

**English 499: Senior Seminar: *The New Yorker*
Spring 2022
Schedule of Assignments
Dr. Bryant Mangum**

Week 1 (18, 20 January)

Tuesday: Introductions around the screen; course introduction; *New Yorker* Story in Context of American Short Story; go over Syllabus, Schedule, Presentations
Thursday: *New Yorker* story in context of American Short Story; Observations about first issue of the magazine; discuss O'Hara's "Over the River and Through the Wood" (December 15, 1939) from "old" *New Yorker*; introduce Fitzgerald's "Thank You for the Light" (July 30, 2012) from "new" *New Yorker*

Week 2 (25, 27 January)

Tuesday: Discuss "Thank You for the Light" and "Cat Person" (December 4, 2017 issue) by Kristin Roupenian (Déjà vu for several of you!)
Thursday: Complete discussion of "Cat Person" and discuss fiction from the January 24, 2022 issue: "What's the Deal, Hummingbird?" by Arthur Krystal

Week 3 (1, 3 February)

Tuesday: discuss "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" (March 18, 1939) by James Thurber; discuss "Midsummer" (September 8, 1934) by Nancy Hale
Thursday: discuss Dorothy Parker's "Arrangement in Black and White" (October 28, 1927); fiction and from January 31, 2022 (current issue); "Long Distance by Aysegül Savas

Week 4 (8, 10 February)

Tuesday: "Homecoming" (January 1, 1938) by William Maxwell; discussion "The Burning House" (June 11, 1979) by Ann Beattie (role of Roger Angell)
Thursday: fiction and poetry from current issue; carryover discussion of "The Burning House"

Week Five (15, 17 February)

Tuesday: Discuss Salinger's "A Perfect Day for Bananafish" (January 31, 1948); E.B. White's "The Door" (March 28, 1930) and (note we likely will not have time for this), but scan for brief
Thursday: **Reed Rikards (Talk):** Famous Contributors During the Ross Years; **Gillian Fitzgerald (Talk):** "Earliest" *New Yorker* Stories; fiction from current issue

Week Six (22, 24 February)

Tuesday: **Nicole Milanovic (Profile of Murakami):** "The Wind Cave" (August 27, 2018); **Nelle MacMillan (Profile of Jamaica Kincaid):** "Lucy" (September 24, 1990)
Thursday: **Madison Moore (Talk):** Dorothy Parker and the Algonquin Round Table; **Aerin Fortes (Talk):** The William Shawn Era; fiction from the current issue

3-5-page paper growing out of your Profile work due 24 February (see IV E on syllabus). Many of you will not have given your report by this time. This will be a "close reading," thesis-based paper that enters some aspect of the critical conversation you have encountered in your research at his point. Your thesis should focus on one story by your Profile author—perhaps (and probably) the story that you have led discussion on or will lead a discussion on. Include a secondary source bibliography with at least three works consulted.

- Week 7 (1, 3 March)**
 Tuesday: **Gillian Fitzgerald (Profile of Carver):** “Beginners” (December 16, 2007) by Raymond Carver; if time: Carver’s “Errand” (June 1, 1987)
 Thursday: **Aubrey Boswell (Talk):** Evolution of *New Yorker* Poetry; **Madison Day (Talk):** Social and Political Outlook of *The New Yorker*; fiction and poetry from current issue
- Week 8 (8, 10 March)**
SPRING BREAK
- Week 9 (15, 17 March)**
 Tuesday: **Aubrey Boswell (Profile of Shirley Jackson):** “The Lottery” (June 25, 1948); **Gabriel White (Profile of Donald Antrim):** “The Emerald Light in the Air” (February 3, 2014)
 Thursday: **Molly Sperry (Talk):** The Whites: E.B. and Katharine; fiction from the current issue
- Week 10 (22, 24 March)**
 Tuesday: **Molly Sperry (Profile of Ursula Le Guin):** “Horse Camp” (August 25, 1986) by Ursula Le Guin;
 Thursday: **Donovan Allen (Talk):** *The New Yorker* and Paratext; **Raegan Ballard (Talk):** Tina Brown and the Tina Brown Era (1992-1997); fiction from the current issue
- Week 11 (29, 31 March)**
 Tuesday: **Madison Moore (Profile of Thomas McGuane):** “Cowboy” (September 19, 2005); **Jiana Smith (Profile of Andrea Lee):** “The Birthday Present” (January 22, 2001)
 Thursday: **Nicole Milanovic (Talk):** *The New Yorker* and Non-American Authors; fiction from current issue
- Week 12 (5, 7 April)**
 Tuesday: **Autumn Lawson (Profile of Woody Allen):** “The Kugelmass Episode” (May 2, 1977); **Aerin Fortes (Profile of Alice Adams):** “To See You Again” (March 16, 1981)
 Thursday: **Audrey Garrett (Talk):** James Thurber’s *New Yorker* Drawings
Gabriel White (Talk): The Profile Section
- 3-5-page paper growing out of Talk report due April 7 (See IV B on syllabus).** If you haven’t given our Talk report yet give it to me a week after your Talk presentation.
- Week 13 (12, 14 April)**
 Tuesday: **Donovan Allen (Profile of John Cheever):** “The Enormous Radio” (May 17, 1947)
Audrey Garrett (Profile of ZZ Packer): “Drinking Coffee Elsewhere” (June 11, 2000)
 Thursday: **Jiana Smith (Talk):** The David Remnick Era; fiction from the current issue
- Week 14 (19, 21 April)**
 Tuesday: **Raegan Ballard (Profile of Tobias Wolff):** “All Ahead of Them” (July 1, 2013)
 Thursday: **Nelle MacMillan: (Talk):** *The New Yorker* and Film; fiction from current issue.
Bibliographies with Prefatory Note Due on April 21(see IV C on syllabus)
- Week 15 (26, 28 April)**
 Tuesday: **Madison Day (Profile of Sylvia Plath):** “Tulips” (April 7, 1962), “Mussel Hunter at Rock Harbor” (August 9, 1958), “Blackberrying” (September 15, 1952); **Reed**

Rikards (Profile of Irwin Shaw): “The Girls in Their Summer Dresses” (January 27, 1939

Thursday: **Autumn Lawson (Talk):** *New Yorker* Humor

Week 16 (3, 5 May)

Tuesday: Course synthesis, during which you will present a 2-3 minute summary of your Talk presentation, and I’ll have ready summary sheets of the works we’ve done and groupings of them.

Thursday: Our Scheduled Exam Date, which means in practical terms the date by which you email me your final papers due on Thursday, May 5 by 6:40

Due dates for work to turn in:

1. Thursday, by 24 February: 3-5-page, close-reading paper from Profile work (IV E on syllabus)
2. Thursday, by 7 April: 3-5-page paper from Talk report: (IV B on syllabus)
3. Thursday, 21 April: Bibliography with prefatory note (IV C on syllabus)
4. Thursday, 5 May: Final paper due at 6:40 p.m. (See IV F on syllabus)

Talk and Profile Topics and Dates at a Glance

	Talk Topic	Talk Week	Talk Day	Profile Author	Story Title and Date in NY'er	Profile Week	Profile Day
Donovan Allen	<i>The New Yorker</i> and Paratext	10	Thursday, March 24	John Cheever	“The Enormous Radio”	13	Tuesday, April 12
Raegan Ballard	The Tina Brown Era	10	Thursday, March 24	Tobias Wolff	“All Ahead of Them”	14	Tuesday, April 19
Aubrey Boswell	Evolution of <i>New Yorker</i> Poetry	7	Thursday, March 1	Shirley Jackson	“The Lottery”	9	Tuesday, March 15
Madison Day	Social and Political Outlook of <i>The New Yorker</i>	7	Thursday, March 3	Sylvia Plath	“Tulips” “Mussel Hunter at Rock Harbor” “Blackberrying”	15	Tuesday, April 26
Gillian Fitzgerald	“Earliest” <i>New Yorker</i> Stories	5	Thursday, February 17	Raymond Carver	“Beginners”	7	Tuesday, March 1
Aerin Fortes	The William Shawn Era	6	Thursday, February 24	Alice Adams	“To See You Again”	12	Tuesday, April 5
Audrey Garrett	Thurber’s <i>New Yorker</i> Drawings	12	Thursday, April 7	ZZ Packer	“Drinking Coffee Elsewhere”	13	Tuesday, April 12
Autumn Lawson	<i>New Yorker</i> Humor	15	Thursday, April 28	Woody Allen	“The Kugelmass Episode”	12	Tuesday, April 5
Nelle MacMillan	<i>The New Yorker</i> and Film	14	Thursday, April 21	Jamaica Kincaid	“Lucy”	6	Tuesday, February 22
Nicole Milanovic	<i>The New Yorker</i> and “Non American” Authors	11	Thursday, March 31	Haruki Murakami	“The Wind Cave”	6	Tuesday, February 22
Madison Moore	Dorothy Parker and the Algonquin	6	Thursday, February 24	Thomas McGuane	“Cowboy”	11	Tuesday, March 29

	Round Table						
Reed Rikards	Famous Contributors During the Ross Years	5	Thursday, February 17	Irwin Shaw	"The Girls in Their Summer Dresses"	15	Tuesday, April 26
Jiana Smith	The David Remnick Era	13	Thursday, April 14	Andrea Lee	"The Birthday Present"	11	Tuesday, March 29
Molly Sperry	The Role of The Whites: Katherine and E.B.	9	Thursday, March 17	Ursula Le Guin	"Horse Camp"	10	Tuesday, March 22
Gabriel White	The Profile Section	12	Thursday, April 7	Donald Antrim	"The Emerald Light in the Air"	9	Tuesday, March 15