

About Your Instructor >>>

Instructor: Marisa Mills, Lecturer

Pronouns: she/her

Contact Me: Contact me via Canvas messenger, via email at mmills@pensacolastate.edu, or call me at (850) 484-1190.

Office Hours: MW 1-2 PM (Warrington)
TR 8-9 AM (Pensacola)
Zoom by appointment

About the Course >>>

Location: via Zoom, Tuesdays 6:00-8:40 PM

Credit/Contact Hours: 3 credit hours, 3 contact hours

Department: English and Communications Department; Pensacola Campus, Building 4, Room 442, (850) 484-1400

Department Head: Tracy Peyton, Ed. D. tpeyton@pensacolastate.edu

Assistant Department Head: Christine O'Donnell, codonnell@pensacolastate.edu

Final Exam Date/Time >>>

The final exam time and date will be announced once PSC finalizes the Final Exam Schedule for Spring 2023.

Add/Drop Dates >>>

Last Day to Add/Drop: January 13th

Last Day to Withdraw: April 5th



LIT2000 D2003: Introduction to Literature

Course Description: An introduction to the concepts and methodologies used to study literature from various genres, cultures, and historical periods. Students will learn to use shared language and methods of inquiry to analyze texts, apply literary theories, and construct and communicate their own arguments. Meets AA General Education Core, Humanities requirement. Satisfies literature requirement. A writing emphasis course.

General Education & Course Learning Outcomes: For the General Education (GenEd) Student Learning Outcomes and Course Learning Outcomes, refer to the district course syllabus located in the Canvas modules or on the Pensacola State website.

What You'll Need

Course Text: *The Norton Introduction to Literature*, edited by Kelly J. Mays; 13th; W.W. Norton & Company; 2020. ISBN: 9780393420463

Microsoft Office Suite: Available for free through your Pirate Mail account. Go to <https://www.pensacolastate.edu/piratemail/> to log in. Then click on the app launcher button in the upper left corner to access the cloud-based program.

Course Companion Site: The course companion website is in Canvas (eLearning) at <https://pensacolastate.instructure.com/>. You will submit **all assignments** through Canvas, and between class meetings, we will communicate using the Canvas messaging system.

Webcam: In order for me to verify you are attending and participating in class—as well as for the proctoring of exams—you **must** have a working webcam for this course.

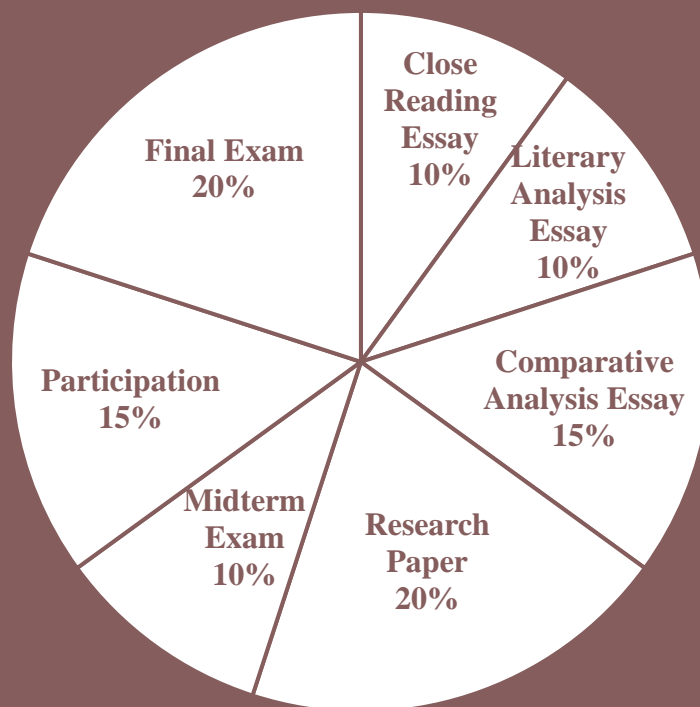
Grading & Assignments >>>

Grading Scale

A	90-100%
B+	88-89%
B	80-87%
C+	78-79%
C	70-77%
D+	68-69%
D	60-67%
F	0-59%



ASSIGNMENTS & THEIR WEIGHTS



Extra Credit, Participation, & Writing Assignment Descriptions >>>

Please, note that these are *abridged* descriptions of the assignments; the major writing assignments (close reading essay, literary analysis essay, comparative analysis essay, and the research paper) have more detailed prompts in the Course Documents module.

Close Reading Essay (10%)

For your first writing assignment this term, you will write a **750-word close reading essay** which provides an in-depth, thoughtful analysis of one specific passage from one of the allowed course texts. As with all essays in the course, this assignment should be written as a formal essay in MLA format with an introduction, an arguable thesis about the significance of your chosen passage, several body paragraphs, and a conclusion. This essay **should not** include outside sources.

Literary Analysis Essay (10%)

For your second writing assignment this term, you will write a **750-word literary analysis** which explains how a common literary concept/term (i.e. setting, character, theme, symbolism, etc.) functions within one of the allowed course texts. Like the other essays in the course, this assignment should be written as a formal essay in MLA format with an introduction, an arguable thesis about the text and its use of your chosen concept/term, several body paragraphs, and a conclusion. This essay **may use 1-2 outside sources**; however, these sources *must* be from either academic, peer-reviewed journals or publications by a university press.

Participation (15%)

With Zoom classes, things go more smoothly if everyone participates. However, I realize that not all students feel comfortable speaking in class. While I do ask that all students try their best to contribute to conversations regarding the readings, this should not come at the expense of your own comfort. Therefore, participation also factors in group work, journaling, free writing, quizzes, in-class writing activities, and homework.

Comparative Analysis Essay (15%)

For the third writing assignment, you will write a **1,000-word comparative analysis** which compares and/or contrasts the usage of a literary concept/term (i.e. setting, character, theme, symbolism, etc.) in **two** of the allowed course texts. Like the other essays in the course, this assignment should be written as a formal essay in MLA format with an introduction, an arguable thesis about the significance of the similarities/differences and how they impact your interpretation of the texts, several body paragraphs, and a conclusion. For this essay, I strongly recommend the use of outside sources, particularly for adding context to your chosen works of literature. However, I recommend **not using more than 4 outside sources**. Any sources used *must* be from either academic, peer-reviewed journals or publications by a university press.

Research Paper (20%)

For your final major writing assignment of the term, you will choose from a list of potential questions involving genres of literature (located in the course documents). You will answer this question by creating a **1500-word** research paper which makes use of appropriate, credible sources. You must use a **minimum of 5 sources**, at least **3** of which should be either from peer-reviewed journals or publications by a university press. For this assignment, you may use non-academic sources *provided those sources are reasonably credible and make sense within the context of the paper*. We will discuss credible sources as we approach the due date of this assignment. Like the other essays in the course, this assignment should be written as a formal essay in MLA format with an introduction, a clear central idea which provides a definitive answer to your chosen question, several body paragraphs, and a conclusion.



Extra Credit

I offer one extra credit opportunity. If you complete the student perception survey through EvaluationKit at the end of the term, I will add an additional 3 points to your final exam score.

Exam Descriptions >>>

Midterm Exam (10%)

Approximately halfway through the term, you will take an exam which will test your knowledge of the authors, texts, genres, and literary concepts which we have covered in class. This exam will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and an essay question. To take this exam, you **must** have a working webcam. If you experience some unforeseen technical difficulty with your webcam, you may instead take this exam at the Testing Center; however, you must let me know 48 hours before the exam time and make your own arrangements for an appointment with the Testing Center.

Final Exam (20%)

At the end of the term, you will take an exam which will test your knowledge of the authors, texts, genres, and literary concepts which we have covered over the course of the entire semester. This exam will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and an essay question. As with the midterm, you must have a working webcam to take this exam, you **must** have a working webcam. If you experience some unforeseen technical difficulty with your webcam, you may instead take this exam at the Testing Center; however, you must let me know 48 hours before the exam time and make your own arrangements for an appointment with the Testing Center.

Course Regulations (Six Things to Know before You Zoom) >>>

This class will be conducted under the regulations defined in the Code of Student Conduct in the **Pensacola State College Catalog**. Please, note the following:

1. Regular, punctual attendance is required, per the Pensacola State College Catalog. Even though this is an online class, you are required to be visible and ready to participate via Zoom throughout the entire class. If you are not visible, you will be counted tardy or absent. Tardies and leaving early will be converted into absences. For the attendance policy for my course specifically, see the **Attendance Policy** heading below.

2. Since this is a synchronous online course, you can attend class from wherever you deem suitable. Choose a location that is free from distractions so as not to disturb our work together.

3. Please wear proper attire, and do not attend class while driving or operating heavy machinery.

4. In order to ensure there are no distractions, only the student who is enrolled in the class should be present and visible on camera.

5. College policy disallows visitors during class sessions. This includes Zoom courses.

6. Class disruptions, including but not limited to persistent talking while the instructor or another student is speaking, could result in your being asked to leave the class.

If you are asked to leave class for violating class policies, you will be counted absent from class and may not be allowed to make up work from that day. Before returning to class, you must meet with the instructor.

Attendance Policy >>>

I expect you to come to class whenever you are able. If you can't come to class in person, please send me a courtesy note to let me know. **I do not differentiate between excused and unexcused absences.** Rather, I assume that if you are missing my class, you must have a valid reason, and I respect your choices! However, if you end up missing **more than two classes**, we'll need to meet to work out a plan for you to continue in the class. If you do not meet with me or else do not stick to the plan we work out for you, I may deduct **3 pts.** from your final letter grade for each additional absence.

Late Work Policy & Due Dates >>>

<i>So I Missed...</i>	Can I Make It Up?
<i>An in-class participation activity</i>	No. Except on exam days, all class meetings will have some participatory activity/credit. These cannot be made up, but I will drop your lowest two scores.
<i>A major writing assignment (close reading, literary analysis, comparative analysis, or research paper)</i>	Yes! If you can't submit a major writing assignment on time, just ask for an extension. When you request an extension, provide me with your proposed extended date. If it is reasonable, I will enter it into Canvas, and you may submit the assignment then. If not, we will negotiate an agreeable extended due date. Extensions will not be granted if the request for an extension is made more than 24 hours after the original due date/time.
<i>The midterm or final exam</i>	Maybe. If you let me know ahead of your absence, you may make up the midterm or final exam at the Testing Center within 5 business days of the original due date, <i>provided</i> there is time left in the term. I will not accept any exams after the last official day of the term (May 9 th).

Other Policies >>>

Cheating & Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the use of anyone else's ideas or words without giving proper credit. Cheating includes, among other things, copying someone else's work, turning in work done by someone else, or turning in work that has been submitted in another class by you or anyone else. The consequences of either plagiarism or cheating are an automatic zero (0) on the work in question and possible failure of the course or discipline by the college. Please refer to the College Catalog for the college policy regarding cheating and plagiarism.

Turnitin

Your writing assignments will be submitted via Turnitin. Some of you might be familiar with this program. Turnitin is often used as a plagiarism checker. Although it is commonly used to catch plagiarism after the fact, I prefer to use Turnitin as a teaching tool. If you submit drafts of your papers BEFORE they are due, you will have the opportunity to revise areas of your paper where you might be unintentionally plagiarizing sources and/or not citing them correctly.

Maximum Attempts

Any student still on the official class roll after the drop period will be counted as having attempted the course whether or not he or she finishes the class. The third attempt to take a college course will cost three (3) times the cost of the first two (2) attempts.

Student Perception Surveys- -EvaluationKit

During the term, you will receive a notification in PirateMail with a link to EvaluationKit, the online evaluation system used by Pensacola State College. Please take advantage of this opportunity to provide anonymous feedback to your instructors about their courses. Your opinions are valuable, and your evaluations enable instructors to assess their teaching style and help them decide what changes to consider in curriculum, textbooks, or assignments.



Extra Support >>>

Instructor during office hours by appointment: Please, feel free to reach out to me via Canvas or by email. My goal is to see you succeed in my class and by extension, in your future endeavors at PSC. I'd love to meet with you to discuss any aspect of my class!

Library home page:
<http://library.pensacolastate.edu/>

The **Writing Lab** offers free tutoring in writing and grammar to all PSC students on a virtual basis:
<https://pensacolastate.instructor.com/courses/1325752>.

The **Student Support Services Lab** is located on the Pensacola Campus, Building 6, Room 620. It provides free tutoring to students who apply to the program and meet eligibility requirements. (850-484-2028)

The **Student Resource Center for ADA Services** office is located on the Pensacola Campus. Building 6, Room 603. It assists students who have any type of special situation that impacts their learning. (850-484-1637).

Student HelpDesk for tech support: 850-471-4534

Canvas (eLearning) Support Hotline: 855-534-1843