## **English 2350: Introduction to Textual Analysis and Interpretation**

Spring 2018

**Instructor:** Dr. Nancy Rosenberg England

**Course Information**:

* Section 2350-001; Time 11-11:50; Room PH 100
* Section 2350-004; Time 10-10:50; Room PH 100

**Office/Hours**: Carlisle Hall 606/12-12:50 MWF or by appointment (no office hours during final exam week)

**Email**: nengland@uta.edu or nrosenberg@uta.edu

**Faculty Profile**: <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/nancy-england>

**Course Description.** In this course, students will learn to identify characteristics of genres, to recognize and understand critical and literary terms, and to develop and use methods and strategies for analyzing and interpreting texts. Required for English and English/Education majors. Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 and ENGL 1302.

**Required Texts.**

**Students must have these editions.**

###### Robert Dale Parker, *How to Interpret Literature: Critical Theory for Literary and Cultural Studies,* 3rd edition, ISBN: 9780199331161

###### Bram Stoker, *Dracula*, Norton Critical Edition, 1997, ISBN: 9780393970128

* Murfin and Ray, *The Bedford Glossary of Critical and Literary Terms*, 3rd edition, ISBN: 9780312461881
* Additional novel\*
* Selected texts online/handouts

\* Students will be required to purchase or otherwise gain access to one additional novel this semester (not listed above)

**Student Learning Outcomes.**

Upon the completion of this course, successful students should be able to:

* Articulate an understanding of major approaches to literary criticism and explain the similarities and differences of those approaches as well as their benefits and limitations.
* Define literary terms and use vocabulary appropriate to literary study.
* Apply different and appropriate literary frameworks to the analysis of literary texts.
* Demonstrate independent critical thinking in their analysis of literary texts.
* Perform independent research, using the MLA bibliography and other methods, and synthesize research materials to present original analytical arguments.
* Employ correct MLA documentation of primary and secondary sources.

**Grading:**

* Reading Responses and Reading Quizzes 15%
* Midterm Exam 15%
* Essay on *Dracula* 15%
* Research Essay Prospectus and Annotated Bibliography 10%
* Research Essay on additional novel 25%
* Research Essay Presentation 5%
* Final Exam 15%

Final grades will be calculated as follows: A=90‐100%, B=80‐89%, C=70‐79%, D=60‐69%, F=50 and below.

**The Assignments, in Brief. Assignments Will Be Discussed in Detail.**

* Reading Responses: A minimum one-page (double-spaced in MLA format) response to each reading assigned on the Course Schedule, uploaded to Blackboard prior to the start of class on the day the reading is due. Students should write just one response for all readings assigned on a particular day.
* Reading Quizzes: Expect short quizzes on some assigned readings at the beginning of class
* Midterm Exam: Fri., 3/9
* Final Exam: Held during finals week; not comprehensive
* Essay on *Dracula*: 4 pages
* Research Essay Prospectus and Annotated Bibliography: Minimum 8 sources
* Research Essay on additional novel: A paper of research and textual analysis on novel of your choice 8-10 pages
* Research Essay Presentation: 5-8 minute presentation (PowerPoint, Prezi, Google Slides) of Research Essay

**Peer Reviews.** Each essay will include mandatory peer review workshop(s). Five points are deducted from the paper’s final grade for each missed peer review workshop. It is important that you participate in peer review, as you will not be able to make up these points.

**Turning in Assignments to Blackboard.** All papers and Reading Responses in this course will be submitted to Blackboard. I cannot accept any assignments via email. All assignments submitted to Blackboard must be saved as a .doc or .docx file to ensure that I am able to open them on my computer. It is your responsibility to ensure that all of your work is saved in this way and submitted in the correct format.

**Late Assignments.** All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date specified. Papers and Reading Responses uploaded to Blackboard after the class has begun will receive a ten-percent deduction unless the instructor has agreed to late submission *in advance of the due date*. For each calendar day following, the work will receive an additional ten percent deduction. Work is not accepted after three late days. If you must be absent, your work is still due on the assigned date.

**Participation Policy.** Improvement in writing is a complex process that requires a great deal of practice. Successful college students come to class and participate regularly. Excused absences include official university activities, military service, and/or religious holidays. Students must inform the instructor in writing at least one week in advance of an excused absence.

**Attendance.** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients. For this course, an attendance notebook will be passed around at the beginning of each class for students to sign. After four absences, students receive a five-point deduction to their final grade, and an additional five-point deduction for each additional absence.

**Late Enrollment Policy.** Though at times enrolling in a course after the start date is unavoidable, please be advised that you will be held responsible for the class periods that you have missed even if you were not enrolled in the course. If you enroll in class after the start date it is your responsibility to contact your peers in order to get caught up on the schedule and any announcements that might have been delivered in your absence. This policy also applies to students who drop and add.

**Classroom Behavior.** I fully expect that you will conduct yourselves in an adult manner in the classroom and that you will take responsibility for your words, actions, and overall learning experience. Disruptions and personal business will not be tolerated, including the ringing of cellular phones and in‐class text messaging.

According to *Student Conduct and Discipline*, "students are prohibited from engaging in or attempting to engage in conduct, either alone or in concert with others, that is intended to obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with, or that in fact obstructs, disrupts, or interferes with any instructional, educational, research, administrative, or public performance or other activity authorized to be conducted in or on a University facility. Obstruction or disruption includes, but is not limited to, any act that interrupts, modifies, or damages utility service or equipment, communication service or equipment, or computer equipment, software, or networks” (UTA Handbook or Operating Procedures, Ch. 2, Sec. 2-202). Students who do not respect the guidelines listed above or who disrupt other students’ learning may be asked to leave class and/or referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

**Academic Integrity.** All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

You can get in trouble for plagiarism by failing to correctly indicate places where you are making use of the work of another or colluding with another to prepare assignments. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the conventions of citation by which you indicate which ideas are not your own and how your reader can find those sources. Read your textbook and/or handbook for more information on quoting and citing properly to avoid plagiarism. If you still do not understand, ask your instructor. All students caught plagiarizing or cheating will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

**Disability Accommodations.** UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD**) [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS**) [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy.** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit*[*uta.edu/eos*](http://www.uta.edu/hr/eos/index.php)*.*

**Title IX Policy.** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit* [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crowntreem%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.IE5%5CIGVYXPA0%5Cjmhood%40uta.edu).

### Drop Policy. Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. ****Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance****. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

**Electronic Communication Policy.** UTA requires that students and professors communicate using only UTA email. All students must have access to a computer with internet capabilities. Students should check email daily for course information and updates. I will send group emails through Blackboard. Make sure you have consulted the syllabus for answers before you send me an email. I check UTA email periodically during the school week and occasionally on the weekend.

The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University “MavMail” address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. *Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly.* Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

**Campus Carry.** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Student Feedback Survey.** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week.** For semester-long courses**,** a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Conferences and Questions.** I have three regularly scheduled office hours each week. These times are reserved for students to drop by or to make an appointment to discuss course assignments, grades, or other class-related concerns. I will be happy to make other appointment times for you if your class schedule conflicts with regular conference times or if I am not available on certain days. If you receive a grade on an assignment or quiz about which you have questions, please wait twenty-four hours before discussing it with me. This gives you time to process the assignment comments and to think about how your course work meets the requirements set forth for each assignment. It is not possible to discuss individual student issues in the classroom before, during or after class.

**Emergency Exit Procedures.** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located on the first floor of the building. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Students are encouraged to subscribe to the MavAlert system that will send information in case of an emergency to their cell phones or email accounts. Anyone can subscribe at <https://mavalert.uta.edu/> or <https://mavalert.uta.edu/register.php>

**Student Support Services**.UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/learning-center/tutoring/index.php), [major-based learning centers](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/college-based-clinics-labs.php), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/advising.php), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/mcnair/index.php). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

**The IDEAS Center (**2nd Floor of Central Library) offers free tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

**The English Writing Center (411LIBR).** The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. The hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fri., and Noon-6 p.m. Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments online at http://uta.mywconline.com.

The Library’s 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library’s hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>

**Assignment Basics.**

**Formatting and Presentation.** All assignments should be in MLA format. See resources such as the *MLA Handbook*, the *Purdue Online Writing Lab* <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>, and the UTA Libraries for guidelines and correct citation information. In general, this means that assignments (including Reading Responses) must be typed in 12‐point font (Times New Roman), double‐spaced, with one inch margins all around. The first page should contain a heading and title. MLA parenthetical citations and works cited lists are also required when appropriate.

For the essays, you will need to fulfill the specific requirements of each assignment and do so using coherent, well‐organized, and engaging writing and writing mechanics (e.g., spelling, grammar) worthy of an English major. If you have had writing problems in the past, please visit the free Writing Center on the fourth floor of Central Library. For the research paper, I will be concerned with how well you integrate your ideas and arguments with the viewpoints of the critical articles. Please be advised that it is your responsibility to retain all of your assignments until after you have received your final grade. You cannot formally challenge a final grade if you do not have evidence of your work.

**Syllabus and Schedule Changes.** Instructors try to make their syllabuses as complete as possible; however, during the course of the semester I may be required to alter, add, or abandon certain policies/assignments. Instructors reserve the right to make such changes as they become necessary. Students will be informed of any major changes in writing.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

Paper Drafts, Final Papers, and Reading Responses are due to be uploaded to BB prior to the start of class on the due date listed. Students will bring a hard copy of Paper Drafts to class.

Bring *The Bedford Glossary of Critical and Literary Terms*, 3rd edition, to each class.

Bring hard copies to class of assignments listed as “online” or “BB.”

**Assignments are due on the day they are listed**. Schedule is subject to change.

*IL* = *How to Interpret Litearture*

BB = Blackboard

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| **Date** | **Assignments** |
| **Week 1** |
| W1/17 | Introduction to the course, syllabus/policies |
| F1/19 | **Due: Signed Syllabus Contract****Bring hard copy of syllabus** |
| **Week 2—New Criticism** |
| M 1/22 | What is Literary Criticism?**Read:** *IL* Chapter 1 (no Reading Response due) |
| W1/24 | **Read**: *IL* Chapter 2 |
| F 1/26 | **Read**: Blake, Tennyson poetry on BB |
| **Week 3—Structuralism and Deconstruction** |
| M 1/29 | Overview of Essay on *Dracula***Read**: Stoker**,** *Dracula***,** Preface-Chapter 5 |
| W 1/31 | **Read**: *IL* Chapter 3**Read**: Barthes, “The Death of the Author” (online) |
| F2/2 | **Read**: *IL* Chapter 4**Read:** Stoker, *Dracula*, Chapters 6-10 |
| **Week 4—Psychoanalytic Criticism** |
| M2/5 | **Read**: *IL* Chapter 5**Read:** Stoker, *Dracula*, Chapters 11-14 |
| W2/7 | **Read**: Stoker, *Dracula*, Chapters 15-19 |
| F2/9 | **Read**: Stoker, *Dracula*, Chapters 20-24 |
| **Week 5—Feminist Theory and Queer Studies** |
| M2/12 | **Read**: *IL* Chapter 6**Read:** Stoker, “Criticism” (Roth through Moretti) |
| W2/14 | **Read**: *IL* Chapter 7**Read**: Stoker, “Criticism” (Craft through Schaffer) |
| F2/16 | **Read**: Gilman, “The Yellow Wallpaper” (online)**Read**: Gilman, “Why I Wrote ‘The Yellow Wallpaper’” (online) |
| **Week 6—Week 5 Cont’d/Marxist Criticism** |
| M2/19 | **Read:** Grimm brothers, “Snow White” (online)**Read:** Sexton, “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” (online)**Read:** Gilbert and Gubar, “Snow White and Her Wicked Stepmother” (BB) |
| W2/21 | **Read**: *IL* Chapter 8 |
| F2/23 | **Read**: Jackson, “The Lottery” (online) |
| **Week 7—Film Analysis** |
| M2/26 | In-class film: *12 Angry Men***Read**: Texts on BB |
| W2/28 | Film cont’d  |
| F3/2 | Film cont’d |
| **Week 8—Midterm Week** |
| M3/5 | Library/Research |
| W3/7 | Midterm Exam Review |
| F3/9 | **Midterm Exam** |
| **Week 9—Spring Break** |
| M3/12 | Spring Break—Class does not meet |
| W3/14 | Spring Break—Class does not meet |
| F3/16 | Spring Break—Class does not meet  |
| **Week 10—Historicism and Cultural Studies** |
| M3/19 | Peer Review Workshop**Due: Draft Essay on *Dracula*** |
| W3/21 | **Read**: *IL* Chapter 9 |
| F3/23 | **Due: Essay on *Dracula* Final**Overview of Essay #2—All components |
| **Week 11—Postcolonial and Race Studies** |
| M3/26 | **Read:** *IL* Chapter 10 |
| W3/28 | **View**: Adichie’s TED Talk, “The Danger of a Single Story” (online) |
| F3/30 | Library/Research*Last day to drop classes; submit requests to advisor prior to 4:00 p.m.* |
| **Week 12—Reader-Response Criticism** |
| M4/2 | **Read**: *IL* Chapter 11 |
| W4/4 | **Read**: Texts on BB |
| F4/6 | Library/Research |
| **Week 13—Ecocriticism and Disability Studies** |
| M4/9 | **Due: Research Essay Prospectus and Annotated Bibliography** |
| W4/11 | **Read**: *IL* Chapter 12 |
| F4/13 | In-class film: *Edward Scissorhands***Read**: Texts on BB |
| **Week 14—Week 13 Cont’d/Workshop** |
| M4/16 | Film cont’d |
| W4/18 | Film cont’d |
| F4/20 | Peer Review Workshop #1**Due: Draft Research Essay** |
| **Week 15—Workshop/Presentations** |
| M4/23 | Peer Review Workshop #2**Due: Revised Draft Research Essay** |
| W4/25 | Research Essay Presentation Preparation**Due:** Presentation Outline—upload to BB and bring hard copy |
| F4/27 | Research Essay Presentations |
| **Week 16—Presentations** |
| M4/30 | Research Essay Presentations |
| W 5/2 | Research Essay Presentations**Due:** Response to your classmates’ presentations thus far, including the characteristics of the best presentations—upload to BB |
| F5/4 | *Last Day of Class*Research Essay Presentations cont’d if necessaryFinal Exam Review**Due: Research Essay Final** |
| **Final Exam Week** |
| Week of 5/7 | <https://www.uta.edu/records/_downloads/finals/final%20exam%20schedule%20SPRING%202018.pdf>  |

**Emergency Phone Numbers**: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

**ENGL 2350 Syllabus Contract**

I have read and understood the syllabus, and I agree to abide by the course policies.

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Print Name Date

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Signature Date

**Permission to Use Student Writing (Optional)**

Student’s Name

Class Number and Section

Instructor Name

I give my permission for my writing to be used as an example of student work and/or as a teaching tool for future classes. I understand that my name will be removed from my work before it is shared with others.

Student’s signature

UTA ID Date