

EL 402.01 Modern Novel, Spring 2023

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Class hours: MMW 676, JF334 JF334 TB415

Office hours: MW 87 or by appointment

Syllabus

(subject to minor changes)

Course description:

The course focuses on the characteristics of novels from the end of the 19th to the mid-20th century, generally regarded as the modernist period in literature. The selected novels will be studied in terms of their representation of the social and cultural changes occurring in modern society, with special focus on the individual's resistance to and transcendence of social norms, and a new sense of reality originating in individual consciousness, as especially manifested in the interior monologues and the stream-of-consciousness technique employed in the novels, which not only undermine traditional conceptions of time, space, and subjectivity, but also the conventional boundaries of the genre itself, both in content and form. The implications of this new conception of reality and aesthetics with respect to colonial and early capitalist enterprises leading to shifts in race, class and gender relations, and to newly emerging identities in rural and urban contexts, will constitute some of the important aspects of discussion.

Course requirements:**Preparation:**

You must come to class having read the particular material assigned for each particular day of class, as indicated in the schedule.

In addition, you must consult academic books and articles available online or in print in the library to gain a critical perspective from which you can discuss the related issues that constitute the focus of the novels under consideration.

You must **start research for your term paper as early as possible** so that you can develop a clear argument and envision the progress of your paper towards a conclusion.

In-class performance:

Regular participation in class (discussions; (pop-)quizzes) is required. Not to attend classes will automatically lower your participation grade.

Forum posts:

Throughout the semester, you will be expected to post on 4 Forums on a certain topic or question. 3 best posts from among a total of 4+ (including original posts and high-quality responses to a post by a classmate) will count towards your Forum grade at the end of the semester.

Each of your posts must consist of one or two coherent, informative, explanatory, but concise paragraphs (200-250 words in total; slightly more or less is fine) with a concrete argument/idea supported by one or two specific references to the text(s) in question.

You must read other students' posts before you post yours, in order to avoid repetitions. If you cannot come up with an original idea, you may prefer to respond to other students' posts, but only with a significant contribution (an additional supporting idea or example, or an objection supported by textual evidence).

Please remember that there is absolutely no room for irrelevant or redundant information or words in original or additional comments. Any information that is not directly relevant to, or any word that is not absolutely necessary will only reduce the quality of your comment, waste the time of your fellow students and, of course, lower your grade.

Midterm Exam:

All students must take the midterm exam.

Term paper:

You must start doing research for an original term paper as soon as we finish discussion on the first novel in our reading list and some critical texts on it.

Your term paper must focus on a modern novel (from 1900 to 1970) of your choice, which lends itself to a fruitful discussion in the framework of our course, but is not included in our syllabus. You can consult me about such novels, and I can make some suggestions in accordance with your interests.

Your term paper must consist of 8-10 double-spaced pages (12 font; Times New Roman or Calibri; MLA style).

You must consult with your instructor about possible topics and works that are of interest to you before or soon after the midterm exam. Please try to come up with at least two possible topics (works) to write on, so that we can choose the best one. The topics of the students must not overlap. Therefore, I advise that you speak with me as early as possible.

While researching and reflecting upon your subject, you will consult some scholarly articles. Please mark those that are of primary interest to you, since you might (probably will) include them in your **annotated bibliography**.

Please be sure to meet the deadlines for the submission of **an abstract** including a working title (the abstract presenting a **solid framing argument** encompassing the primary text(s) that you will study, as well as its/their dialogue with critical texts/theories you will use in your paper); **an annotated bibliography** (on 3 or more academic sources that are directly relevant to your discussion), and **an outline** (a full-sentence outline; you may even add short quotes or paraphrases from your primary and secondary sources to support arguments and sub-arguments), as indicated on the schedule.

You will be graded on the basis of all of the above. Further guidelines and links about each stage of the process and the format will be provided on Moodle. All materials for the term paper will be submitted as **Turnitin** assignments on Moodle.

Important warning about academic dishonesty! Any form of academic dishonesty will automatically lower your grade to F and might also lead to disciplinary action.

Assessment:

Midterm exam	25 %
Class participation (including very short (pop-) quizzes)	20 %
Forums	15 %
Term paper	40 %

(Title and Abstract 5 %; Annotated Bibliography 10%; Detailed Outline with the Revised Abstract that should serve as an Introduction to your paper 10 %; Submitted Term Paper 25% above + 15 % = 40 %)

Reading List:

- Week 1: Introduction
- Week 2-4: Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*
- Week 4-7: Edith Wharton, *The Age of Innocence*
- Week 7-10: James Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*
- Week 10-13: William Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying*

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE FOR THE DETAILED SCHEDULE!

Course Plan, Schedule of Readings:

Week 1: (13 and 15 Feb.)	Introduction on the Modern Novel
Week 2: (20 and 22 Feb.)	<i>Heart of Darkness</i> , Joseph Conrad, Part I-II
Week 3: (27 Feb. and 1 March)	<i>Heart of Darkness</i> , Joseph Conrad, Part II-III
Week 4: (6 March and 8 March)	<i>The Age of Innocence</i> , Edith Wharton, Book I, Ch. I-X
Week 5: (13 March and 15 March)	<i>The Age of Innocence</i> , Edith Wharton, Book I, Ch. XI-XVIII
Week 6: (20 March and 22 March)	<i>The Age of Innocence</i> , Edith Wharton, Book II, Ch. XIX-XXIX
Week 7: (27 March and 29 March)	<i>The Age of Innocence</i> , Edith Wharton, Book II, Ch. XXX-XIV
Week 8: (3 Apr. and 5 April)	<i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i> , James Joyce, Ch. 1 MIDTERM
Week 9: (10 Apr. and 12 Apr.)	<i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i> , James Joyce, Ch. 2 ABSTRACTS to be submitted by April 14 (via Turnitin, Moodle)

April 17-23

**SPRING BREAK, RAMAZAN BAYRAMI, ULUSAL EGEMENLİK VE
ÇOCUK BAYRAMI**

Week 10:
(Apr. 24 and Apr. 26)

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, James Joyce, Ch. 3-4

Week 11:
(May 3)

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, James Joyce, Ch. 5

**Annotated Bibliography and Detailed Outline with the Revised
Abstract to be submitted by May 5 (via Turnitin, Moodle)**

Week 12:
(May 8 and May 10)

As I Lay Dying, William Faulkner (Selected chapters)

Week 13:
(May 15 and May 17)

As I Lay Dying, William Faulkner (Selected Chapters)