



**ENG 399.001 Literary and Research Methods
SYLLABUS: Spring 2019 TTh—2:00-3:15 pm
Location: HL 304**

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Tiffany M. B. Anderson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor

Office Location: Talbot Hall 209

Office Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 10:00-12:30 and by appointment

Cell Phone: 214-283-4719

University Email Address: Tiffany.Anderson@tamuc.edu

Twitter Handle: @TMBAnderson

Preferred Form of Communication: twitter or text

Communication Response Time: generally 24 hours M-R

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

The Color Purple by Alice Walker

Critical Theory Today: A User-Friendly Guide, Third Edition by Lois Tyson

Software Required

Word processing program such as Microsoft Word, Pages, or Open Office Access to email and internet

Optional Texts and/or Materials

MLA Handbook, Eighth Edition

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Course Description

"ENG 399: Literary and Research Methods. (Hours: 3) An advanced study of the basic principles and methods of literary analysis. The course emphasizes 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. Prerequisites: ENG 1302 and sophomore standing."

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate their understanding of literary terminology (through quiz).
2. Students will develop their ability to navigate and use literary theory and related research methods (through the composition of several written responses).
3. Students will navigate scholarly texts and analyze relevance of texts (through annotated bibliography).
4. Students will hone their skill of literary interpretation (through the submission of a critical essay).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using the learning management system, using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, using presentation and graphics programs, etc.

Instructional Methods

This course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes and objectives of this course and instructional units/modules. By the end of this course, the class will read and discuss literature as well as secondary materials in a manner befitting a specialist in the discipline of English. You are expected to do all readings for class by the date indicated on this syllabus (see "Course Outline/Calendar" below). The readings are the foundation of our class meetings; we cannot discuss and understand the ideas and theories unless you have completed the required readings. On occasion there will be videos for you to watch on YouTube. You must have internet access to view them. Additionally, during the semester you will complete several major assignments designed to build on each other intellectually and conceptually.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

1) Attend every class meeting. 2) Read every assigned reading. 3) Complete every assignment on time. 4) Communicate with your professor if you are in doubt.

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GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Assessments

Class Participation 20%

Active class participation is vital in class, but it is at times difficult to measure. You should be prepared to discuss several aspects of the readings during each class meeting. Each class meeting ought to be viewed as a collaboration of an investigative team that is charged with examining a problem. Everyone's sustained attention and participation is key to this approach. Expect to be called on to discuss some facet of the day's readings and to elaborate on these points via discussion.

Quizzes 10%

There will be one trivia game on literary terminology that will count as quiz grade.

The Color Purple Exam 10%

This exam will test your knowledge of the commonplace text, *The Color Purple*.

Reading Responses (x3) and Book Review (x1) 20% (5% each)

You will compose a series of responses to our readings that indicate a level of engagement with the material. Each response will be one single-spaced page in length. The objective is to think more deeply about a given aspect of literary theory and perhaps begin to apply it to our commonplace text, *The Color Purple*. These Reading Responses are due the day we discuss the literary critical theory used in your paper. Additionally, you will write or post a book review of *The Color Purple*.

Annotated Bibliography 20%

Students will compile an annotated bibliography and write a 150-250 word abstract to the bibliography. You must include 5 secondary sources.

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Critical Analysis Essay 20%

For this assignment, you will compose an analytical essay on the commonplace text, *The Color Purple*, using a theoretical approach from a range of those presented in class. You must use secondary sources to bolster your argument. The essay should be a minimum of seven double-spaced pages plus a Works Cited page. Please use MLA style.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- This course is conducted face to face (f2f). However, some aspects of the course (e.g., grades, YouTube videos) are accessed online. This course will use D2L/Brightspace for grades only. Do not allow a technological problem or question keep you from a successful outcome in this course. Technology is designed to facilitate your learning experience in this class, not to hinder it.
- You will need occasional access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection.
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

The quickest method of contact for me is Twitter. If you do not have Twitter, feel free to text me your question or concern. If your concern is more detailed and lengthy, feel free to email me. If you text or Tweet, I will likely respond within 12 hours. I will often address your concerns expressed in your email next class period if it is not a matter that requires immediate attention.

Office Hours is also a good time to meet with me. You are welcome to drop by whenever; however, I prefer you text me ahead of time if possible.

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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Academic Honesty Policy

Texas A&M University-Commerce and the Department of Literature and Languages do 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 person and passing them off as one's own), 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. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension and expulsion (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1, 2, 3]).

Cheating, including plagiarizing papers in whole or part, will result in a grade of zero (0) on the assignment for the first offense and failure of the course for any subsequent offenses.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is important for your success in this class. Therefore, each unexcused absence after three will result in the lowering of your final grade by a third of a grade. Excused absences, such as those for documented illness, family tragedy, religious observance, or travel for inter-collegiate athletics, will not alter your grade. Also, use of a cell phone during class without permission will result in an unexcused absence (that means texting). **Eight unexcused absences will automatically result in failure for the course.**

Assignment Policy

Student work must be completed and submitted when they are due. Students who know in advance they will miss class when an assignment is due must contact the instructor as soon as possible in advance of class to arrange for submission of the assignment. All papers should conform to the MLA style guidelines.

Deadline extensions and other allowances can often be accommodated before they are required, but this requires advance notice. Therefore, I will not accept any assignment after its due date unless prior arrangements have been made. Assignments submitted after the due date will receive a score of zero (0).

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Administrative Withdrawal

I reserve the right to drop a student from the course administratively for excessive absences or violations of student conduct codes.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

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ADA Statement

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- Room 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week 1

January 15: Introductions, Syllabus, Student Questions
January 17: Literary Terms Lecture

Week 2

January 22: Literary Terms Quiz, Read Alice Walker's *The Color Purple* 1-26
January 24: *The Color Purple*

Week 3

January 29: *The Color Purple*
January 31: *The Color Purple*

Week 4

February 5: *The Color Purple*
February 7: *The Color Purple* Exam

Week 5

February 12: Library Visit or Librarian Visit
February 14: *The Color Purple* Book Reviews

Week 6

February 19: Psychoanalytic Criticism (Tyson 11-50)
February 21: Apply Psychoanalytic Criticism to *CP*

Week 7

February 26: New Criticism (Tyson 129-60) *The Color Purple* book reviews are due.
Drop in my department box if written. Email a link if it is a YouTube book review.
February 28: Apply New Criticism to *CP*

Week 8

March 5: Reader Response Criticism (Tyson 153-191)
March 7: Apply Reader Response Criticism to *CP*

Week 9

March 12: Feminist Criticism (Tyson 79-128)
March 14: Apply Feminist Criticism to *CP*

March 19: Spring Break

March 21: Spring Break

Week 10

March 26: Marxist Criticism (Tyson 49-78)
March 28: Apply Marxist Criticism to *CP*

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Week 11

April 2: Deconstructive Criticism

April 4: Apply Deconstructive Criticism to *CP*

Week 12

April 9: Lesbian, Gay, and Queer Criticism

April 11: Apply Queer Criticism to *CP*

Week 13

April 16: Discuss Bibliographies (Come prepared to talk about at least one source in detail)

April 18: Thesis Workshop

Week 14

April 23: African American Criticism

April 25: Apply African American Criticism to *CP*

Week 10

April 30: Conferences

May 2: Conferences

Final Critical Analysis Essay Due May 9 by 5:00pm.

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