



**English 385.1:  
Major Authors  
E. M. Forster &  
Virginia Woolf  
Tue/Thu 11:00-12:15  
CCC 238**



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Office: Collins Classroom Center 427

Office Hours: Tue 3:30-4:30, Thu 12:45-1:45, and by appointment

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course explores the works of E. M. Forster and Virginia Woolf, two key English novelists from the first half of the twentieth century. They were friends and shared many interests (condition of England, gender relations, sexuality, debunking traditional stereotypes), but they represent two different artistic types. Forster was a liberal ironist (old fashioned on the surface but tongue-in-cheek and subversive underneath) while Woolf was an all-out social and literary innovator (unapologetically experimental and provocative in her views and her writing).

Combining class discussion and mini lectures, the course will introduce you to significant artistic and historical debates in early-twentieth-century England as well as various general literary concepts and approaches to the study of literature.

## **REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

- Two Exams 400 points (200 points each)
- Two Short Essays 200 points (100 points each)
- Research Essay 200 points
- Daily Work Grade 200 points

### **To pass the course, you must:**

- Take both exams and submit the research essay.
- Earn at least 610 course points, including at least 122 daily work points.
- Miss no more than 5 class meetings, except for documented illness.

**Important:** This course uses the Canvas default grading system. You must earn at least 61% of the points for a passing grade. Avoid missing assignments. If you get an F on an assignment, you will still receive some points for it, but if you simply fail to turn it in, you will receive no points, which could lead to failure.

Your course grade will be determined as follows:

A = 940-1000 points	B- = 800-839 points	D+ = 670-699 points
A- = 900-939 points	C+ = 770-799 points	D = 640-669 points
B+ = 870-899 points	C = 740-769 points	D- = 610-639
B = 840-869 points	C- = 700-739 points	F = 0-609 points

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon the completion of the course, you will be able to:

- Analyze Forster's and Woolf's works critically and develop cogent oral and written arguments about them, based on discipline-specific standards.
- Examine your own and others' arguments and provide effective feedback.
- Identify and explain several early-twentieth-century literary and cultural issues, and relate them to universal and enduring issues still relevant today.
- Recognize and apply a range of literary and critical concepts, traditions, and methodologies.

## REQUIRED READINGS (available in Campus Store)

E. M. Forster:	<i>Where Angels Fear to Tread</i>	(Dover, 978-0486277912)
	<i>Howards End</i>	(Bantam, 978-0553212082)
	<i>Maurice</i>	(Norton, 978-0393310320)
Virginia Woolf:	<i>Mrs Dalloway</i>	(Harcourt, 978-0156030359)
	<i>Orlando</i>	(Harcourt, 978-0156031516)
	<i>A Room of One's Own</i>	(Harcourt, 978-0156030410)

## **EXAMS**

You will take both exams in class as scheduled (see Reading Schedule). Each exam will focus on the last two novels covered before the exam. The exams will consist of multiple-choice questions (possibly including identification of quoted passages) and short written responses (1-3 full paragraphs) to several questions. You will receive detailed guidelines in advance of the exam, which will specify the topics on which you should focus in preparation for the exam.

## **SHORT ESSAYS**

Each essay will be **3-4 pages** in length (no less than 800 words) and based on one of several offered prompts. Some prompts will be **analytical** (such as to analyze specific characters, scenes, themes, or symbols) and others will be **creative** (such as to imagine a dialogue between characters from different texts, rewrite a scene from a different point of view, or write a letter from a character's perspective). You will receive detailed prompts and instructions for each assignment.

All essays should be double spaced, with a common size-12 font (Calibri or Times New Roman), and one-inch margins. They should be posted in Canvas by the stated deadline. I will deduct half a letter grade for each day an essay is late.

## **RESEARCH ESSAY**

This essay (**8 pages, no less than 2,000 words**) will be a formal literary analysis of a specific issue in one or two works by Forster and/or Woolf. It must include references to secondary sources (scholarly essays) and proper documentation in the MLA style. There will be detailed guidelines and peer reviews of drafts or outlines.

You will work on this essay over several weeks, submitting a research proposal first, then an extended outline, and finally the essay itself. Choose a topic as early as possible so you will have plenty of time to collect ideas and notes for the essay.

**Students who write successful research essays will be encouraged to present them at the COLS Undergraduate Research Symposium in the spring of 2024.**

To learn more about College of Letters and Science Undergraduate Research Symposium and explore student research presented in 2023, visit this website: <https://www.uwsp.edu/sbcb/school-of-biology-chemistry-and-biochemistry/undergraduate-research-symposium/>

## **DAILY WORK GRADE** (attendance, pop-up quizzes, other assigned activities)

A = 188-200 pts	B = 168-173 pts	C = 148-153 pts	D = 128-133 pts
A- = 180-187 pts	B- = 160-167 pts	C- = 140-147 pts	D- = 122-127 pts
B+ = 174-179 pts	C+ = 154-159 pts	D+ = 134-139 pts	F = 0-121 pts

**All students automatically receive 10 welcome points!**

**Pop-up quizzes & other assigned activities (100 points):** There will be occasional unannounced reading quizzes worth 5-10 points at the start of class. They will consist of purely factual questions – simple and short – about the major characters and events in the reading assignment for that day. At other times, you will be asked to submit a few discussion questions or fill out a worksheet related to a reading. There may be other similar small assignments (5-10 points each).

**Attendance (90 points):** You can earn 6 points every week by being present in class – in body *and* in mind! Students who doze off, repeatedly check their phones, or appear inattentive in other ways will receive fewer, if any, points for that day.

**Please turn off all electronic devices** unless you use them only for taking notes. Texting, emailing, or Web browsing in class is not allowed because it will distract you and others from class activities. This is an easy way to earn up to 90 points.

For the first few absences, you will merely lose attendance points (3 per class), but **if you miss more than 5 class meetings, you will fail the course.** I excuse only absences caused by documented medical reasons or official university business.

**Extra points for in-class participation:** At my discretion, I will award **up to 15 extra points** to students who make a strong effort to participate. Keep in mind: you don't need brilliant ideas; any relevant thought or question is valuable. Step outside of your comfort zone and speak up!

## **ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS**

**Being a Pointer** entails rights and responsibilities. Be aware of UWSP policies regarding student conduct: <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx>.

**You have the right to be free from physical or verbal harassment:** Bullying is unacceptable. Be aware of policies regarding sexual assault and incidents of bias or hate, and how to report them (<https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Bias-Hate-Incident.aspx>). You can report (anonymously if you prefer) any incident of interpersonal violence or bias-based hateful behavior.

**Names and Pronouns:** Let me know if you would like to be addressed by a different name from the one in official records or if you identify with pronouns other than “he” and “she” (ex.: “ze” or “they”). Please join me in doing our best to respect other people’s self-identification choices. If you want to learn more about why pronouns matter, visit <https://www.mypronouns.org/>.

UWSP provides **accommodations for students with a documented disability**. For the procedure and paperwork, please contact UWSP Disability Resource Center: [drc@uwsp.edu](mailto:drc@uwsp.edu); <https://www.uwsp.edu/disability-resource-center/>.

**Plagiarism, cheating, and academic misconduct are serious violations.** When unsure if certain actions are appropriate, please feel free to talk to me about it. Academic integrity is important. Read more about it here: <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/AcademicIntegrityBrochure.pdf>

**AI (Artificial Intelligence) generated submissions are not permitted** and will be treated as plagiarism. Since writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, all writing assignments should be prepared by the student. Developing strong competencies in this area is essential preparation for a competitive workplace.

**Copyright Note:** All lecture materials and recordings are protected intellectual property. You may use them only for personal use related to class participation. Copying or sharing lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting them online or selling them to commercial entities constitutes illegal copyright infringement and violates university policies.

The English Department policy is that students may not make audio, video, or photographic recordings of lectures or other class activities without written permission from the instructor.

**Tutoring and Learning Center (TLC):** As you work on your papers, you can get feedback from advanced students trained to discuss any type of writing at any stage of the process: brainstorming, outlining, drafting, or revising. They work with both experienced and developing writers since everyone benefits from feedback.

- TLC is located in CCC 234 ([tlctutor@uwsp.edu](mailto:tlctutor@uwsp.edu); 715-346-3568).
- You can also self-schedule an appointment using Navigate.
- They provide both in-person and online services, which are free.
- For more info, see <https://www.uwsp.edu/tlc/Pages/writing-center.aspx>.

## READING SCHEDULE

**Complete readings before the assigned date and always bring the text to class.** Without the text in front of you, you will not be fully able to participate in class activities, which will have a negative impact on your Daily Work Grade.

The schedule is specific but tentative. We will be flexible about making changes if we need to spend more time on some material or if we fall behind.

9/5 Introductions	10/31 <i>Maurice</i> , Part One
9/7 “Albergo Empedocle” (handout)	11/2 <i>Maurice</i> , Part Two
9/12 <i>Where Angels...</i> , I-IV	11/7 <i>Maurice</i> , Part Three
9/14 <i>Where Angels...</i> , V-VI	11/9 <i>Maurice</i> , Part Four & “Terminal Note” (in the book)
9/19 <i>Where Angels...</i> , VII-X	<b>11/11 Short Essay 2 due in Canvas</b>
9/21 <i>Howards End</i> , I-V	11/14 <i>Orlando</i> , Chapter 1
<b>9/23 Short Essay 1 due in Canvas</b>	11/16 <i>Orlando</i> , Chapter 2
9/26 <i>Howards End</i> , VI-XII	11/21 <i>Orlando</i> , Chapters 3 & 4
9/28 <i>Howards End</i> , XIII-XXIII	11/23 Happy Thanksgiving!
10/3 <i>Howards End</i> , XXIV-XXXII	11/28 <i>Orlando</i> , Chapters 5 & 6
10/5 “What I Believe” & “Notes on the English Character” (handout)	<b>11/30 Exam 2 (in class)</b> This exam will focus on <i>Maurice &amp; Orlando</i> .
10/10 <i>Howards End</i> , XXXIII-XLIV	12/5 <i>A Room...</i> , Chapters 1-3
10/12 “Modern Fiction” (handout) <i>Mrs. Dalloway</i> , pp. 1-28	12/7 <i>A Room...</i> , Chapters 4-6
10/17 <i>Mrs. Dalloway</i> , pp. 28-100	12/12-14 Catching up and/or sharing Research Essay arguments
10/19 <i>Mrs Dalloway</i> , pp. 100-147	<b>Research Essay is due in Canvas by 12 noon on Thursday, Dec. 21.</b>
10/24 <i>Mrs Dalloway</i> , pp. 147-190	There is no final exam.
<b>10/26 Exam 1 (in class)</b> This exam will focus on <i>Howards End &amp; Mrs Dalloway</i> .	

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**