

PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MASTER SYLLABUS

INTRODUCTION TO FICTION  
ENGL 2530

**Class Hours: 3.0**

**Credit Hours: 3.0**

**Laboratory Hours: 0.0**

**Revised: Fall 2010**

**Catalog Course Description:**

A study of fiction as a unique genre of literature with an emphasis on the critical tools necessary for reading fiction.

**Entry Level Standards:**

Students must be able to plan and write analytical essays, to conduct research, and to write analytically about literature. Students must demonstrate proficiency in standard English grammar, spelling, and mechanics and in source documentation. In addition, students should be familiar with basic literary terminology and genres.

**Prerequisites:**

ENGL 1020

**Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials:**

Charters, Ann. *The Story and Its Writer*, Compact 8<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2011. Print.

**I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Narration: Why Writers Write Fiction
2	The Elements of Fiction 1: Narrative Point of View
3	The Elements of Fiction 1: Character
4	The Short Story: Origins
5	The Short Story: The Writer
6	The Short Story: The Reader
7	The Short Story: The Critic
8	The Elements of Fiction 2: Plot and Conflict
9	The Elements of Fiction 2: Symbol, Setting, and Atmosphere

- 10 History of the Novel
- 11 The Novel
- 12 The Contemporary Short Story
- 13 The Contemporary Short Story
- 14 Graphic Storytelling
- 15 Final Exam

**II. Course Goals\*:**

- A. Guide students to an understanding of the major themes and concerns of fiction. II.1, II. 2, II.3, II.4, II.5
- B. Develop student understanding of fiction as a form of creative expression responding to both cultural and universal human concerns. II.1, II.2, II.3, II.4, II.5
- C. Expand student knowledge of the literary techniques of fiction and the critical approaches that clarify its nature and meaning. II.1, II.4, II.6
- D. Foster the ability to write effective and thoughtful responses to the literature, demonstrating understanding, critical analysis, and appreciation of the works studied. I.3, I.5, I.6, II.6, VII.3, VII.4, VII.5, VII.6

\*Roman numerals after course goals reference TBR's general education goals.

**III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes\*:**

The student will be able to:

- 1. Recognize fiction as a unique genre; identify and explain its major themes and traditions. A, B, C
- 2. Employ various critical approaches to understanding fiction. C, D
- 3. Identify the terms and techniques of fiction. C, D
- 4. Analyze a piece of fiction according to point of view, character, dialogue, plot, symbol, and setting. A, C, D
- 5. Identify and discuss sociological and psychological factors in fiction. A, B, C, D
- 6. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between life and literature by relating biographical information about the authors to their works. A, B
- 7. Trace the development of the novel from its origins to the present. A, B
- 8. Evaluate the historical and political context of short fiction and the novel. A, B, D
- 9. Write responses and analytical papers in response to fiction. D
- 10. Write insightful, appropriately developed, mechanically correct answers to essay test questions concerning the works studied. D

\*Letters after performance expectations reference the course objectives listed above.

#### **IV. Evaluation:**

##### A. Testing Procedures:

From 60% to 80% of the final grade will be based on tests and quizzes.

##### B. Laboratory Expectations:

None

##### C. Field Work:

The remaining 20% to 40% of the grade will be based on projects such as papers and journals.

##### D. Other Evaluation Methods:

Students are expected to participate in class discussions of assigned readings.

#### **V. Policies:**

##### A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses (excluding distance learning courses) must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. Individual departments/programs/disciplines, with the approval of the vice president of the Learning Division, may have requirements that are more stringent. In very specific circumstances, an appeal of the policy may be addressed to the head of the department in which the course was taken. If further action is warranted, the appeal may be addressed to the vice president of the Learning Division.

##### B. Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:

- Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
- Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
- Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one's own work.
- Taking an exam for another student.
- Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other classroom assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.
- Any of the above occurring within the Web or distance learning environment.

##### C. Accommodations for Disabilities:

Students who need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical

information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students with Disabilities may be contacted by going to Goins 127, 132, 134, 135, 131 or by phone: 539-7153 or TTY 694-6429. More information is available at [www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/](http://www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/).