



Bachillerato en Inglés

Course: Rhetoric III: Writing about Literature	Requisite: LM1356 LM1243; LM1361; LM1362; LM1363
Sigla: LM-1472	Co-requisites: 0
Credits: 3	Cycle: I-2018
Course investment hours: Hours: 9 Class Work: 3 Out-of-Class Work: 6	Professor: Lic. Jorge Vargas Loria Email: jorgevargai@hotmail.com
Class Schedule: Thursdays: From 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Room: 0002 GD	Office hours: Mondays: From 1:00pm to 5:00pm Fridays: From 9:00 am to 12:00pm

I. Course Description

This is a fourth-year writing course designed to develop the skills necessary to write about literature. Its fundamental purpose is to train students to not only enjoy, understand, and appreciate literature in English, but also to be able to write logically, coherently, and proficiently about it, with a command both of rhetorical strategies, correct grammar and punctuation, and appropriate literary analysis.

II. General Objectives

- A. Enhance understanding and appreciation of literary works.
- B. Foment critical reading abilities and literary analytical skills.
- C. Improve ability to articulate and develop ideas in clear, cohesive standard written English.

III. Specific Objectives

By the end of the term, students will be able to:

- A. Reinforce ability to analyze basic elements of poetry, drama and fiction.
- B. Generate and evaluate multiple critical responses to works of literature.
- C. Identify themes with logical implications derived from assigned literary works.
- D. Articulate original positions in clear, argumentative thesis statements.



Bachillerato en Inglés

- E. Develop ideas on the basis of standard, cohesive, sentence format outlines.
- F. Defend positions through the use of ample, varied support from primary texts
- G. Proofread, edit, and assess their own written production, as well as that of peers.

IV. Contents

A. Writing about poetry

- 1. Basic elements of poetry (review)
- 2. Techniques
- 3. Writing experience

B. Writing about drama

- 1. Basic elements of drama (review)
- 2. Techniques
- 3. Writing experience

C. Writing about fiction

- 1. Basic elements of fiction (review)
- 2. Techniques
- 3. Writing experience

V. Methodology

The instructor will review literary terms and rhetorical strategies and develop the requisite writing skills for fourth-year level literary analysis. Extensive out-of-class work is required for both reading and writing assignments. Students are expected to participate actively in discussions and work sessions, which will include individual and group work. Peer evaluation is an important part of the course, and will take place during class.

VI. Evaluation

Evaluation is continuous in the sense that the instructor will observe students' preparation and participation on a daily basis. Students are responsible for all information and material discussed in class or assigned as readings. The instructor will determine the final grade on the following basis:

In-class Essays 2	20% (10 e/o%)
Out-of class 3:	45%(15% e/o)
Final paper (one genre) (Out of class)	25 %
Writing quiz	10%



UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA
FACULTAD DE LETRAS
ESCUELA DE LENGUAS MODERNAS
RECINTO DE GOLFITO

RGo Recinto de
Golfito

Bachillerato en Inglés

3

Notes on evaluation:

- Students must submit all papers in order to complete the course.
- **The professor will not accept late papers under any circumstance.**
- The DEADLINE for the submission of papers is the end of the class of the due date.
- The professor will not grade any papers that do not adhere to the MLA format.
- The professor will deal with plagiarism severely and as established by the *Reglamento Estudiantil*.

VII. Bibliography

Barnet, S. (1980). *A Short Guide to Writing about Literature*. Boston: Little, Brown.

Gibaldi, J. (2002). *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 6th edition. New York: The Modern Language Association of America.

McMahan, E. (1993). *Literature and the Writing Process*. 3rd edition. Macmillan Publishing Company.

Roberts, E. (1983) *Writing Themes About Literature*. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.



UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA
FACULTAD DE LETRAS
ESCUELA DE LENGUAS MODERNAS
RECINTO DE GOLFITO

RGo Recinto de
Golfito

Bachillerato en Inglés

4

VIII. Chronogram*

<u>Weeks</u>	<u>ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>EVALUATION</u>
WEEK 1 March 15 th	Introduction. Course syllabus Analyzing Literature Assignment: Read <i>The old Men and Sea</i> “The Magic Barrel”	
WEEK 2 March 22 nd	Writing about literature Literary Essay Outline “The Magic Barrel”	
WEEK 3 March 29 st	EASTER WEEK	
WEEK 4 April 5 th	Writing about fiction <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>	
WEEK April 12 th	Writing about fiction <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>	
WEEK 5 April 19 th	Writing about fiction Edgar Allan Poe	PAPER # 1 due <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>
WEEK 6 April 26 th	SEMANA UNIVERSITARIA Writing about fiction Edgar Allan Poe	
WEEK 7 May 3 rd		In class Essay 1 Edgar Allan Poe
WEEK 8 May 10 th	Writing about poetry Shakespeare <i>Sonnets</i>	
WEEK 9 May 17 th	John Donne’s Holy Sonnets	PAPER # 2 due Shakespeare <i>Sonnets</i>
WEEK 10 May 24 th	John Donne’s Holy Sonnets	



UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA
FACULTAD DE LETRAS
ESCUELA DE LENGUAS MODERNAS
RECINTO DE GOLFITO

RGo Recinto de
Golfito

Bachillerato en Inglés

WEEK 11 May 31 st		In class Essay 2 John Donne's Holy Sonnets
WEEK 12 June 7 th	Writing about drama <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>	
WEEK 13 June 14 th	Writing about drama <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>	
WEEK 14 June 21 st	Writing quiz	
WEEK 15 June 28 th	Working on final Paper	PAPER # 3 <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>
WEEK 16 July 5 th		FINAL PAPER due
WEEK 17 July 12 th	Results delivery	
July 19th	Re-test	

- This chronogram is tentative and subject to change as deemed appropriate by the professor

UNIVERSIDAD DE COSTA RICA
RECINTO DE GOLFITO
COURSE: RHETORIC III

Evaluation Form
ESSAYS:

Evaluator's name: Jorge Vargas Loria

Obt %:

Student's name:

Total points: pts = 56

Score:

Mark:

		Descriptors The paper was characterized by...	(0 points) Not at all	(1 point) Hardly ever	(2 points) Scarcely	(3 points) Roughly	(4 points) Reasonably	(5 points) Mostly	(6 points) Absolutely
Aspects		Very good use of subject verb agreement, verb tenses, article use, word order, prepositions.							
	Grammar:	Projection of a professional image as a writer. Effective simple and complex sentence constructions with no fragments, run-ons or comma splices. Little or no transfer errors.							
Content:	Grammar:	Development of topic and writing task. All required parts included and complete, as detailed in outline.							
	Content:	Valuable thesis statement, supported through paper through sufficient evidence from the story.							
	Content:	Ideas fully supported. Appropriate length.							
Organization:		Unified, coherent paper. Well-developed paragraphs with flow and clear organization of ideas. Connection between thesis and ideas.							
Organization:		Title, introduction and conclusion clearly stated. Proper use of transitions.							
Vocabulary:		Mostly accurate and unproblematic word choice. Appropriate vocabulary to present literary analysis issues.							

Mechanics:	Mastery of conventions in relation to margin, spacing, indentation, heading, spelling, punctuation and capitalization. Citation of sources and reference page according to MLA guidelines.							
-------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--