

## Assigned Readings and Assignments for Composition II—Spring 2020

### January 6-24

Enrollment, Introduction, and Logic

Persuasive/Argumentative Writing –

- Deductive (Classical) Arguments – Readings: current editorials and student work
- Online materials – Logical (informal) fallacies manual

**Writing Assignment #1** – Write a classical argument (thesis, three points, antithesis, conclusion). Choose a topic suited to this closed form text structure.

- Inductive Arguments – Readings:

“The Declaration of Independence” – Jefferson; “A Modest Proposal” – Swift

**Writing assignment #2** – Write a Rogerian essay that proposes a position on a controversial topic such as euthanasia, living wills, water rights, eliminating the electoral college, when torture is acceptable, paternity leave, government-provided health care, spanking children, tattooing or piercing, pipe smoking, home schooling vs. public schooling or any other topic that would be best discussed in the Rogerian style.

**January 27-Feb. 21** Fiction (short story) – Page numbers, unless otherwise noted, are for the Literature, Kennedy and Gioia text.

Readings for discussion and analysis (partial list):

“A & P” – Updike (15)

“Barn Burning” – Faulkner (178)

**Writing Assignments #3** In response to prompts provided on the essay exam, write a literary analysis about “A&P” or “Barnburning.”

“Where Are You Going; Where Have You Been?” – Oates (654)

“Cathedral” – Carver (109)

[“The Jilting of Granny Weatherall”](#) – Porter (94)

“Miss Brill” – Mansfield (639)

“A Clean, Well-Lighted Place” Hemingway (174)

“Greasy Lake” – Boyle (143)

“A Good Man is Hard to Find” – O’Connor (431)

[“Saboteur”](#) - Ha Jin (200)

**Writing Assignments #4** – In response to prompts provided on the essay exam, write a literary analysis about one of the short stories listed above. Choose an interpretive question, develop a thesis relating to that question, and support that thesis with logic and quotations from the short story.

**Feb. 25 – March 8** Poetry

Readings for discussion and analysis (partial list):

“Buffalo Bill’s Defunct” – E.E. Cummings (938)

“The Death of a Ball Turret Gunner” – Jarrell (1195)

“Dulce et Decorum Est” – Owen (742)

“My Papa’s Waltz” – Roethke (718)

**Writing assignment #5** – Write an analysis of a poem that you will convert to an oral presentation.

**March 9-13 SPRING BREAK**

**March 16-April 17**

**Drama**

Readings:

["Trifles"](#) – Glaspell (1905)

"Hamlet" – Shakespeare (1604)

**Writing assignment #6** – Write an essay supporting your position on a character's actions in "Hamlet" or "Trifles." (A detailed assignment sheet will be provided.)

**Friday April 10 and Monday, April 13 NO SCHOOL - TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (Mr. McClure gone Thursday, April 9 - Tuesday, April 14.)**

**April 20-May 14**

Film

**Writing assignment #7 - FINAL EXAM:**

Option 1: After viewing The Fellowship of the Ring, explain how the archetypal characters, situations, symbols and associations in the movie have related to other media you have read or viewed.

Option 2: Predict how your future "hero's journey" will parallel the "monomyth" as you begin your next quest.