

Instructor: Kimberlee Gillis-Bridges
Class Time: MW, 1:30 a.m. - 3:20 p.m.
Class Location: Savery 241
Office Hours: MW, 3:30-4:30 p.m., and by appointment
Office Location: Padelford A-305
Phone/Voice Mail: (206) 543-4892
Email: kgb@u.washington.edu
Course Web Site: <http://courses.washington.edu/kgb2lit/213>

Description

In this course, we will investigate how modern and postmodern literature explores issues of identity. As we discuss three print novels and a hypertext work, we will consider the connection between notions of identity and the cultural contexts of the 20th-century United States. We will also discuss two major literary movements: modernism and postmodernism. By the end of the course, students will have acquired an understanding of the relationship between texts and context and what it means for 20th-century fiction to be deemed modern or postmodern.

Course Goals and Methodology

Students in the course work toward several goals: learning to analyze literary works and their contexts and developing as critical thinkers and writers. Course activities promote active learning, with most class sessions including a mix of mini-lectures, discussion, short writing exercises, and group work. My role is to provide the tools and resources you will need to advance your own thinking and writing. I will pose questions, design activities to help you think through these questions, and respond to your ideas. Your role is to do the hard work—the critical reading, discussion, and writing. You will analyze texts, generate ideas in electronic and face-to-face discussions, develop presentations with your peers, construct written arguments, and use feedback to revise those arguments.

Requirements

Class Participation

Class discussion constitutes one key method of developing your analytical skills. Thus, I expect prompt, regular attendance and active participation in discussions of novels and supplemental readings. You should come prepared for each class session, with assigned reading completed. You should also plan to ask questions, make comments, summarize critics' arguments, paraphrase your electronic postings, or contribute to small-group discussions. Like all skills, speaking in class becomes easier with practice. I do not expect fully polished analyses in class discussion; rather, your contributions represent ideas for further development.

Electronic Postings

Students will use the class discussion board to post responses to each novel. To facilitate discussion, I will post questions to which I want you to respond. Your posting should provide a 200- to 250-word answer to a selected question; you may also address your classmates' ideas as you respond to the question. The electronic posting area allows us to extend class discussion and raise issues to address in class. Your postings receive points on a credit/no credit basis, with full points granted to on-time postings that meet the length requirement and demonstrate serious engagement with the discussion questions. Over the course of the quarter, you may do three optional postings in which you respond to your classmates or develop an idea only partially explicated in class. These postings will also receive full points for length and genuine engagement. On the course schedule, I have indicated the dates when I will accept optional postings.

To access the electronic discussion board, go to the course web site, click on "Discuss," and follow the instructions. I have divided the class into four groups to keep the discussion manageable:

- ❖ Group One: Students with last names A-G
- ❖ Group Two: Students with last names H-L
- ❖ Group Three: Students with last names M-O
- ❖ Group Four: Students with last names P-Z

Essays

You will complete two five-page essays on assigned topics. I require at two drafts of all essays; only the final draft receives a grade. Before revising your draft and submitting it for a grade, you will receive feedback from me. You can also seek additional feedback from consultants at the English Department Writing Center, located in Padelford B-12 or at the CLUE Writing Center in the Mary Gates Commons.

Please submit essays on 8.5" by 11" paper, titled, paginated, typed and double-spaced, with one-inch margins. In the upper right hand corner of the first page, include your name, the course number, the assignment, and the due date; this information should be single-spaced. Please use a 10 or 12 point Arial, Bookman, Century Schoolbook, or Times New Roman font for your papers. You may submit essays in hard copy or via the course E-submit tool. I will include a link to the E-submit space on the web version of each essay assignment.

Take-Home Final

During the last week of class, you will compose an exam with two three- to four-page essays on Auster's *City of Glass* and Jackson's *Patchwork Girl*. You will have five days to finish the exam.

Policies

Lateness Policy

I will not accept late electronic postings or take-home finals. Failure to submit essay drafts will result in a 10-point deduction from the final grade; I will also deduct 10 points per day for late essays, as the ability to develop an argument within time limits is an integral aspect of the essay assignment. I will make exceptions to the lateness policy only in cases of documented illness or family emergency. Technology glitches do not constitute valid

excuses for lateness. To avoid computer problems, you should save frequently while working, and you should back up work saved to a hard drive on disk or your Dante account. Remember also to avoid storing floppy disks next to cellular phones. To avoid problems submitting essays and finals via E-submit, make sure to save in Word or Rich Text format; otherwise, the program will not accept your file. If the posting board or E-Submit breaks down, email your work directly to me.

Plagiarism Policy

In your electronic postings, essays, and take-home final, you may draw upon the ideas and words of other writers. However, you must make clear to your audience that you are incorporating another's work by placing quotation marks around exact words and citing the author's name whenever you quote, summarize or paraphrase. Failure to credit sources may result in a failing grade for the assignment, a failing grade for the course, or expulsion from the university. The course links page contains information on when and how to cite sources.

Completion Policy

You must turn in both essays and the take-home final in order to pass the course, as these are the major methods by which I will assess your learning.

Email and Access to Course Web Site

You must have a UW Net ID, a working email account and a way to access the course web site. I frequently upload schedule changes, assignment guidelines, and grading criteria to the course web site. The site also contains links and sample papers not distributed in class.

Texts

Texts in bold type are on reserve at Odegaard Undergraduate Library

Auster, Paul. ***City of Glass***. New York: Penguin, 1987.

Ellison, Ralph. ***Invisible Man***. 2nd ed. New York: Vintage Books, 1995.

Fitzgerald, F. Scott. ***The Great Gatsby***. Reprint Edition. New York: Scribner, 1995.

Jackson, Shelley. *Patchwork Girl* (CD-ROM). Watertown, MA: Eastgate Systems, 1995.

Electronic Course Reserves for English 213C (Available through the course Web site; click on "Texts" and follow the link to the E-Reserve space).

Grading

Grades in English 213 will be computed by points, with 400 points equaling a 4.0, 300 points a 3.0, and so on. If your total falls between grades, I will round up if you score one to five points below the higher grade and round down if you score one to four points above the lower grade. For example, 274 points equals a 2.7 and 275 points a 2.8. Each assignment is worth the following number of points:

- ❖ Class Participation: 60 points
- ❖ Electronic Postings: 80 points
- ❖ Essays: 180 points
- ❖ Take-Home Final: 80 points

Schedule

This schedule may be altered at any point in the term at the instructor's discretion. Students must complete readings by the dates listed. The symbol (ER) indicates a reading on electronic reserve.

Date	Activity	Reading	Due
9/29	Course Introduction		
10/4	Discuss <i>The Great Gatsby</i>	Fitzgerald, <i>The Great Gatsby</i> , chapters 1-3 (1-64) and explanatory notes	English 213 Student Profile and Release Form
10/5			Posting on <i>The Great Gatsby</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
10/6	Discuss <i>The Great Gatsby</i>	Fitzgerald, <i>The Great Gatsby</i> , chapters 4-5 (65-102) and explanatory notes	
10/8			Optional response posting on <i>The Great Gatsby</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
10/11	Discuss <i>The Great Gatsby</i>	Fitzgerald, <i>The Great Gatsby</i> , chapters 6-7 (103-153) and explanatory notes	
10/12			Posting on <i>The Great Gatsby</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
10/13	Discuss <i>The Great Gatsby</i> Essay #1 assigned	Fitzgerald, <i>The Great Gatsby</i> , chapters 8-10 (154-189) and explanatory notes	
10/15			Optional response posting on <i>The Great Gatsby</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
10/18	Discuss <i>Invisible Man</i>	Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , Prologue and chapters 1-3 (1-97)	
10/19			Posting on <i>Invisible Man</i> due by 10:00 p.m.

Date	Activity	Reading	Due
10/20	Discuss <i>Invisible Man</i>	Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , chapters 4-5 (98-135)	
10/22			Essay #1 draft due by 12:00 p.m. in hard copy at Padelford A-305 or via E-Submit
10/25	Discuss <i>Invisible Man</i> and revision strategies for returned essay drafts	Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , chapters 5-10 (136-230)	
10/26			Posting on <i>Invisible Man</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
10/27	Discuss <i>Invisible Man</i> Midterm course evaluation	Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , chapters 11-12 (231-260)	
10/29			Essay #1 revision due by 12:00 p.m. in hard copy at Padelford A-305 or via E-Submit
11/1	Discuss <i>Invisible Man</i>	Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , chapters 13-16 (261-355)	
11/2			Posting on <i>Invisible Man</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
11/3	Discuss <i>Invisible Man</i>	Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , chapters 17-18 (356-408)	
11/5			Optional response posting on <i>Invisible Man</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
11/8	Discuss <i>Invisible Man</i>	Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , chapters 19-22 (409-478)	
11/9			Posting on <i>Invisible Man</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
11/10	Discuss <i>Invisible Man</i> Essay #2 assigned	Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , chapter 23 (479-512)	
11/12			Optional response posting on <i>Invisible Man</i> due by 10:00 p.m.

Date	Activity	Reading	Due
11/15	Discuss <i>Invisible Man</i>	Ellison, <i>Invisible Man</i> , chapters 24-25 and Epilogue (513-581)	
11/16			Posting on <i>City of Glass</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
11/17	Discuss <i>City of Glass</i> and McHale	Auster, <i>City of Glass</i> , Chapters 1-6 (7-79) McHale, "From Modernist to Postmodernist Fiction" (ER)	
11/19			Essay #2 draft due by 12:00 p.m. in hard copy at Padelford A-305 or via E-Submit
11/22	Discuss <i>City of Glass</i>	Auster, <i>City of Glass</i> , Chapters 7-10 (80-158)	
11/23			Posting on <i>City of Glass</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
11/24	Class cancelled for optional draft conferences		
11/29	Discuss <i>City of Glass</i> and revision strategies for returned essay drafts	Auster, <i>City of Glass</i> , Chapters 11-13 (159-203)	
11/30			Posting on <i>Patchwork Girl</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
12/1	Discuss <i>Patchwork Girl</i> , Coover, and Landow	Jackson, <i>Patchwork Girl</i> : read "Reading <i>Patchwork Girl</i> ," then open the text, begin anywhere, view 40 lexias, and save your reading Coover, "The End of Books," 48-51 (ER) Landow, "Reconfiguring Narrative," 52-71 (ER)	
12/3			Essay #2 revision due by 12:00 p.m. in hard copy at Padelford A-305 or via E-Submit

Date	Activity	Reading	Due
12/6	Discuss <i>Patchwork Girl</i>	Jackson, <i>Patchwork Girl</i> ; open saved reading and view 70-80 lexias	
12/7			Posting on <i>Patchwork Girl</i> due by 10:00 p.m.
12/8	Discuss <i>Patchwork Girl</i> Course wrap-up and evaluation Take-home final distributed	Jackson, <i>Patchwork Girl</i> ; open saved reading and view 70-80 lexias	
12/13			Final due by 5:00 p.m. in hard copy at Padelford A-305 or via E-Submit