

ENGL A168: POPULAR FICTION

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	12/02/2020
Top Code	150300 - Comparative Literature
Units	3 Total Units
Hours	54 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 54)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	No
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Open Entry/Open Exit	Yes
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S), • Pass/No Pass (B)
Associate Arts Local General Education (GE)	• Area 3 Arts and Humanities 3A Theory (OC1)
Associate Science Local General Education (GE)	• Area 3B Humanities (OSC2)
California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC)	• Cal-GETC 3B Humanities (3B)
Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)	• IGETC 3B Humanities (3B)
California State University General Education Breadth (CSU GE-Breadth)	• CSU C2 Humanities (C2)

Course Description

Read, analyze, and write on important texts of Popular Fiction including popular novels, detective fiction, science fiction, fantasy, horror, young adult, romance, historical fiction, and graphic novel/comics. Explore the historical, cultural, philosophical, and aesthetic implications of representative works. Formulate and produce written analyses of assigned works. ADVISORY: ENGL C1000. Transfer Credit: CSU.

Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Explore significant historical, philosophical, cultural, and aesthetic implications of representative works of Popular fiction, including defining traits and major themes.

Course Objectives

- 1. Read and demonstrate an understanding of major authors, works, and genres of Popular fiction.
- 2. Analyze and interpret the literature along with the intellectual, social, philosophical, cultural, mythic, religious, and/or historical elements of Popular Fiction.
- 3. Recognize and interpret the literary devices and writing styles evident in Popular Fiction. Distinguish how these elements represent an individual author's aesthetic sensibility and a larger context of social understanding and consciousness.
- 4. Relate the literary works of Popular Fiction to their historical, philosophical, social, political, and aesthetic contexts.

- 5. Demonstrate and understanding of the above through appropriate academic discourse and conventions of literary analysis.
- 6. Demonstrate comprehension of the above through classroom discussion, written exams, and essays, using appropriate citation form.

Lecture Content

An overview of the differences between traditional/canonical literary texts and popular/mainstream texts. Historical, social, economic, and philosophical context of popular, commercially successful literature. Central themes and concerns of Popular fiction, including ones that have characterized cultures, sub-cultures, or time periods. Discuss literary analysis, literary theory, and significant theories concerning race, culture, sexuality, and identity. An examination of various genres of Popular Fiction: Popular, commercially successful novels Harriet Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin Margaret Mitchell's Gone With The Wind Harper Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird Chuck Palahniuk's Fight Club or Choke Yann Martel's Life of Pi Michael Chabon's The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay Jeffrey Eugenides The Virgin Suicides Detective Fiction Edgar Allan Poe's Murder in the Rue Morgue Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's A Study in Scarlet, The Sign of the Four, or The Hound of the Baskervill Dashiell Hammett's The Maltese Falcon, The Thin Man, or Red Harves Raymond Chandler's The Big Sleep or The Long Goodbye Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express or And Then There Were None Chester Hime's If He Hollers Let Him Go Walter Mosley's Devil in a Blue Dress or Always Outnumbered, Always Outgunned James Ellroy's L.A. Confidential Science Fiction H.G. Wells The Time Machine, The War of the Worlds, the Invisibile Man or The Island of Dr. Moreau Jules Verne's Around the World in 80 Days or Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea Edgar Rice Burrough's Tarzan or John Carter of Mars Ursula Le Guin's The Left Hand of Darkness or A Wizard of Earthsea Ray Bradbury's The Martian Chronicles, The Illustrated Man or Fahrenheit 451 Frank Herbert's Dune Douglas Adams The Hitchhiker's Guild to the Galaxy Neil Gaiman's American Gods or Neverwhere Spy/Thriller Rudyard Kipling's Kim Ian Fleming's Casino Royale, From Russia With Love, or Goldfinger John le Carr's The Spy Who Came in From the Cold, The Day of the Jackal, or Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy Robert Ludlum's The Bourne Identity Tom Clancy's The Hunt for Red October or The Cardinal of the Kremlin Westerns Zane Grey's Rider of the Purple Sage or The Lone Star Ranger Louis L Amour's Hondo, The Quick and the Dead, or Sackett's Land Charles Portis True Grit or The Dog of the South Larry McMurtry's Lonesome Dove Cormac McCarthy's Blood Meridian Horror Mary Shelley's Frankenstein Bram Stoker's Dracula H.P. Lovecraft's The Call of Cthulhu and Other Stories Shirley Jackson's The Haunting of Hill House Stephen King's The Shining, Carrie, or It Bret Easton Ellis American Psycho Anne Rice's Interview with a Vampire or Vampire Chronicles Thomas Harris Silence of the Lambs Young Adult Louisa May Alcott's Little Women L.M. Montgomery's Anne of Green Gables Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House on the Prairie Stephen Chbosky's The Perks of Being A Wallflower John Green's The Fault in our Stars Suzanne Collins The Hunger Games J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series Graphic Novels and Comics Alan Moore's Watchmen, V for Vendetta, Swamp Thing, From Hell or League of Extraordinary Gentlemen Frank Miller's The Dark Knight Returns, Daredevil: Man Without Fear, or Sin City Neil Gaiman's Sandman Daniel Clowe's Ghostworld Alison Beachdel's Fun Home Robert Kirkman's The Walking Dead

Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)
- DE Live Online Lecture (02S)

Instructional Techniques

Instructional techniques involve some or all of the following: lecture/discussion, in-class writing prompts, close reading, group work, panel discussions, debates, response papers, quizzes, and collaborative research presentations.

Reading Assignments

A minimum of four hours per week reading, analyzing, and annotating representative works from the genre of popular fiction.

Writing Assignments

Write a minimum of 3000 words (15 pages, 12 pt double spaced typed) about popular fiction: a) minimum of 2000 words (10 pages) of the writing must be in the form of analytical essays, b) the other writings may be in the form of tests requiring primarily short or long essay responses, journal writing, creative modeling of the literature, written notes outlining oral presentations, or other types of writing that demonstrate an understanding of the literature.

Out-of-class Assignments

A minimum of between four to six hours each week on writing assignments—including (but not limited to) essays, summaries, reading responses, research essays using secondary sources, and take home exams

Demonstration of Critical Thinking

Tests, analytical essays, journals, class discussions, or class presentations

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration

Tests, analytical essays, journals, or class presentations

Eligible Disciplines

English: Master's degree in English, literature, comparative literature, or composition OR bachelor's degree in any of the above AND master's degree in linguistics, TESL, speech, education with a specialization in reading, creative writing, or journalism OR the equivalent. Master's degree required.

Textbooks Resources

1. Required Kelley, D.M>. The Longman Anthology of Detective Fiction, 3rd ed. New York: Pearson, 2014 2. Required Lovecraft, H.P.. The Complete Fiction of H.P. Lovecraft, 1st ed. New York: Chartwell, 2016 3. Required Bradbury, R.. The Martian Chronicles, 1st ed. Boston: Simon and Schuster, 2012 4. Required Moore, A.. Watchmen, ed. New York: DC Comics, 2014 5. Required Fleming, I.. Casino Royale, ed. New York: Mercer, 2012 6. Required Kirkman, R.. The Walking Dead: Days Gone By, Vol. 1 ed. New York: Image, 2013 7. Required Grey, Z.. Riders of the Purple Sage, 1st ed. Austin: Zane, 2012 8. Required Stoker, B.. Dracula, 1st ed. London: Winehouse, 2016 9. Required Jackson, S.. The Haunting of Hill House, 1st ed. New York: Penguin, 2013 10. Required Collins, S.. The Hunger Games: Box Set, 1st ed. Boston: Scholastic, 2013