 1302 and sophomore standing

**Required Texts:**

Klages, *Key Terms in Literary Theory*, ISBN 9780826442673  
Klages, *Literary Theory: A Guide for the Perplexed*, ISBN 9780826490735  
Gibaldi, *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research papers*, ISBN 9781603290241

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Learners will demonstrate that:

- They can identify useful and appropriate scholarly sources for academic writing;
- They can properly incorporate (quote, paraphrase, cite, etc.) appropriate scholarly in their own texts
- They are resourceful investigators

**Assignments and Grading**

90-100%=A  
80-89%=B  
70-79%=C  
60-69%=D  
59% and below=F

Bibliographic Essay, 200 pts.  
*The Giver* Bibliography, 100 pts.  
*The Giver* Annotated Bibliography, 100 pts.  
Research Journal, 100 pts.

Various Homework Assignments/Searches, 0-50 pts. each  
 Quizzes, 0-20 pts. each  
 Exam, 100 pts.

***The Giver Bibliography:*** Students will compile a bibliography consisting of 12 scholarly sources regarding *The Giver* and 8 sources in an ancillary/related area

***The Giver Annotated Bibliography:*** Students will create an annotated bibliography consisting of 12 scholarly sources regarding *The Giver* and 8 sources in an ancillary/related area

**Bibliographic Essay:** Students will write a bibliographic essay on Lois Lowry's *The Giver*. It should include a minimum of 12 scholarly sources regarding *The Giver* and 8 sources in an ancillary/related area. The essay will be 3500-4000 words, not including the Works Cited.

**Research Journal:** Students will identify how they found each of their sources regarding *The Giver* and ancillary/related area. Keep track of your searches/methods as you go!

### Course Policies

**Academic Honesty Policy:** Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), recycling papers written for other classes, cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. See the following helpful resources regarding plagiarism:

1. your *MLA Handbook*
2. <http://www.plagiarism.org/>
3. <http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html>  
<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

**Egregious plagiarism such as recycling a paper, turning in a paper that you did not write, or similar actions will result in one or more of the following: a 0 for the assignment, an F for the class, disciplinary action administered by the university.**

**Late Papers, Attendance, and Incomplete Grades Policies:** I seldom accept late papers, and if I do, it is at my discretion. Additionally, expect no better than a C on a paper that is turned in late.

Be here. I do not allow for make-ups on quizzes or exams. There is no extra credit. If you miss 4 classes or more, expect no better than a C. If you miss 6 classes, expect to fail the course.

Only under the most dire of circumstances will I grant an incomplete for the course, and then it depends on the Dean as to whether or not the incomplete will be permitted. You will have to supply documentation in order to obtain an incomplete. That doesn't come from me. It comes from the dean.

**Civility and Etiquette:** Students are expected to be civil, polite, and accommodating to differences of opinion and will follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See 'Code of Student Conduct' from *Student Guide Handbook* located on page 31 at <http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/studentlife/guidebook2009-2010.pdf>. University policy provides the means for dismissing students who do not meet these requirements, and I take politeness very seriously.

**Technology Requirements:**

This course is supported by e-College, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. Various readings and the grade book are available through eCollege. You will also turn in assignments through dropbox function of eCollege.

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course. You will need access to the following technologies:

1. Internet access/connection – high speed recommended
2. Word Processor: MS Word [doc or docx]. If you do not have MS word, you can save your texts as rtf (rich text format) or txt (plain txt). Be aware that saving documents in rtf or txt will possibly cause problems with formatting, and formatting is important in this class in this class. If saving your document in txt or rtf, contact me, and I will identify a solution.

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you use a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

I strongly recommend that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the "myCourses" tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

**What to Do First:**

1. Come to class
2. Read the syllabus

3. I will announce and explain assignments in class, but you should browse the course content so that you will know what is coming up

### **Communication and Support and Primary Communication Tools**

I rely mainly on office hours, e-mail, and comments on assignments to communicate with students.

While I reply to individual e-mails with non-campus e-mail addresses, if I send out a mass e-mail, it will go to the email address identified in eCollege. Please check your campus e-mail frequently.

#### **eCollege Student Technical Support:**

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**Chat Support:** Click on “Live Support” on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.

**Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

**Email:** [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org) to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

**Help:** Click on the “Help” button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to dropbox, How to post to discussions etc...)

#### **University Student Technical Support**

The writing center located in the Hall of Languages is a great resource. Be sure to take advantage of their expertise.

#### **University Procedures/Policies**

**Drop a Course:** Students may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled “Drop a class” from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the Web page.

**Administrative Withdrawal:** I reserve the right to administratively drop students for excessive absences.

**Students with Disabilities:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library 132**

**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**

**Fax (903) 468-8148**

e-mail: [StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

Website: Student Disability Resources & Services at <http://web.tamuc.edu/studentLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

## Tentative Schedule

Please note this schedule is subject to revision  
I will give students plenty of notice if anything is revised

Week/Date	Due	Meeting Place
1 1/15-18	Always bring your MLA handbook to class with you. Introductions and getting started	HL
2 1/22-25	Have <i>Deadwood Dick: The Prince of the Road</i> read by class. I've provided a copy in eCollege or you can get it free from amazon.com and read it on your computer, kindle, or other compatible device:  <a href="http://www.amazon.com/Deadwood-Prince-Black-Rider-ebook/dp/B0084BB60A/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&amp;qid=1357575472&amp;sr=8-2&amp;keywords=deadwood+dick">http://www.amazon.com/Deadwood-Prince-Black-Rider-ebook/dp/B0084BB60A/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&amp;qid=1357575472&amp;sr=8-2&amp;keywords=deadwood+dick</a>  Respond to the following on the week 2 discussion board in eCollege: You've decided you want to become a specialist regarding <i>Deadwood Dick</i> and other similar texts produced during the time period. List 4 questions that would help you become an expert on the topic. <b>Do not repeat someone else's entry.</b>	Library
3 1/29-31	Scouring the internet: make a list that includes as much information as you can about Wheeler's series and the genre. Identify where you found each bit of info. You don't have to include scholarly articles at this time. Be sure to use quotation marks around material you have quoted/copied/pasted and make a notation of where you found it. This isn't formal --think of it as a fact sheet for future research. Upload to eCollege dropbox. Bring printed list into class.	HL
4 2/5-7	Find the scholarly article that deals with <i>Deadwood Dick</i> , gender, masculinity, and dime novels. Print it out & read it. Annotate it. Identify the argument, what the article is about, how the author defends the argument, what kind of evidence he uses, anything you think important, etc. Bring the article with your notes to class.  Begin work on DD worksheet.  <i>Literary Theory: A Guide for the Perplexed</i> (referred to as Klages), Chapters 1 and 2	Library
5 2/12-14	Practice Paper assignment due in eCollege dropbox by class	TBA
6 2/19-21	Klages, Chapter 3, Interlude, and 4	HL

	<p>Read <a href="http://orias.berkeley.edu/hero/JourneyStages.pdf">http://orias.berkeley.edu/hero/JourneyStages.pdf</a></p> <p>Find the article “Power Literature and the Myth of Racial Memory.” Print it out &amp; read it. Annotate it, particularly noting what it has to do with structuralism. Bring the printed annotated article with to class</p> <p>Complete DD Worksheet</p>	
7 2/26-28	<p>Klages, Chapter 5 &amp; Interlude</p> <p>Find, print, read, and annotate the article “Neverland of Id.”</p> <p><i>The Giver</i> Bibliography (12 sources)</p>	HL
8 3/5-8	<p>Klages, Chapter 6</p> <p>Find an article of your choice that deals with feminism. Print, read, and annotate the article. Pay particular attention to the argument and the sources that seem most important to furthering the author’s argument. Bring the annotated article to class and be prepared to discuss it. Be sure to find an article that you can discuss, one that you can get a handle on.</p>	HL
Spring Break!!!! 3/10-3/16		
9 3/19-21	<p>Annotated Bibliography, <i>The Giver</i> (12 articles). Should you include “Clones and Other Formulas in Science Fiction for Young Readers” in your bib?</p>	Online
10 3/26-28	<p>Klages, Chapters 7, Interlude, &amp; 8</p> <p>Find a scholarly article that deals with Althusser and interpellation. Print, read, and annotate the article. Bring the annotated article to class and be prepared to discuss it. Be sure to find an article that you can discuss, one that you can get a handle on</p>	HL
11 4/2-4	<p>Klages, Chapters 9, 10 &amp; Coda</p>	HL
12 4/9-11	<p>Ancillary area for scholarship on <i>The Giver</i> (8 sources)</p>	Online
13 4/16-18	<p>Research Journal</p>	Online
14 4/23-26	<p>Draft of annotated bibliography due for peer review</p>	HL
15 4/30; 5/2	<p>Exam</p> <p>Final project: Bibliographic Essay Due (Friday).</p>	HL
Finals 4/13-15	<p>TBA</p>	

