COURSE GOALS:

1) to introduce students to the terminology and methods used in analyzing literary texts, with particular attention to the genres of poetry, drama, and short fiction;
2) to develop the ability to engage literary texts fully by reading with close attention to details of language, character, plot, point of view, etc., and to participate in focused discussion of these issues;
3) to develop the ability to write analytically about literary texts, including formulating a thesis, developing a coherent argument, incorporating secondary material, revising and polishing the final draft.

TEXT:

Barnet, Sylvan, et als, eds., Literature: Thinking, Reading, and Writing Critically (Longman, 1997)

REQUIREMENTS:

3 short (approx. 5 page) papers 20% each
Final Exam 20%
Discussion, response papers, quizzes 20%

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS (tentative):

Aug. 26 W Introduction to course

Drama

28 F Elements of Drama (pp. 1203-20)

31 M Sophocles, Oedipus Rex (pp. 1228-64)
Tragedy (pp. 1223-28)

Sept. 2 W Sophocles, cont.

4 F Shakespeare, A Midsummer Night’s Dream (pp. 1414-72)
Comedy (pp. 1405-14)

7 M Labor Day--No class

9 W Shakespeare, cont.

11 F Shakespeare, cont.

14 M Miller, Death of a Salesman (pp. 1591-1663)

16 W Miller, cont.

18 F Miller, cont.
Writing about Literature (pp. 17-34)

21 M Williams, A Glass Menagerie (pp. 1543-91)
23  W Williams, *A Glass Menagerie* (pp. 1543-91)

25  F Williams, cont.

**Paper #1 due**

**Poetry**

28  M Approaching Poetry (pp. 829-35)
    Roethke, “My Papa’s Waltz” (p. 942-3)

30  W The Speaking Tone of Voice (pp. 861-87)

Oct.  2  F Voice, cont.

5  M Marvell, “To His Coy Mistress” (pp. 930-32)
    Eliot, “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (pp. 1078-81)

7  W Marvell and Eliot, cont.

9  F Figurative Language (pp. 888-904)

12  M Imagery and Symbolism (pp. 905-23)

14  W Irony (pp. 924-37)

16  F Rhythm and Versification (pp. 938-56)

19  M No Class--Fall Break

21  W Hughes, A Casebook (pp. 1171-1200)

23  F Hughes, cont.
    Writing about Poetry (pp. 34-38; 957-63)

26  M Hughes, cont.

28  W Hughes, cont.

30  F Hughes, cont.

**Paper #2 due**

**Fiction**

Nov.  2  M Approaching Fiction (pp. 73-84)

4  W Narrative Point of View (pp. 105-22)

6  F Point of View, cont.

9  M Film Interlude--TBA

11  W Film, cont.

13  F Steinbeck, “The Chrysanthemums” (pp. 465-73)
16  M Steinbeck, cont.

18  W O’Connor (pp. 271-318)

20  F O’Connor, cont.

23  M O’Connor, cont.
  Writing about Fiction (pp. 149-63)

25-29  Thanksgiving Break

30  M Critical Perspectives on Joyce Carol Oates (pp. 700-40)

Dec.  2  W Oates, cont.

4  F Oates, cont.

7  M Oates, cont.

9  W Some conclusions

Paper #3 due

**FINAL EXAM:** 1-3:30 p.m., Saturday, December 12

**PLEASE NOTE:**

1) Your discussion grade includes response papers, which will be assigned and submitted at various times during the semester, and may include one or more quizzes.

2) Papers are due at the beginning of class on the day assigned unless other arrangements are made ahead of time. A penalty of 10% per day will be assessed on all late papers. Papers more than one week late will not be accepted.

3) Habitual tardiness or absence will be penalized.

4) All work in this course will be fully pledged under the Honor System.