

ENGLISH 246: Short Story & Novel

ENG246.I60

Fall 2021

Dates: October 26, 2021 – December 18, 2021

Number of Credits: 3 credits

Meeting Times: Online

Location: Online

Office Hours: 8-9 AM Friday, online;
Or by appointment

Instructor: Christopher Mercier

Instructor Email: MercierChristo@jccmi.edu

Course Description

English 246 Short Story & Novel (3 CR): Students are introduced to traditional and contemporary fictional genres. This course emphasizes understanding, appreciation, and the critical analysis of narrative art. Selections for study are chosen from English and American literature as well as world literature in translation.

Course Texts:

Vonnegut, Kurt. *Slaughterhouse-Five*, New York: Random House, 1969. Ebook ISBN: 9780440339069

OER texts: The short stories are free to use and download via the Jetnet site.

Prerequisite(s): ENGLISH 131

Course Goals

GEO #6: Understanding and appreciating aesthetic experience and artistic creativity

Aesthetic and Creative Skills that we will work on together include:

- Meaning and Understanding—explaining the historical, cultural, and social contexts of works of literature
- Analysis and Interpretation—applying methods of analysis and interpretation in writing and/or speaking confidently and fluently uses discipline-specific language to support critical reflection
- Engagement—Initiating and sustaining a discussion of the creative contexts within which an author or an author’s work and creative choices made by the author
- Evaluation—articulating a personal critique of an author’s work, based on aesthetic standards

- Appreciation—approaching a work of creative expression with openness and interest; appreciates the world of the creative imagination as a form of knowledge expressed in formal discussion or writing

To satisfy the expectations of our class you will participate in a number of informal and formal writing assignments that you will carefully pre-write, draft, revise, and edit so that they reflect your purpose and needs of your target audience. To satisfy the expectations of our class you will participate in forums where you will use discipline-specific language to analyze and evaluate assigned texts.

Additionally, you will develop aesthetic standards by which you will critique and appreciate a writer's work.

Course Policy:

- I ask that all members of the class be considerate and respectful of each other.
- Please try and maintain a positive, encouraging attitude in your online persona.
- Please refrain from any behavior that disrupts or impedes your classmates' learning.
- Please consult the JCC catalogue for information about withdrawal, audit, and incomplete policies.
- Please save all your work, handouts, notes . . . have a back-up just in case.
- All assignments must be word-processed and submitted in only a Microsoft Word Document or as a Rich Text Format file – RTF.
- Assigned work must be submitted on time and in the format required. Late assignments will not be accepted unless they are submitted to the catch-all submission area under Topic 10.
- Please use MLA format – OWL at Purdue.

You will be required to complete research online.

- Drafts / revisions drop 2 full grades for missing a deadline. Due dates are firm.
- No incomplete granted for this class.
- Instructor reserves the right to fail a student for not entering the class site over a consecutive 5 day span.
- Your work in English 246 is governed by the JCC Plagiarism policy. Each essay will have a minimum of 3 sources and an originality ratio of 3/5ths (your voice) and 2/5ths (sources) minimum.

This discussion-based course is one in which we will read and write about a rich diversity of writers and works. Working in forums, we will examine our responses to the works, develop the tools that allow us to effectively analyze these stories, and relate the struggles and challenges of the characters to our own.

You will get the most out of this class when you log into class prepared and when you participate actively in forums.

Grading Procedure

Jackson College final grades are based on a 4.0 scale, with 4.0 being *Masterful*. You must earn a 2.0 in ENG 246 to earn credit for the class. Less than a 2.0 is considered failing. This means you will need to re-take the class and pass it before it meets pre-requisite requirements for other courses or for transfer to other colleges and universities.

Grading Scale

- 4.0 = 92-100%
- 3.5 = 86-91
- 3.0 = 80-85
- 2.5 = 75-79
- 2.0 = 70-74
- 1.5 = 66-69
- 1.0 = 60-65
- 0.5 = 55-59
- 0.0 = 54 and below

Final Grade is based on the following criteria:

Major Assignments

1. Forums and Reading Discussion Questions: For each assigned Short Story, as well as the novel, you will write short responses in the Discussion Boards reflecting on the readings from that week, answering guided questions. As we move through the course, you will learn more specific ways to respond to each text. 25 pts each
2. Literary Devices Analyses: A 2-3 page essay, where you will choose two (2) short stories from the assigned readings to write about, focusing on how one or two literary devices are used in each story. 50 pts
3. Short Story Analysis: A 3-4-page analysis of two to four (2-4) short stories, comparing/contrasting differing literary elements in a focused essay. 100 pts
4. Literary Analysis: A 4-5-page essay exploring themes of the novel, *Slaughterhouse-Five*. See the assignment sheet for more information. 200 pts

Grading Procedure:

Forums/Discussion Questions (12 x 25pts each)	300 points
Literary Devices Analysis	50 points
Short Story Analysis Essay	100 points
Literary Analysis of <i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i>	200 points
Rough Drafts/Peer Review Workshops for Essays	50 points/25 points each
Class Reflection	25 points
Participation	75 points

Total: 800 points

Incomplete Grades

In accordance with the Jackson College policy for incomplete grades, incompletes are only granted to students who have demonstrated good standing in the class and who have a passing grade at the time of an extenuating circumstance that precludes completion of the course. Documentation validating the circumstance will be required. Incomplete grades are not intended as a free pass out of class.

Participation

Regular class participation and keeping up on the reading and assignments is strongly correlated with survival in college.

The Forums are our way to exchange ideas and to interact with each other about the stories we are reading and the ways we are writing about them. Understand that the Forums are our academic environment and you should respond to each other respectfully, even if you disagree with an opinion that has been expressed. Especially if you disagree with an opinion that has been expressed.

Attendance/Participation Policy for ENG 246

Students must engage with the online course in some way to be considered “present” for that week. Most of the time that means posting to the weekly Forums. It also means turning in assignments on time or responding to others via the discussion forums.

Missed/Late Assignments

Forum Discussions are current week only, so cannot be made up. Peer Reviews/Workshops must be done by their due dates and cannot be made up. The Literary Analysis of *Slaughterhouse-Five* cannot be accepted late, as it is due the last week of class. All other assignments will be accepted up to one week late with a 10% grade reduction.

Academic Honesty Policy

Academic Honesty is defined as ethical behavior that includes student production of their own work and not representing others' work as their own, by cheating or by helping others to do so.

Plagiarism is defined as the failure to give credit for the use of material from outside sources. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- Submitting other's work as your own
- Using data, illustrations, pictures, quotations, or paraphrases from other sources without adequate documentation
- Reusing significant, identical or nearly identical portions of one's own prior work without acknowledging that one is doing so or without citing this original work (self-plagiarism)
- Recycled writing, that is work written for another course or school submitted as original for the class (all work for the course must be original to this class)

Cheating is defined as obtaining answers/material from an outside source without authorization. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Plagiarizing in any form
- Using notes/books/electronic material without authorization
- Copying
- Submitting others' work as your own or submitting your work for others
- Altering graded work
- Falsifying data
- Exhibiting other behaviors generally considered unethical
- Allowing your work to be submitted by others

Student Support

Accessibility

Jackson College understands that cultivating a broadly diverse community is crucial to our educational mission and to our foundational commitment to leadership and service. Jackson College is fully committed to ensuring our courses are accessible to everyone including those with disabilities. We are currently working to increase accessibility and usability of our course materials in order to meet or exceed the requirements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1991 and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0. For more information about Jackson College's efforts to ensure accessibility please visit the [Jackson College accessibility web page](#).

If you have an accessibility need in any of our classes please e-mail the Center for Student Success at JCCSS@jccmi.edu or visit the [Center for Student Success web page](#).

At the Center for Student Success (CSS), we are committed to providing all students the opportunity to achieve academic success by providing a variety of support services free of charge to Jackson College students. This includes, but is not limited to, peer and faculty tutoring, mental health referral, temporary assistance with transportation, various workshops/seminars, and the TRIO program.

In addition, the CSS staff is committed to adapting the College's general services to meet the individual needs of otherwise qualified students with disabilities, for the purpose of providing equal access to all programs and facilities.

Computer Issues

Computers are often problematic. However, you are responsible for all of your work. Never delete work before the class is finished!

Preferred Name/Pronouns

If you have a preferred first name, nickname, and/or specific gender pronouns you would like me to use, please let me know.

Help and Services

Technology Solution Center

- <https://www.jccmi.edu/information-technology/solution-center/#jc-tabs-1-tab-3>.
- E-mail: jcsolutioncenter@jccmi.edu. Phone: 517.796.8639

Library

- <https://www.jccmi.edu/library/>
- Phone: 517.796.8622. Library staff will be supporting students online via chat or book a one-on-one online appointment!

Center for Student Success

- Located in Bert Walker Hall, Room 138, the Center provides tutoring and other services. Please call (517-796-8415) or visit for more information. The staff are there to help you succeed in your studies, so please do not hesitate to make use of this free resource for any of your classes.

Writing Fellows

- Located in Bert Walker Hall, Room 148, the Writing Fellows provide tutoring and are ready for walk-in conferences as well as appointments. More information is available here: <https://www.jccmi.edu/english/writing-fellows/>

Students with Disabilities

- Students who may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the office of Learning Support Services at 787-0800, extension 8270/8553 as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. You must have written authorization to receive accommodations.
<https://www.jccmi.edu/center-for-student-success/accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities/>

The Oasis Center

- Located in Whiting Hall, the Oasis Center provides counseling and a variety of mental health and substance abuse resources. Call (517) 990-1300 or After-Hours: (517) 787-7920. <https://www.jccmi.edu/the-oasis-center/>

Checking Your Progress

You can always check your progress by accessing *JetNet*. You can access this from the JC Website. Midterm and final grades (0.0 - 4.0) are posted to your student account on *JETSTREAM*, accessible from the JC website. Any discussion of grades must be done one on one with me in Big Blue Button or during my office hours time or via school email.

Class Schedule Overview

Week	Writing Unit
1: 10/25 – 10/31	Course Introduction and 1 st Short Stories via Jetnet
2: 11/01 – 11/07	Short Story: Stories via Jetnet
3: 11/08 – 11/14	Short Story: Stories via Jetnet
4: 11/15 – 11/21	Short Story: “Interpreter of Maladies”
5: 11/22 – 11/28	Novel, Wk 1: <i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i>
6: 11/29 – 12/05	Novel, Wk 2: <i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i>
7: 12/06 – 12/12	Course Review
12/18/21	Final Essay Due

Academic Advising

It is important to contact the Student Success Navigator prior to the start of the semester in order to receive accommodations in a timely manner. While we will make every effort to coordinate accommodations in a timely manner, failure to self-identify prior to the start of the semester may delay notification to instructors and timeliness of acquiring accommodations. Accommodations do not automatically carry over to the next semester.

Caveats

The instructor reserves the right to adjust course sessions and to scheduled assignments in order to accomplish the objectives and outcomes of this course.