

English 375-01
Schedule of Assignments
Spring 2019
Hibbs Hall 428
Professor Bryant Mangum

Week One (15, 17 January)

Course Introduction

from *Nine Stories* (Salinger): "A Perfect Day for Bananafish," "Uncle Wiggly in Connecticut,"

Week Two (22, 24 January)

from *Nine Stories* (Salinger) "Just Before the War with the Eskimos," "Down at the Dinghy," "The Laughing Man"

Week Three (29, 31 January)

from *Nine Stories*: "For Esmé—With Love and Squalor," "Pretty Mouth and Green My Eyes," "Teddy"

Week Four (5, 7 February)

Cat's Cradle

Week Five (12, 14 February)

Cat's Cradle and Review for Hour Test #1, which is on Tuesday, 20 February

Week Six (19, 21 February)

Tuesday: **Hour Test #1 (Salinger and Vonnegut)**

Thursday: introduction to *hat We Talk About When We Talk About Love* (Carver): "I Could See the Smallest Things"; "So Much Water, So Close to Home"

Week Seven (26, 28 February)

from *What We Talk About When We Talk About Love* (Carver) "So Much Water, So Close to Home" (cont'd) "Why Don't You Dance," "Tell the Women We're Going"; "After the Denim," "Everything Stuck to Him," "What We Talk About When We Talk About Love"

Week Eight (5, 7 March)

SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS

Week Nine (12, 14 March)

Carryovers from Carver

A Gathering of Old Men

Week Ten (19, 21 March)

A Gathering of Old Men

Friday, 23 March: Last day to withdraw with a W

Week Eleven (26, 28 March)

Tuesday, 26 March: Hour Test #2 (Carver, Gaines)

Begin *The Rapture of Canaan* (Reynolds)

Friday, 30 October: Last Day to Withdraw with W

Week Twelve (2, 4 April)

The Rapture of Canaan (Reynolds)

Week Thirteen (9, 11 April)

from *Interpreter of Maladies* (Lahiri): “Interpreter of Maladies”; “Sexy”; “Mrs. Sen’s”

Week Fourteen (16, 18 April)

from *Interpreter of Maladies* (Lahiri): “The Third and Final Continent”

Thursday: Begin discussion of *The Yellow Birds* (Powers)

Week Fifteen (23, 25 April)

The Yellow Birds (Powers)

Week Sixteen (30 April)

Course Synthesis and Review

Turn in Optional Paper on last day of class (Tuesday)

Week Seventeen (7 May): **Hour Test #3 and Final Examination turned in: Tuesday, 9 December—1-3:50 in our classroom**

(1) Take Hour Test #3 (Reynolds, Lahiri, Powers)

(2) Turn in Take-home Final Essay Exam

A Note on the Optional Paper

1. Select an American work written between 1945 and the present—a novel, poem, story, or play.
2. Focus on a narrow concern of the work: a character, a conflict, an image, a symbol, etc. You can write on a work that we have studied, but if you do be sure to take an angle different from the one we took in class.
3. Write a paper of 3-5 typed pages in which you formulate a thesis about the narrow aspect of the work you have chosen, and support your thesis with concrete references to the text. Your thesis should be analytical, and you should avoid summarizing the story. The paper is a close reading of some aspect of the work.
4. In the course of your analysis of the thing you have focused on, be sure to open the paper back out to thematic concerns. In this sense the paper is a “tip of the iceberg” paper: the narrow aspect that you analyze will suggest larger thematic concerns of the work. **OR YOU CAN DO ONE OF THE PROMPTS YOU DIDN’T CHOOSE FROM THE FINAL EXAM ESSAY PROMPTS FOR YOUR OPTIONAL PAPER.**