

# English 3201-01: Genre Studies-Folklore

Fall 2011 / T, Th 2:30-3:45 p.m. / 3 credit hours /44547/ MC 207

**Professor: Dr. Ace G. Pilkington**

**Office Hours: MWF 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.**

**T, Th by appointment**

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**Catalog Description:** Fulfills a Genre Studies requirement for English majors pursuing an emphasis in Literary Studies or English Education, and open to other interested students. Provides an understanding of folklore as a genre, as well as folk themes and motifs in other forms of literature. Focuses on folklore in novels and stories and on folk narratives themselves. Designed to introduce methods and practices of folklore field research and folklore criticism. Also designed to expand the student's critical reading and writing skills. Prerequisite: ENGL 2010 (Grade C or higher).

## DEPARTMENTAL COURSE OBJECTIVES:

**GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND EVALUATION OF LITERARY STUDIES EMPHASIS COURSES, including genre, period, culture, author studies, world literature, Shakespeare, and literary theory** (these are the general requirements; individual professors will determine specific requirements in their curriculum)

### Goals to be reached:

Students will be expected to achieve the following:

- Broaden and deepen their understanding of the unique value of literary expression as an aesthetic form that challenges the senses, the intellect, and the imagination as it offer insight into human values and identity;
- Appreciate the complex relationship between the aesthetic and intellectual aspects of literature and the culture and time in which it is produced;
- Accept literary diversity as a reality and as a source of enrichment, vitality, and strength;
- Increase their respect for literature in its various forms and different worldviews;
- Achieve an awareness of the power of literature to contribute to human understanding and remembrance;
- Gain familiarity with and an ability to write about and discuss key canonical texts but also to show an understanding of non-canonical literature;
- Analyze literature critically from different theoretical points of view.

### Objectives to achieve goals:

Students will be expected to complete the following:

- Read an extensive amount of literature of various genres (essays, poetry, short fiction, drama, and novels);
- Participate in meaningful discussions of literature within the classroom;
- Respond to texts in writing assignments in and outside the classroom, some of which would involve a research component;
- Take at least one timed in-class examination.

### Evaluation standards:

Students will be assessed based on their ability to:

- Analyze and write about texts critically and eloquently;
- Contribute to textual analyses and discussions with fresh and cogent insights;
- Organize their thoughts clearly and maintain a focus, especially in their written work;
- Conduct research effectively and critically;
- Incorporate research persuasively in textual analyses and adhere to current citation and documentation conventions;
- Produce grammatically correct and stylistically engaging sentences;
- Present their research articulately;
- Participate regularly and contribute to classroom discussions;
- Complete regular homework assignments;
- Perform satisfactorily on exams.

### TEXTS:

- *Breaking the Magic Spell: Radical Theories of Folk and Fairy Tales* by Jack Zipes. (**Supplementary for extra credit—not required**)
- *Fairy Tales of the Russians and Other Slavs* (This is available from Amazon. In addition to fairy and folk tales, it also contains prose versions of Russian and Ukrainian epic poems. These are the length of a short story. They come from the Kiev Cycle and are about Prince Vladimir, the Slavic equivalent of King Arthur, and the bogatyrs (or heroes) of his court. It is the only book you have to buy. The Keith Baines translation of Malory is optional.) Also available as an Amazon Kindle book. You can purchase the Kindle version even if you don't own a Kindle e-book reader. You can read Kindle books on PCs, MACs, Androids, BlackBerrys, ipads, and iphones. Here is how:

Go to this address and download the application you wish to use.

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/feature.html/ref=amb\\_link\\_352814002\\_3?ie=UTF8&docId=1000493771&pf\\_rd\\_m=ATVPDKIKX0DER&pf\\_rd\\_s=center-6&pf\\_rd\\_r=0ESM3C4E383GB5SAZD0S&pf\\_rd\\_t=1401&pf\\_rd\\_p=1268267022&pf\\_rd\\_i=1000426311](http://www.amazon.com/gp/feature.html/ref=amb_link_352814002_3?ie=UTF8&docId=1000493771&pf_rd_m=ATVPDKIKX0DER&pf_rd_s=center-6&pf_rd_r=0ESM3C4E383GB5SAZD0S&pf_rd_t=1401&pf_rd_p=1268267022&pf_rd_i=1000426311)

### CD TEXT:

**Folklore CD provided by the professor.** This CD is free, and is probably worth at least as much as you're paying for it. The CD amounts to a small library of works, not just a text. It contains extra credit material and general background as well as what would usually be found in multiple volumes for between sixty and one hundred dollars. If you do not want to use this CD, all of the material is available free online, and you may readily acquire it for yourself. If you do wish to use the CD, you must read and accept the following statement. This one was borrowed mostly from Project Gutenberg even though this is not an official Project Gutenberg CD. The issues, however, are the same whether it's Project Gutenberg, Sacred Texts, Internet Archive, or some other provider of public domain texts:

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These CD texts are an experiment. I discussed them with some of my classes before I introduced the CDs. Students were enthusiastic and optimistic about the possibilities of e-texts in advance of the experiment, and they have been satisfied with the reality so far. The worst problem to this point (in five years) is that four students were unable to access the CD with their computers. These CD texts are at once the most complete and least expensive texts I've ever used. I thought it was worth paying for the CDs myself to make it all simpler

(and legally easier to arrange). Please feel free to help me out this semester with comments and suggestions. Note: If you want to use these works as a teacher in a class of your own, please do not copy them from this CD but go back to the sources (I'll provide them) and make sure that your use is within the legal boundaries.

If you feel disappointed that you haven't been able to pay for all of your texts in this class, you might want to send money to the people who make such things possible. I especially recommend Sacred Texts Archive (which isn't tax deductible but will sell you a CD with lots of books on it) at <http://www.sacred-texts.com/donate.htm> and Project Gutenberg (which is tax deductible) Send a check or money order (any currency) to: Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation, 809 N. 1500 W., Salt Lake City, Utah, 84116. Baen's Free Library will also cheerfully accept contributions. Or if you just have extra cash and aren't feeling charitable, buy a Kindle for \$114 (which is what texts in some classes cost). Amazon, too, has had a great impact on the availability of e-texts—even though they are a big, tough, somewhat evil corporation.

### **GRADES are based on the following:**

- **Tests:** There will be three tests for this semester. The first will be an essay test which you will submit to me via e-mail, and the next two will be multiple choice tests that you will take in the testing center on Blackboard.
- **Essays:** Two essays each 1250 words (5 pages), one essay will include scholarly sources and demonstrate knowledge of literary critical methods; the other will be more open ended and will allow for a freer flow of ideas and a more open expression of opinions. Possible range of topics for these essays will be determined in class discussions and through e-mails, and students will be given at least one class day for essay preparation. The essays should, of course, be typed, double-spaced, and correctly punctuated. You must include an accurate word count with your essay. Falsifying the word count (or any similar activity) will be considered cheating, and you will get no points for this assignment. Your paper should be submitted via e-mail to the following address [dobryniadragon@yahoo.com](mailto:dobryniadragon@yahoo.com) Please paste your papers in the body of the e-mail. **DO NOT SEND ATTACHMENTS.** Each essay is worth 100 points.
- **Extra Credit:** Reading any of the titles on the extra credit book list, writing a 100 word reaction to it, and discussing it with me is worth 5 points (unless it is marked otherwise). Writing a 500 word paper is worth 5 points for the paper, plus 5 points for the book, and no discussion is necessary. You may earn up to 15 points of extra credit in this way. All extra credit must be e-mailed to me two weeks before the semester ends.
- **Attendance:** Although I expect you to attend class, I will not penalize you for a reasonable number of absences. However, at the point when you miss half the class sessions, you also miss passing the class. See the link below for endless Dixie State College regulations, but, as they will tell you, the instructor's "requirements are enforced by the college."

**NOTE:** Test dates will be announced well in advance, and there will always be a review on the class day before the testing period begins. The testing period will not be shorter than one week for any of the tests.

**Final Exam** is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 15 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

## NUMERICAL-LETTER GRADE EQUIVALENTS

95-100	=	A
90-94	=	A-
86-89	=	B+
83-85	=	B
80-82	=	B-
76-79	=	C+
73-75	=	C
70-72	=	C-
66-69	=	D+
63-65	=	D
60-62	=	D-
0-59	=	F

### **Some Free Software Recommendations that You May Safely Ignore: Follow My Inexpert Advice at Your Own Risk**

Almost any text reading device, even the lowliest Microsoft Notepad, will read text files successfully. But if you'd like a high quality word processor for free (that will emulate Microsoft and other expensive things), try [www.OpenOffice.org](http://www.OpenOffice.org) or just type Open Office into your browser. Google Pack has Adobe Reader, which, of course, you should download if you don't already have it. And, of course, you can get Adobe Reader in many other places. An even better reader for text files than a word processor is the Mobipocket Reader. It's free at <http://www.mobipocket.com/en/downloadsoft/productdetailsreader.asp> or just look for mobipocket.com The Mobi changes your files, so you would have to keep two of everything if you wanted the freedom to search, cut, and paste that generally comes with text files, but since your original is on a CD, you would have two files anyway. Finally, if you'd like someone (or more accurately something) to read your books to you, try CFS Technologies' *Speakonia*. It's free, and once you get past the impression that Stephen Hawking has dropped in for a visit, the voice can be effective. Type in Speakonia or try <http://www.cfs-technologies.com/home/> Warning: One of Speakonia's traits is that it reads out anything you highlight. If you forget you have the thing on and then highlight something, the result can be mildly unsettling.

Alas, the Kindle isn't free yet, and even its clones (such as BeBook) are expensive. However, they're getting to be less expensive by the minute as the Nook and Kindle slug it out. The latest, cheapest Kindle (with only Wi-Fi capability, not 3G and Wi-Fi) is \$139 or \$114 if you don't mind advertisements as screensavers. It too will read to you, and it has a somewhat better voice.

For information on DSC **disability** resources visit: <http://www.dixie.edu/drcenter/>

For information on **H1N1** flu visit: <http://new.dixie.edu/flu/index.php>

For information on **Dmail** visit: <http://new.dixie.edu/helpdesk/dmail.php>

For information on **drop date, finals dates**, and other useful dates visit:  
<http://new.dixie.edu/reg/?page=fall2010>

For information on DSC **Writing Center** visit: [http://dixie.edu/english/dsc\\_writing\\_center.php](http://dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php)

For information on the **Testing Center** visit: <http://www.dixie.edu/testing/index.php>

For **library** information visit: <http://library.dixie.edu/>

For DSC **attendance policy** visit: <http://www.dixie.edu/humanres/policy/sec5/523.html>

For DSC **plagiarism definition** and for information on **consequences of plagiarism** visit:  
<http://dsc.dixie.edu/owl/mlastyle/Plagiarism.htm>