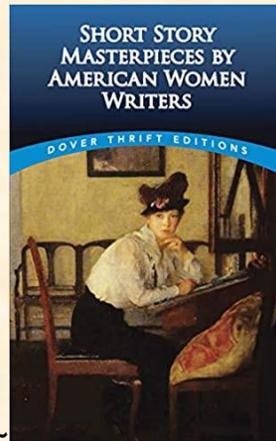


BRIEF, ADVANCE NOTICE COURSE DESCRIPTION

FALL 2021
ENGLISH / WS 2393.50
(100% online, 100% asynchronous)
INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE BY WOMEN



Instructor: Dr. Stephen Souris (SSouris@twu.edu), Professor of English, Texas Woman's University.

Catalog course title and catalog course description: "ENG 2393. Introduction to Literature by Women. Introduction to important works of literature by women. Organized by theme, topic, genre, ethnic group, or nationality...." (WS description is the same.)

Semester-specific focus: Short stories by modern American women writers.

Semester-specific description: Great short stories by American women writers since the Civil War and including contemporary writers. Our focus will be on the stories themselves and not any particular theoretical approach to women's literature. Three inexpensive anthologies will be used to have the best possible selection from which to choose stories that are good for discussion. This course is 100% online and 100% asynchronous.

Date of final exam: Saturday, December 4.

Target audience: Anyone who enjoys literature by women and/or the short story genre.

Protocol for online courses with this professor: Each unit will have either a podcasted lecture in Panopto with closed captioning or a written lecture. Lectures will be in the middle of the respective units to promote student engagement and original thinking prior to the lecture. Discussion topics for each unit will be available to stimulate discussion forum activity. Responses to selected forum postings will be provided by the course GA on a daily basis.

Graduate Assistant: The Graduate Assistant will be available for assistance on any aspect of the course.

Time & place: Entirely online; entirely asynchronous (no mandatory meetings on campus or online at a designated time). There will be several *optional* class-wide video calls using Zoom for students seeking clarification about course procedures and requirements. Zoom video calls have a telephone option for audio only.

Requirements: Familiarity with Canvas; familiarity with what is required to manage and succeed in a 100% online course; discipline to handle an entirely online course; ability to work with information provided entirely in writing and via closed-captioned podcasts provided in Panopto; regular reading; regular participation in the discussion forums (at least 2500 words total for the semester); research exercise (article review—see below); five tests in Canvas (four midterm tests and one comprehensive, cumulative final exam); avoidance of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism; and access to a telephone. Required research exercise (article review): In 2000-level courses, at least one posting to the relevant discussion forum must consist of a summary of and commentary on a relevant scholarly article related to the assigned readings.

Optional work on the “Enhanced Educational Experience Plan”: 1) a conventional full-length research-based term paper; 2) compare-contrast essay exercises at semester end; 3) a creative project related to the course and drawing upon special talents; 4) an extensive, annotated bibliography of secondary sources related to our readings; 5) especially extensive participation in the discussion forums following specified guidelines; 6) a collaborative project. Canvas tests can be reduced to as little as 25% of the course grade by selecting three components of the EEE Plan, which is strongly recommended. Honors Contracts, which can incorporate the EEE Plan, are welcome. The EEE Plan is entirely optional.

Required books (on order through TWU Bookstore):

(It is recommended that you use the exact ISBN number if you're ordering on your own.)

- Strowbridge, *Short Story Masterpieces by American Women Writers*. ISBN: 0486499944 . New, \$6; also available used.
- Martin, *We Are the Stories We Tell*. ISBN: 0679728813 . New, \$17; also available used for ca. \$1.
- Martin, *More Stories We Tell*. ISBN: 0375714502 . New, \$17; also available used for ca. \$1.

Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism: Proper documentation of sources is expected. A single act of plagiarism anywhere in the course, whether on required or optional work, can result in an F on the assignment, an F in the course, and expulsion from TWU. This instructor has a zero-tolerance policy regarding plagiarism. Same for academic dishonesty in any other form.

TWU Core Curriculum status of this course: "Satisfies three hours Language, Philosophy, & Culture Core (40) or Component Area Option (90)." For details on how this course fits into the Core Curriculum requirements governing your particular degree plan: <https://twu.edu/undergraduate-studies/undergraduate-curriculum/core-curriculum/>

Additional information:

- Non-degree seeking course participants: If you are not in a degree program at TWU you may still be able to take a course at TWU as a "non-degree [seeking] student." It may even be possible to get such coursework accepted as part of a degree plan should you subsequently become enrolled in a degree program at TWU. For details, call the Office of Admissions at 940-898-3076 or follow [this link](#) and select the "non-degree admission" category. Registration can occur after the date TWU freshmen can register using the "transient student" application form via ApplyTexas.
- Brief, advance notice course descriptions for all my courses are usually available via the "Class Schedules" platform, which is accessible to the general public following this path: twu.edu > A-Z index > Class Schedules. Alternatively, they are also available through Web Advisor / Student Planning when searching for specific courses. I try to have advance notice course descriptions available starting with March 1 for summer and fall courses and Oct. 1 for spring courses. (Tip: If you encounter a "cookie" problem, access the Class Schedules platform via the "incognito" option with Google Chrome.)
- Miscellaneous Notes: This information is preliminary and is subject to change with notification. This is not an official course syllabus; the official course syllabus, distributed at the beginning of the semester, will provide the most detailed and current information. Nor is this announcement intended to meet the requirements of House Bill 2504; a 2504 version of the course syllabus will be made available separately. A detailed course syllabus including a calendar of reading assignments from a previous semester is available upon request. The course syllabus and readings for this semester will be very similar. For further information: SSouris@twu.edu. Subject line: "Inquiry about Eng. 2393."