

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK**



COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 315 - SHORT FICTION: The Art of the Tale

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**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND HUMANITIES**

April 2016

- A. **TITLE:** Short Fiction: The Art of the Tale
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** ENGL 315
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** Determined by Semester
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 lecture hours per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**
 The short story genre is explored by reading selections from various writers around the world. Students also write their own short stories in order to gain perspective on the literary form of the short story, the range of ideas expressed within that form, and the creative process used to produce that form.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**
- a. Pre-requisite(s): ENGL 101: Composition & the Spoken Word AND one lower-level literature course AND 30 credit hours earned.
- b. Co-requisite(s): none
- J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**
 By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

<u>Course Objective</u>	<u>Institutional SLO</u>
a. <i>interpret and analyze</i> selections of short fiction	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking
b. <i>understand</i> and display ability to <i>apply</i> terms common to the genre of short fiction	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking 4. Inter-Intrapersonal Skills
c. <i>create</i> their own examples of short stories	1. Communication

	2. Crit. Thinking
d. evaluate the writing of their peers	4. Inter-Intrapersonal Skills

K. TEXTS:

Cassill, R. V. *The Norton Anthology of Short Fiction*. New York: W. W. Norton, current edition or equivalent text.

L. REFERENCES:

May, Charles E. *The New Short Story Theories*. Ohio UP, 1994.

---. *The Short Story: The Reality of Artifice*.

Shaw, Valerie. *The Short Story: A Critical Introduction*. New York: Longman, 1983.

M. EQUIPMENT: technology enhanced classroom

N. GRADING METHOD: A-F

O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Papers
- Participation

P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:

I. Introduction

A. History of Short Fiction

1. Early Tale-Tellings

2. Early 19th Century: The Form Comes Into Its Own

II. The Short Story Form

A. Character

1. Protagonist vs. Antagonist

2. Development

B. Setting

1. Place and Time

2. Development

C. Plot

1. Aristotle's Plot Structure

2. Other Plot Structures

3. Development

- D. Point of View
 - 1. First Person
 - 2. Second Person
 - 3. Third Person
 - 4. Choosing Point of View

- E. Style
 - 1. Elements
 - 2. Development
 - 3. Consistency
 - 4. Style vs. Tone

- F. Theme
 - 1. Definition
 - 2. Development
 - 3. Re-stating Themes

III. Writers and their Works

(Representative / Actual Choices Determined by Instructor)

- A. Margaret Atwood
 - 1. "Hair Jewellery"
 - 2. "Death by Landscape"
- B. James Baldwin
 - 1. "Sonny's Blues"
 - 2. "Going to Meet the Man"
- C. Toni Cade Bambara
 - 1. "Gorilla, My Love"
 - 2. "The Lesson"
- D. Ann Beattie
 - 1. "Janus"
 - 2. "The Burning House"
 - 3. "Jacklighting"
- E. Jorge Luis Borges
 - 1. "The Aleph"
 - 2. "Funes, the Memorious"
 - 3. "The Garden of Forking Paths"
- F. William Gass
 - 1. "Order of Insects"
- G. Raymond Carver
 - 1. "Where I'm Calling From"
 - 2. "Fat"
 - 3. "Cathedral"
- H. John Cheever
 - 1. "The Country Husband"
 - 2. "The Enormous Radio"
- I. Anton Chekhov
 - 1. "The Lady with the Dog"
- J. Vladimir Nabokov
 - 1. "Spring in Fialta"

- K. William Faulkner
 - 1. "A Rose for Emily"
 - 2. "That Evening Sun"
- L. Richard Ford
 - 1. "Great Falls"
 - 2. "Communist"
- M. Gabriel Garcia Marquez
 - 1. "The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World"
 - 2. "Eyes of a Blue Dog"
- N. Charlotte Perkins Gilman
 - 1. "The Yellow Wallpaper"
- O. Nadine Gordimer
 - 1. "The Life of the Imagination"
- P. Ernest Hemingway
 - 1. "Big Two-Hearted River"
 - 2. "Hills Like White Elephants"
 - 3. "A Clean Well-Lighted Place"
- Q. Shirley Jackson
 - 1. "The Lottery"
- R. James Joyce
 - 1. "Araby"
- S. Franz Kafka
 - 1. "The Metamorphosis"
- T. D. H. Lawrence
 - 1. "The Horse-Dealer's Daughter"
- U. Bobbie Ann Mason
 - 1. "Shiloh"
- V. Guy de Maupassant
 - 1. "The Necklace"
- W. Yukio Mishima
 - 1. "Patriotism"
- X. Eudora Welty
 - 1. "No Place For You, My Love"
 - 2. "Why I Live at the P.O."
 - 3. "A Worn Path"
- Y. Flannery O'Connor
 - 1. "A Good Man is Hard to Find"
 - 2. "Everything that Rises Must Converge"
- Z. Edgar Allan Poe
 - 1. "The Cask of Amontillado"
 - 2. "The Pit and the Pendulum"
 - 3. "The Fall of the House of Usher"

IV. Writing about Short Fiction

- A. Theories of Literary Criticism
- B. Communicating Judgments

V. Conclusion

- A. Compare / Contrast of Early Form vs. Contemporary Form
- B. The Future of the Genre

Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: None