

**UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA
ESCUELA DE LENGUAS MODERNAS
SECCION DE LITERATURA INGLESA**

Proposed Course Outline

Course Title: Introduction to Narrative	Prerequisites: LM 1240, LM 1244, LM1245
Course Number: LM 1356	Co-requisites: 0
Credit Hours: 3	Academic Cycle: V
Hours: Class Hours: 4 Out-of-Class Hours: 5	Type: Course of study for the B.A. degree in English
Level: a third-year course	Online Delivery Modality: Low

I. Description

LM – 1356 *Introduction to Narrative* is a required course for third-year English students. This course focuses on a communicative and cognitive approach to study the basic elements of fiction and literary analysis and uses narrative prose forms such as short story, short-short stories and creative non-fiction. This course also develops students' skills in the reading and interpretation of novellas and novels. *Introduction to Narrative* allows students to put into practice the writing, speaking, reading, and listening skills acquired in the previous years. This course lays the foundations to develop abilities needed for the following literature courses. By analyzing the process of storytelling and by studying many tales, this course provides students with the means to enjoy literature through a better understanding of its nature, components, and techniques.

II. Objectives

General

By the end of the semester students will:

1. Have a clear understanding of the basic elements of fiction.
2. Analyze narrative texts.
3. Develop the enjoyment and appreciation of literary works
4. Increase fluency in the English language through the reading and discussion of narrative forms.

Specific Objectives

By the end of the semester students will:

1. Define the basic elements of fiction: plot, characters, setting, point of view, theme, imagery and symbolism, style and tone.
2. Identify each of these elements in a given work and the specific techniques used by the author to develop them.
3. Analyze the structure of a given work in terms of the central conflict, secondary conflicts and climax.
4. Identify the types of irony and their effects within a given work.
5. Recognize imagery and symbolism, and explain their significance within a work.

6. Define and identify narrative techniques such as foreshadowing, flashback, stream of consciousness, and chronological and psychological time.
7. Identify characters as protagonists or antagonists, as well as major or minor, round or flat and dynamic characters.
8. Identify and differentiate spatial, chronological, and psychological settings and the functions of each within the story.
9. Identify and explain basic points of view such as omniscient, first person, or third person) and the advantages and disadvantages of each.
10. Identify the controlling idea of the literary work.

III. Contents

- Historical development of prose narrative
- The fundamentals of prose narrative (stories, novellas, novels)
- The short story : introduction and variations on basic elements
- Creative Nonfiction: introduction and narrative novelties

IV. Methodology

- Because of the nature of the subject matter, class-time will be used to generate discussion and to analyze the readings assigned for each class. The professor will review and supplement with introductory material using different media (movies, power point presentations, among others) and guide the students in the discussion and analysis of the text indicated in the syllabus.
- Student preparation for and participation in discussion is fundamental, since the free exchange of ideas and opinions both facilitates and enhances assimilation of the course content. Students will share their ideas individually and in groups, in both oral and written form applying theory into practice.

V. Evaluation

Students are responsible for all the material discussed in class or assigned. The final grade will be determined on the following basis:

Quizzes and assignments	30%
Essay	20%
Exams	50%

Todo estudiante en todo curso queda sujeto a los reglamentos de evaluación de la Universidad de Costa Rica.

Reglamento de Orden y Disciplina de los Estudiantes de la Universidad de Costa Rica

ARTÍCULO 4. Son faltas muy graves:

•g) Utilizar, con conocimiento de causa, documentos falsificados, para cualquier gestión universitaria administrativa, académica o de cualquier otra índole.

ARTÍCULO 5. Son faltas graves:

•c) Copiar de otro estudiante tareas, informes de laboratorio, trabajos de investigación o de cualquier otro tipo de actividad académica.

ARTÍCULO 9. Las faltas serán sancionadas según la magnitud del hecho con las siguientes medidas:

- a) Las faltas muy graves, con suspensión de su condición de estudiante regular no menor de seis meses calendario, hasta por seis años calendario.
- b) Las graves con suspensión de quince días lectivos a seis meses calendario.

VI. Bibliography

Cassil R. V., *The Northon Anthology of Short Fiction*, 2nd ed. New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 1988

Charters, Ann. *The Story and Its Writer: An Introduction to short Fiction*. Boston: Bedford Books of St. Martins Press, 1995.

Lauter, Paul, ed., *The Heath Anthology of American Literature Concise Edition*. Boston: Houghton Mifflincompany, 2004.

Lohafer, Susan and Jo Ellyn Clarey, eds. *Short Story at a Crossroads*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1989.

Meyers, Kari and Gilda Pacheco. *The Telling and the Tale: An Introductory Guide to Short, Creative Prose*. San José: Editorial de la Universidad de Costa Rica, 2006.

Pickering, James H. *Reader's Guide to the Short Story to Accompany Fiction 100*. 5th ed. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1988.

Roberts, Edgar V. *Writing Themes About Literature*. 5thed. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1983.

- In addition, a selection of prose narrative forms will be prepared by the professor. This compilation will be sold at *Copymundo*.

VII. Other Resources

- Videos, lap top, video-beam, and projector.

VIII. Tentative Timetable

1	14-03	Introduction. The Telling and the Tale: History of the Short Story pp. 7-22 "The Story of an Hour" - Kate Chopin	
	17-03	Data Base Tutorial / The Telling and the Tale pp. 83-89 (Theme)	
2	21-03	"The Nightingale and the Rose" - Oscar Wilde / "Naked" – Joyce Carol Oates	
	24-03	Traditional Techniques - "The Sniper"-O'Flaherty /	
3	28-03	The Telling and the Tale pp.25-40 (Plot) "The Lottery" - Shirley Jackson	
	31-03	Article Discussion on "The Lottery" - Shirley Jackson Writing Workshop	
4	04-04	Formalistic Techniques - "A Rose for Emily"-William Faulkner	
	07-04	The Telling and the Tale pp.41-51 (Character) "The Birthmark-Hawthorn"	
5	11-04	Easter	
	14-04		
6	18-04	"The Necklace"-Maupassant / "A Worn Path"-Welty	
	21-04	Psychological Techniques - "Young Goodman Brown" – Hawthorn / "Young Goodman Brown: Id Versus Superego"	
7	25-04	The Telling and the Tale pp.51-61 (Setting). "The Fall of the House of Usher"-E.A.Poe	
	28-04	Día del funcionario	
8	02-05	Article Discussion on "The Fall of the House of Usher"-E.A.Poe "To Build a Fire"-London	
	05-05	Midterm Exam 1	
9	09-05	Mythical and Archetypal Techniques - "Araby" - Joyce	
	12-05	The Telling and the Tale pp.62-71 (Point of view) "Miss Brill"-Mansfield	
10	16-05	"The Great Automatic Grammatasator" – Roald Dahl	
	19-05	The Telling and the Tale pp.72-82 (Style and Tone) "The Legacy" -Virginia Woolf	
11	23-05	"A Clean Well-Lighted Place"—Hemingway / "Ligeia" - E.A. Poe	
	26-05	Article Discussion on "A Clean Well-Lighted Place"—Hemingway Sociological Techniques - "Nancy" – Elizabeth Enright	
12	30-05	The Telling and the Tale pp.93-116 (Short –Short Stories) "The Father" – Raymond Carver / "Love Poems" – Lon Otto	
	02-06	Reader-response Criticism - "Hills Like White Elephants" – Hemingway, "Night" – Bret Lott, "Snow" – Julia Alvarez	Annotated Outline
13	06-06	"30 Pounds of Human Tissue" – Jennifer Campbell-Hicks, "Contagion" – Bruce Holland Rogers	
	16-06	"The Hotel of the Suicides" – Mike Resnick & Sabina Theo, "Popular Mechanics" – Raymond Carver, "Can-Can" – Arturo Vivante	
14	20-06	Feedback Session Annotated Outline (Appointments)	
	23-06	<i>Of Mice and Men</i> – John Steinbeck	
15	27-06	<i>Of Mice and Men</i> – John Steinbeck	Paper Due
	30-06	Article Discussion on <i>Of Mice and Men</i> – John Steinbeck	Creative Writing due
16	04-07	Creative Writing Discussion	
	07-07	Midterm Exam 2	
17	11-07	Results	
	14-07		
18	18-07	Ampliación	
	21-07		

IX. Additional Notes

1. NO late work will be accepted. Assignments have to be submitted in the FIRST five minutes of the class WITHOUT any exception.
2. Papers delivered to the instructor's office or by email will be taken as LATE WORK and hence will not be graded.
3. No make-up evaluations will be given except in cases contemplated by the REGLAMENTO
4. Cell phones, pagers, and other kinds of electronic devices MUST be turned off during class time according to University regulations.
5. Guidelines for papers will be distributed ahead of time. Students who choose not to follow them do so at their own peril. Strict adherence to MLA standards is MANDATORY and papers failing to do so will not be accepted by the professor.
6. This course may involve a 25% of virtual activities, at the professor's discretion. If so, make sure to comply with the regulations, standards and requirements of the University of Costa Rica for your participation.
7. Professors do not have the obligation to send material covered in class to students, either by e-mail or by any other electronic means.