

ENG 3081 Contemporary Novel Syllabus
Fall 2009

Dr. Mark Stevens



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Office Hours:
 M/W 1:00-2:00
 T/R 1:30-3:00
 and by appointment

Date	Topic	Assignment Due
M Aug. 24	Orientation	
W 26	<i>Love</i>	Intro and ch. 1-2
M 31	<i>Love</i> ; Class Choice Decision	ch. 3-4
W Sept. 2	<i>Love</i>	ch. 5-7
W 9	<i>Love</i>	ch. 8-9
M 14	<i>Shadow Puppets</i>	ch. 1-6
W 16	<i>Shadow Puppets</i>	ch. 7-11
M 21	<i>Shadow Puppets</i>	ch. 12-15
W 23	<i>Shadow Puppets</i>	ch. 16-20
M 28	Test 1	
W 30	<i>Just Listen</i>	ch. 1-4
M Oct. 5	<i>Just Listen</i>	ch. 5-10
W 7	<i>Just Listen</i>	ch. 11-14
M 12	<i>Just Listen</i>	ch. 15-20 Have your Genre area picked. Consider two or three.
W 14	<i>The Road</i>	pp. 1-93
M 19	<i>The Road</i>	pp. 94 ("The falling snow . . .")-190
W 21	<i>The Road</i>	pp. 190 ("Beyond a crossroads . . .")-end. Turn in first half or Journal.
M 26	<i>Oscar Wao</i>	To the end of Two A Genre Report

W	28	<i>Oscar Wao</i>	Three-Four B Genre Report
M Nov. 2		<i>Oscar Wao</i>	II- Five C Genre Report
W	4	<i>Oscar Wao</i>	Six-end D Genre Report
M	9	Test 2	
W	11	<i>Jimmy Corrigan</i>	To leaving the Medlife CliniCare (“Does everything look sort of pink to you?”) E Genre Report Due
M	16	<i>Jimmy Corrigan</i>	To the end of the 1893 Chicago Exhibition (“Of course, he never did.”) F Genre Report
W	18	<i>Jimmy Corrigan</i>	To the end (start at the snowy McDonald’s arches) G Genre Report
M	23	Class Choice	We’ll figure how to split this up later.
M	30	Class Choice	
W Dec. 2		Class Choice	H Genre Report
M Dec. 7		Class Choice	Turn in second half of Journal.
W	9	Exam Prep.	Genre Papers Due
TBA		Final Exam	

About Stevens' ENGL 3081 Contemporary Novel



--**The Prerequisite** for ENGL 3081 is any 2000-level literature course

--Learning Outcomes

- To demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics of contemporary novels.
- To read and analyze works from a specific genre in relationship to historical and/or cultural perspectives of that genre.
- To formally analyze in writing a specific genre using contemporary methods and theory..

--**Textbooks** are the seven novels for the course, including the one we pick as a class.

--**Grades** are determined by adding your

- Test 1 (100 points)
- Test 2 (100 points)
- Final Exam (120 points)
- Quiz Grades (100 points)
- Genre Report (50 points)
- Genre Paper (150 points)

and then factoring in your reading journal and attendance. I divide your point total by 620 to find your grade percentage: **A=555+, B=493+, C=431+, D=369+.**

--**Attendance** is required. More than 4 absences will cause 6.2 points to be subtracted from your total point tally for each additional absence. Missing more than half a class counts as an absence. Call me early if you are faced with an insurmountable attendance problem.

--**A Reading Journal** will be maintained throughout the semester. In this journal, you will record your understanding of and reaction to each work of literature we read. You can be wildly wrong.

For each day's reading of a novel, write two possible **themes** in one complete sentence. (The theme is the **topic** that the work was about and a **statement** about that topic.)

- For each day's reading, write an additional one-paragraph **commentary** of at least one hundred words on a topic provided during the previous class. I'll evaluate it in the middle of the semester (Oct. 21) and at the end. Journals will be graded ✓+ (3 or fewer incomplete), ✓ (4-10 incomplete), or ✓- (more than 10 incomplete). To get an A in the class, you must have a ✓+. To get a B, you must have at least a ✓. You can get a grade no higher than a C with a ✓- journal.

--**A Genre Report** will be given by each student in the class on the genre the student has picked with the approval of the instructor.

--**A Genre Paper** will be done on the same topic as the Genre Report

--**Quizzes** are frequently given on the readings. I'll drop your worst three quizzes. You might be able to make up a quiz if you contact me ahead of time, but usually a missed quiz will just be a zero.

--**Plagiarism** and other forms of academic dishonesty will result in failure of the course. Take care that your test answers and journal entries are all your own work. See the SPSU Catalog.

--**Students with Disabilities** who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the counselor working with disabilities at (770) 528-7226 as soon as possible so they can get the help they need.