

NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

**COURSE TITLE:** The Short Story      **COURSE NUMBER:** ENG 211

**DESCRIPTION:** Close reading and analysis of short fiction. Includes a review of the elements and vocabulary of literary criticism and study of the short story as a literary genre. Student will read a cross section of traditional, modern, and experimental prose. Course content involves reading, lecture, discussion, group projects, research, and the writing of essays of analysis and response. Attention will be paid to understanding how short stories work and putting the assigned works into a larger context of literary movements and themes.

**PRE-REQUISITE:** English 102 with a C or better or consent of instructor.

- **OBJECTIVES:**
  - To provide an understanding of the short story as a literary genre and the range of literature that falls into this genre.
  - To enhance the student's awareness of how literature works to create meaning.
  - To enhance the student's awareness and understanding of human experience through the study and interpretation of literary works.
  - To enable students to see how the works studied fit into larger historical and thematic contexts.
  - To provide practice in critical thinking and writing.
  - To further refine the student's skill in expository writing.
  - To expand students' research skills in the area of literature.

**OUTCOMES:** By the completion of Eng. 211, students should demonstrate the ability to:

- recognize and explain the variety within the short story genre.
- understand the historical development of this genre.
- understand the terminology and methodology of literary analysis.
- apply this knowledge of analysis to a variety of short stories.
- see the connection between a variety of short fiction and larger historical and thematic contexts.
- write coherent, articulate, correct essays based on analysis of, or reaction to, short stories and their themes.
- use the library as well as web-based resources to find literary research sources that expand their understanding of the primary texts.