

English 193: Senior Seminar

Fall 2014

Prof. Wm. A. Wilson

FO223 ; Office Hours MW 4-430; W 6-7 & by Appt

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Description: Engl 193 is the capstone course for English majors.

Requirements: All students must come to class having completed the assigned reading and prepared to discuss the texts. There will be one short explication, one longer comparative essay that includes research, one class presentation, one portfolio (one introductory personal reflection of your career as an English major and five previous essays that you believe illustrate your growth as a major in English). Details will be given during our first session.

The readings for the class may appear at first glance to be rather wildly diverse. There are to be sure, but they also have a common denominator: each novel creates its fictional world out of a soup of philosophical inquiry and debate. When viewed philosophically, the works reveal many points of contention and intersection.

Grading: Short explication 20%; Comparative essay 50%; Portfolio 15%; presentation 15%.

Required Texts:

Albert Camus, *The Stranger* (Vintage) [S]

Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *The Brother Karamazov* (Penguin) [BK]

Thomas Mann, *The Magic Mountain* (Vintage) [MM]

Flann O'Brien, *The Third Policeman* (Dalkey Archive) [TP]

Schedule of Readings and Assignments (NB: SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

AUG 25: Introduction

27: BK Dedication-Book I

SEPT 03: BK Book II

08: BK Book III

10: BK Book IV

15: BK Book V

17: BK Book VI

22: BK Book VII

24: BK Book VIII

29: BK Book IX

OCT 01: BK Book X

06: BK Book XI

08: BK Book XII-Epilogue.

13: MM chs 1-2

15: MM ch 3; PRESENTATIONS

20: MM ch 4; PRESENTATIONS

22: MM ch 5; PRESENTATIONS

27: MM, ch 6; PRESENTATIONS

29: MM, ch 7; PRESENTATIONS

NOV 03: MM, cont'd; Explication due

05: MM and BK

10: S Part One; PRESENTATIONS

12: S Part Two; PRESENTATIONS

17: TP chs 1-3;

19: TP chs 4-5

24: TP chs 6

DEC 01: TP chs 7-8

03: TP 9-end

08: TP, cont'd

10: Conclusion

15: Research Paper and Portfolio Due

THIS CLASS IS CONDUCTED UNDER ALL DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES REGARDING ENROLLMENT, GRADING AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY. PLEASE CONSULT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS: <http://www.sjsu.edu/english/facultycorner/rqrdsyllabiinfo/index.html>