

**COLUMBUS STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

Spring Semester 2015

English 2276: Women in Literature

“Indeed, I would venture to guess, that Anon, who wrote so many poems without signing them, was often a woman.” –Virginia Woolf, *A Room of One’s Own*

CREDITS: 3

CLASS HOURS PER WEEK: 3

CLASS MEETS: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00am-12:20pm in Nestor Hall 228

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Heather Thompson-Gillis

OFFICE PHONE: 614/287-5096

OFFICE: Nestor Hall 4110

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays and Wednesdays, 9-10:45a.m, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30-2:30p.m, and by appointment

EMAIL: hthompso@csc.edu. This is the best way to contact me. You should check your Columbus State e-mail daily in case I contact you about an assignment.

CELL PHONE NUMBER: 614/537-7496. I am available to answer short questions via text.

DEPARTMENT PHONE: 614/287-2531 or 614/287-2201

DEPARTMENT FAX: 614/287-5375

DEPARTMENT MAILBOXES: NH (Nestor Hall) 420

PREREQUISITES: ENGL 2367

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

This course will explore the history and literature by and about women. We will use a comparative approach to see how women have treated a variety of themes and how they have worked within the genres of essay, fiction, poetry, and drama. Discussions will consider the literature from the perspectives of gender, history, politics and culture. Writing assignments will include response journals, analytical response essays, Blackboard posts, and examinations.

This course is designed to inspire lively conversation about these thought provoking texts. We will explore a wide variety of issues in the texts, some of them controversial. Please treat these subjects with the sensitivity they deserve and let me know if you ever feel uncomfortable with the class material. While we all share the privileged position of college students, everyone brings unique experiences and opinions to the classroom and it is essential that we treat each other with respect as we continue to learn together.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Students will read a wide selection of the works by diverse women authors representing a variety of genres including essays, fiction, poetry, and drama.
- Students will practice critical reading and writing skills using standard literary terminology.
- Students will discuss and write about literary works from such perspectives as biography, ethnicity, history, sociology, politics, philosophy, and popular culture.
- Students will write journal responses to record their personal reactions to and critical evaluations of the works they read.
- Students will demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of course material by taking examinations.
- Students will write analytical response essays using MLA format.

GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS

Columbus State Community College has defined general learning goals that all students are expected to acquire before they graduate.

1. Critical Thinking
2. Effective Communication
3. Community and Civic Responsibility
4. Information Literacy

TEXTBOOK

Gilbert, Sandra M. and Gubar, Susan. *The Norton Anthology of Literature by Women: The Traditions in English*. Vol. 1 and 2. New York: W.W. Norton, 2007. 3rd Ed.

ASSESSMENT

Columbus State Community College is committed to assessment (measurement) of student achievement of academic outcomes. This process addresses the issues of what you need to learn in your program of study and if you are learning what you need to learn. The assessment program at Columbus State has four specific and interrelated purposes:

1. to improve student academic achievement
2. to improve teaching strategies
3. to document successes and identify opportunities for program improvement
4. to provide evidence for institutional effectiveness

In class you are assessed and graded on your achievement of the outcomes for this course. You may also be required to participate in broader assessment activities.

STANDARDS AND METHODS FOR EVALUATION

Posting Questions to Blackboard/Class Discussion Leader (10%, 5% each)

You will sign up to post a short analytical response (approximately one paragraph) and two questions about the reading for two class sessions. You will then begin discussion on the reading in class. If you are absent the day of your post, your discussion post grade will be lowered by two letter grades. The questions should be posted by 8pm the night before the class session, and all students should check the Blackboard discussion board before class.

Daily Reading Journal (10%)

Students will record their responses to the daily readings in order to prepare for the analytical response essays and daily discussions.

Analytical Response Essays (Essay One 20%, Essay Two 25%)

You will write two 3-5 page essays analyzing the assigned readings of your choice. These essays should articulate a clear thesis statement/argument about the literary works explored in class and support it with textual evidence. Example prompts will be provided, but students may choose their essay topic. A description of this assignment will be provided in a handout and discussed in class. Essays should follow the standards of MLA format.

Midterm and Final Exam (Midterm 15%, Final Exam 20%)

There will be a midterm and final exam that covers the readings assigned for the course and information from lectures. They will include quote identification and short answer questions. The final exam will be comprehensive, although focused on materials covered during the second half of the course. We will spend time in class preparing for the exam.

GRADING SCALE

90-100=A

80-89=B

70-79=C

65-69=D

Below 65=E

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Because this course requires class participation and discussion, students should attend all classes for the full class time. Habitual tardiness may, at the discretion of the instructor, be considered in computing class attendance. **Faculty are under no obligation to provide make-up assignments for students who have missed class.** Understandably, sometimes students miss class because of life's circumstances. Because faculty do not want to have to judge the validity of an excuse, there is no need to return to class with a doctor's excuse. If you are absent, your final grade may be affected since you may miss class directions and instructions, and **you cannot make up in-class work (like the reading journals) for which you are not present.**

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT (Procedure No. 7-10(G), effective July 1, 2010)

As an enrolled student at Columbus State Community College, you have agreed to abide by the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the Student Handbook. You should familiarize yourself with the Code. The Columbus State Community expects you to exhibit high standards of integrity, respect, and responsibility. Any confirmed incidence of misconduct, including plagiarism and other forms of cheating, will be treated seriously and in accordance with College Policy and Procedure 7-1-0. Academic misconduct (cheating) is described as

- a) using open textbooks, notes, electronic devices, or other assistance during an examination, except those that have been authorized by the instructor.
- b) copying from another person's work during an examination.
- c) collaborating with another person on an assignment in a manner not authorized by the instructor.
- d) obtaining, distributing, or using the contents of an unadministered test.

- e) substituting for another student or permitting any person to substitute for oneself in an examination.
- f) submitting an assignment purporting to be the student's original work which has been wholly or partly created by another person.
- g) presenting as one's own ideas, organization, or wording of another person without acknowledgement of sources.
- h) knowingly permitting one's own work to be submitted by another student as if it were the student's own.

PLAGIARISM (ENGLISH DEPARTMENT POLICY)

Plagiarism, such as borrowing passages or whole documents from the Internet or other sources, and presenting another author's actual words, ideas, organization, or conclusions as one's own, will not be tolerated. Students who borrow another writer's material must document their sources accordingly. Students who present as their own the material written by others will be reported to the Dean of Student Life and penalized. A confidential record of the incident will be kept on file pursuant to the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Because the penalty is severe, ranging from zero for the assignment to failing for the course to academic dismissal, all students should avoid the slightest hint that they have used borrowed material without giving credit.

ADA POLICY

It is Columbus State policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the Department of Disability Services, 101 Eibling Hall, 287-2570 (V/TTY).

WEATHER CONDITIONS

In the event of severe weather or other emergencies which could force the college to close or to cancel classes, such information will be broadcast on radio stations and television stations. Students who reside in areas which fall under a Level III emergency should not attempt to drive to the college even if the college remains open.

Assignments due on a day the college is closed will be due the next scheduled class period. If an examination is scheduled for a day the campus is closed, the examination will be given on the next class day.

Please remember that it is the student's responsibility to keep up with reading and other assignments when a scheduled class does not meet, whatever the reason.

FINANCIAL AID ATTENDANCE REPORTING

Columbus State is required by federal law to verify the enrollment of students who participate in Federal Title IV student aid programs and/or who receive educational benefits through the Department of Veteran's Affairs. It is the responsibility of the College to identify students who do not commence attendance or who stop attendance in any course for which they are registered and paid. Non-attendance is reported each semester by each instructor, and results in a student being administratively withdrawn from the class section. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for information regarding the impact of course withdrawals on financial aid eligibility.

For the purposes of financial aid reporting, a student meets the participation and attendance criteria if s/he has actively engaged in the class and demonstrated a meaningful attempt toward completion of the course. Examples of active engagement may include, but are not limited to: completing a graded course assignment (e.g., homework, quiz, essay, project, or lab); actively participating in studio or practicum sessions; making content-related contributions to an online discussion forum (including responses both to prompts and to student/instructor posts).

WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSE

If you decide to drop this course, you must do so officially. Failure to withdraw *officially* from a course will result in a failing grade recorded on your transcript. Schedule Adjustment Forms are available from the Counseling/ Advising Center or the Registration Office.

COURSEWORK EXPECTATIONS

Columbus State's policy states that students at schools receiving funds from the State of Ohio should be expected to do 30 hours of work for each credit earned. That means students should expect to spend about two hours on work outside of class for each hour spent in class (Policy Number 5-05). Students need to be aware of their out-of-class responsibilities, and they need to be aware that inability to fulfill the requirements for a course may mean failure.

GENERAL CLASSROOM CONDUCT

Please turn off communication devices (mobile phones, pagers, etc.) during class to the point **that no one knows you even possess such a device**. You should not be receiving or sending communications via these implements during class either. Please respect a person's right to speak during a class discussion, including your instructor. Visitors or recording devices are not permitted in the classroom without advanced permission from the instructor. Please do not bring children to class or leave them unsupervised in the building. Occasionally, the instructor may need to invite other faculty or participants to class. Per college rules, there should be no eating, drinking, or tobacco use in the classroom.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT SERVICES

The Writing Center (102 Columbus Hall, 614-287-5717) is a **free** service that may be beneficial to you. You may also access the Online Writing Resource Center which is open to all students whether they are taking an online course, a traditional course, or a hybrid course. To access the Online Writing Resource Center, log into Blackboard; it's listed under "My Communities." The Online Writing Resource Center accepts submissions 24 hours a day and responds to submissions within 48 hours. There is also a quick question discussion board and links to very helpful resources for writing essays.

COMMUNICATION CENTER

The Communication Center is a campus-wide hub for presentation and performance development. Located in 017 Nestor Hall, the Communication Center offers students **free tutoring** to help them write and deliver a presentation for any class in any department. The tutors are instructors who teach courses here at Columbus State. To make an appointment, go to **<http://tutorfile.com/speechlab>** where you will find the complete instructions for making an appointment. You will be asked to register and confirm your registration in your Columbus State student e-mail account before making the appointment. Our spring semester hours and opening date are posted on the web site. Please bring your assignment directions with you as well as any work you have completed so far. We welcome individual presenters and small group presenters as well. Our expert tutors will help you present your ideas with confidence and success.

GENERATION ONE TRAILBLAZERS

Are you the first in your family to attend college? Then GOT is the group for you! The Generation One Trailblazers (GOT) is a resource group for first generation college students at Columbus State Community College. We provide peer support and academic resources to help you make it through college. Meetings will also be sponsored by departments around the college to provide further opportunities for support, which include workshops, faculty presentations, community speakers, and other forms of advice to help you achieve your goals. Check out the GOT Network website (www.GOTNetwork.wordpress.com) or "like" GOT CSCC on Facebook for more information. Congratulations on your achievements thus far! Allow GOT to help you continue your success of blazing a new trail for you and your family!

COUNSELING SERVICES

College can be stressful and it is important to be aware of the resources available to you. As it states on the Columbus State website, “The Columbus State Community College (CSCC) Counseling Center provides a safe and confidential environment where students can explore personal concerns in efforts to increase life balance as established through satisfying relationships, improving academic performance, setting personal goals, gaining self-awareness and making effective and satisfying life choices. Our trained licensed mental health professionals are able to provide you with help working through an array of mental health and substance abuse issues. Students seeking Counseling Services should **call 614.287.2818** or stop into the Counseling Services Center location in **Nestor Hall Room 010** (formerly Seminar Room A, lower level) to schedule an appointment.”

**UNITS OF INSTRUCTION-Assignments and readings are due on the day they are listed.
This schedule is subject to revision.**

The Fourteenth-Seventeenth Centuries

Week 1

Tuesday, January 13th- Introduction to the Course

Thursday, January 15th-In-Class Writing

Week 2

Tuesday, January 20th- Julian of Norwich, from *Revelation of Divine Love* (pp. 37-45)

Thursday, January 22nd- Margery Kempe, from *The Book of Margery Kempe* (pp. 45-59)

Week 3

Tuesday, January 27th- Anne Bradstreet, “The Prologue” (pp. 147), “The Author to Her Book” (pp. 152), “A Letter to Her Husband” (p. 153), “Here Follows Some Verses Upon the Burning of Our House, July 10th, 1666” (pp. 158-159)

Thursday, January 29th- Mary Rowlandson, from *A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson* (pp. 175-176 and Blackboard text)

The Eighteenth Century

Week 4

Tuesday, February 3rd-Abigail Adams, from *The Adams Family Correspondence* (pp.315-320)

Thursday, February 5th-TBA

Week 5

Tuesday, February 10th- Eliza Haywood, “Fantomina; or Love in a Maze” (pp. 276-295)

Thursday, February 12th-Mary Wollstonecraft, from *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (pp. 370-390)

Essay #1 is due to Blackboard by 11:00pm on Sunday, February 15th

The Nineteenth Century

Week 6

Tuesday, February 17th- Rebecca Harding Davis, “Life in the Iron Mills” (pp. 1105-1131)

Thursday, February 19th- Elizabeth Barrett Browning, from *Aurora Leigh* (pp. 542-551)

Week 7

Tuesday, February 24th- Emily Dickinson, pick at least ten poems to read; Higginson Letters, pp. 1072-1076

Thursday, February 26th- Review for Midterm

Week 8

Tuesday, March 3rd- **Midterm Exam Part I**

Thursday, March 5th- **Midterm Exam Part II**

Week 9

Tuesday, March 10th- Harriet Jacobs, from *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (618-629) Frances E.W. Harper, “The Slave Mother” (p. 1026)

Thursday, March 12th – Fanny Fern, “Mr. Pipkin’s Ideas” (pp. 588-589), “Moral Molasses” (pp. 589-590), “A Law More Nice Than Just” (pp. 591-592); Sojourner Truth speeches (pp. 510-513)

Spring Break: March 16th-March 20th

The Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries

Week 10

Tuesday, March 24th- Charlotte Perkins Gilman, “The Yellow Wallpaper” (1392-1402), “Why I Wrote ‘The Yellow Wallpaper’” (p. 1403)

Thursday, March 26th-Zitkala Sa “The Trial Path” (pp. 174-176)

Week 11

Tuesday, March 31st- Susan Glaspell, *Trifles* (pp. 178-186)

Thursday, April 2nd-Hisaye Yamamoto, “Seventeen Syllables” (pp. 834-843)

Week 12

Tuesday, April 7th- Nella Larsen, *Quicksand* Chapters One-Twelve (pp. 362-401)

Thursday, April 9th- Nella Larsen, finish *Quicksand*

Week 13

Tuesday, April 14th- Sylvia Plath, “Daddy” (pp. 1057-1058), “Lady Lazarus” (pp. 1062-1063), Lucille Clifton, (pp. 1119-1123)

Thursday, April 16th-No Class, In-Service Day

Essay #2 is due to Blackboard by 11:00pm on Sunday, April 19th

Week 14

Tuesday, April 21st- Margaret Atwood, “There Was Once” (1217-1219), “The Little Red Hen Tells All” (pp. 1219-1220)

Thursday, April 23rd- Gish Jen, “Who’s Irish?” (pp. 1437-1445)

Week 15

Tuesday, April 28th- Toni Morrison, “Recitatif” (pp.996-1008)

Thursday, April 30th- Final thoughts and exam review

Final Exam is on Thursday, May 7th from 10-11:50am in our classroom.