



LEAVELL COLLEGE

AT NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Introduction to Literature: LCGE 2310-01

Fall 2021 (221)

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Student hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 12:30-3:30 p.m. or by appointment.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

By studying literature, students gain the academic skills of reading and writing critically, analyzing and interpreting various genres, and understanding the historical context that informs writers. Most importantly, students will develop the ability to view literature through a Christian worldview. Students can expect to spend several hours each week reading various literary works or selections from literary works. They will demonstrate the acquisition of literary skills through daily class discussions, quizzes (both announced and unannounced), tests, and 3-5 short response essays. Prerequisite: English Composition

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (CSLOs)

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

1. Understand the content of specific literary works and the structures/conventions of different literary genres,
2. Appreciate the importance of various types of literature and their role in the human experience,
3. Respond critically to texts by writing clear, coherent essays, and
4. Recognize how literature and the human experience might play a role in Christian pilgrimage and Christian ministry.

COURSE TEXTS

The following textbooks and articles are required:

McGrath, Alister, ed. *Christian Literature: An Anthology*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 2001. ISBN 9780631216063

Lewis, C.S. *The Screwtape Letters*. Any print version containing the letters and "Screwtape Proposes a Toast" of the book will be acceptable. I am using the book with the following ISBN: 9780060652937

Other articles/required readings will be available on Blackboard.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Close readings 3 close readings @ 35 points each = 105 points
You will analyze a text carefully and develop an argument regarding the whole of the text through a close reading. In short, you will offer your viewpoint and opinion of the text by focusing on a particular aspect you found intriguing and formulating an argument of some kind (i.e. if I argue that a red leaf is symbolic of blood, then I would show evidence from the text and provide analysis as to why I believe this). This close reading will be 2½ - 3 pages long. You should avoid summarizing the text and should not use any outside texts. If you submit a close reading late, you will lose 3 points per day late. No close reading will be accepted more than one week late.
2. Discussion Questions 36 sets @ 3 points each = 108 points
Each text in the course textbook is accompanied by discussion questions. For each text read for class, you will complete the assigned discussion questions with a 2-3 sentence response for each assigned question. You should type your responses bring a hard copy of your discussion questions to class on the due date so you can participate in class discussion and take notes during the discussion. Readings not in the anthology should be annotated; the annotated copies should be brought to class on the day they are due. The four lowest grades will be dropped. If you submit a set of discussion questions/annotations late, you will lose 1 point per day late. No set of discussion questions/annotations will be accepted more than 3 days late.
3. Sectional Tests 3 tests @ 40 points each = 120 points
You will take three sectional tests throughout the semester. The tests will consist of multiple-choice questions, true/false questions, matching, and short answer questions. All tests will be completed online.
4. Quizzes 6 quizzes @ 5 points each + 2 quizzes @ 6 points each = 42 points
You will take 8 quizzes on *The Screwtape Letters*. Quizzes will be completed online and will not be accepted late.
5. Short Analysis Paper 125 points
You will write a 4-5 page paper on some aspect of *The Screwtape Letters*. More information will be provided in class. If you submit your paper late, you will lose 5 points per day late. No paper will be accepted more than one week late.
6. Final Exam (Personal Synthesis Essay) 120 points
You will write a 2-3 page essay dealing with the following prompt:
What points have surfaced as most important to you regarding the human Experience and human imagination--as expressed through literature--and the Christian faith? Why? What difference might this make in your life, your family, and your ministry following the completion of this course? Why?
No late finals will be accepted.

GRADING

Close readings	105 points
Discussion questions	108 points
Quizzes	42 points
Sectional tests	120 points
Short analysis paper	125 points
Final exam	<u>100 points</u>
Total	600 points possible

GRADING SCALE

A:	555 - 600 points (93% - 100%)
B:	507 - 554 points (85% - 92%)
C:	459 - 506 points (77% - 84%)
D:	417 - 458 points (70% - 76%)
F:	0 - 416 points (0% - 69%)

COURSE OUTLINE

(All topics and dates subject to change with exception of the final exam due date/time)

Week	Date	Topics to be Covered	Homework
1	Aug. 16	Introduction to the Course/Syllabus Lectures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What Is Literature? • What Is Christian Literature? 	Read and annotate the following articles and bring your annotated copies to the next class period on Aug. 18: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Why Literature Is Good for You" • "Sometimes Fairy Stories May Say What's Best to be Said"
	Aug. 18	Class Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Why Literature Is Good for You" • "Sometimes Fairy Stories May Say What's Best to be Said" Lecture: The Human Imagination/The Human Experience Class Reading: "The Pearl"	Read and annotate Dr. Stewart's four devotionals and bring your annotated copies to the next class period on Aug. 23.
2	Aug. 23	Class Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Stewart's devotionals Lecture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to C.S. Lewis and <i>The Screwtape Letters</i> 	Read Introduction to Unit 1, pages 3-11, by the start of class on Aug. 25.
	Aug. 25	Lecture: Unit 1—The Patristic Period Class Reading: "Letter to the Romans"	1. Read <i>Screwtape Letters</i> (SL) 1-4. 2. Take online quiz on SL 1-4 by the start of the next class period on Aug. 30.
3	Aug. 30	Discussion of <i>Screwtape Letters</i> 1-4	Read the following chapters and bring typed responses to the assigned Discussion Questions (DQs) to the next class period on Sept. 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 3 (DQ 1, 2, 3) • Ch. 4 (DQ 1, 2, 3, 5) • Ch. 7A "De Incarnatione" (DQ1, 2, 3) • "Life of Antony" (DQ 1, 2, 3)
	Sept. 1	Class Discussion:	1. Read <i>Screwtape Letters</i> (SL) 5-8

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The Martyrdom of Polycarp" (ch. 3) • "Against All Heresies" (ch. 4) • "De Incarnatione" (ch. 7A) • "The Life of Antony" (ch. 7B) 	2. Take online quiz on SL 5-8 by the start of the next class period on Sept. 8.
4	Sept. 6	LABOR DAY – NO CLASS	
	Sept. 8	Discussion of <i>Screwtape Letters</i> 5-8	<p>Read the following chapters and bring typed responses to the assigned Discussion Questions (DQs) to the next class period on Sept. 13:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 11 (DQ 1-2) • Ch. 12 (DQ 2, 3, 4) • Ch. 13 (DQ 2, 3)
5	Sept. 13	<p>Class Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Peregrination of Egeria" (ch. 11) • "Confessions" (ch. 12) • "Vexilla Regis Produent" (ch. 13) 	<p>1. Begin working on Close Reading 1, due by the beginning of the next class period on Sept. 15.</p> <p>2. Read the Introduction to Unit 2, pages 121-25, by the start of the next class period on Sept. 15.</p>
	Sept. 15	<p>Lecture: Unit 2 – English and Irish Sources</p> <p>Class Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Cædmon's Hymn" • "Exeter Riddles" 	<p>1. Read <i>Screwtape Letters</i> (SL) 9-12.</p> <p>2. Take online quiz on SL 9-12 by next class period on Sept. 20.</p>
6	Sept. 20	Discussion of <i>Screwtape Letters</i> 9-12	<p>Read the following chapters and bring typed responses to the assigned Discussion Questions (DQs) to the next class period on Sept. 22:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 16 (DQ 1, 2, 3) • Ch. 17 (DQ 1, 2, 3) • Ch. 21 (D1, 3)
	Sept. 22	<p>Class Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The Deer's Cry" • "The Dream of the Rood" • The Passion of St. Edmund" 	<p>1. Read <i>Screwtape Letters</i> (SL) 13-16.</p> <p>2. Take online quiz on SL 13-16 by next class period on Sept. 27.</p>
7	Sept. 27	<p>Discussion of <i>Screwtape Letters</i> 13-16 (Note: I will be attending a conference this week, so class will take place online via video. You are responsible for viewing the videos and knowing the information.)</p>	<p>1. TEST 1 due by the beginning of the next class period on Sept. 29.</p> <p>2. Read Introduction to Unit 3, pages 175-80, by the start of the next class on Sept. 29.</p>
	Sept. 29	<p>Lecture: Unit 3 – The Middle Ages</p> <p>Class Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "A Prayer to Christ" • "The York Mystery Plays" <p>(Note: I will be attending a conference this week, so class will take place online via video. You are responsible for viewing the videos and knowing the information.)</p>	<p>1. Read <i>Screwtape Letters</i> (SL) 17-20.</p> <p>2. Take online quiz on SL 17-20 by next class period on Oct. 11.</p>

	Oct. 4-8	SEMESTER BREAK	
8	Oct. 11	Discussion of <i>Screwtape Letters</i> 17-20	Read the following chapters and bring typed responses to the assigned Discussion Questions (DQs) to the next class period on Mar Oct. 13: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 28 (DQ 1,2) • Ch. 30 (DQ1,2) • Ch. 33 (DQ 1, 3, 4)
	Oct. 13	Class Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Summa Theologiae" • "Inferno" • "Piers Plowman" 	1. Read <i>Screwtape Letters</i> (SL) 21-24. 2. Take online quiz on SL 21-24 by next class period on Oct. 18.
9	Oct. 18	Discussion of <i>Screwtape Letters</i> 21-24	Read the following chapters and bring typed responses to the assigned Discussion Questions (DQs) to the next class period on Oct. 20: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 34 (DQ 1, 2, 3) • Ch. 35 (DQ 2, 3, 4) • Ch. 37 (DQ 1, 3)
	Oct. 20	Class Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Canterbury Tales: Pardoner's Tale" • "Revelations of Diving Love: • "The Imitation of Christ" 	1. Read <i>Screwtape Letters</i> (SL) 25-28. 2. Take online quiz on SL 25-28 by next class period on Oct. 25.
10	Oct. 25	Discussion of <i>Screwtape Letters</i> 25-28	1. Work on CR 2, due by the beginning of the next class period on Oct. 27. 2. Read the Introduction to Unit 4, pages 275-86 by the start of the next class on Oct. 27.
	Oct. 27	Lecture: Unit 4 – Renaissance/Reformation Class Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Divine Man's Pilgrimage" • "Death Be Not Proud" 	1. Read <i>Screwtape Letters</i> (SL) 29-3. 2. Take online quiz on SL 29-31 by next class period by Nov. 1.
11	Nov. 1	Discussion of <i>Screwtape Letters</i> 29-31 and "Screwtape Proposes a Toast" Review of prompt for SL paper	1. Read the following chapters and bring typed responses to the assigned Discussion Questions (DQs) to the next class period on Nov. 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 40, "Letter" only (DQ 1, 2, 3) • Ch. 42 (DQ 1, 3) • Ch. 48 (DQ 1, 3) 2. Work on SL paper.
	Nov. 3	Class Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Letter on Translating the New Testament" (ch. 40) • "Institutes of the Christian Religion" (ch. 42) 	1. Read the following chapters and bring typed responses to the assigned Discussion Questions (DQs) to the next class period on Nov. 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 52 (DQ 1, 3) • Ch. 57 (DQ 1, 3)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Sonnet 146" (ch. 48) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 58 "General Confession" (DQ 2, 3, 4) "General Thanksgiving (DQ 1, 2, 3) "At the Burial of the Dead" (DQ 1, 2) <p>2. Finish SL paper, due by the beginning of the next class period on Nov. 8.</p>
12	Nov. 8	<p>Class Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Paradise Lost: • "Pilgrim's Progress: • "The Book of Common Prayer" <p>"General Confession: "General Thanksgiving" "At the Burial of the Dead"</p>	<p>1. TEST 2 due by the beginning of the next class period on Apr. Nov. 10.</p> <p>3. Read Introduction to Unit 5, pages 481-86 by the start of the next class period on Nov. 10.</p>
	Nov. 10	<p>Lecture: Unit 5 – The Modern Period</p> <p>Class Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross: • "Love Divine" • "Free Grace" 	<p>1. Read the following chapters and bring typed responses to the assigned Discussion Questions (DQs) to the next class period on Nov. 15:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 59 (DQ 1, 2) • Ch. 69 "Tintern Abbey" only (read DQ 1, 2, answer D 3, 4) • Ch. 73 (DQ 1, 3, 4) • "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" handout (annotate) <p>2. Work on CR 3, due at the beginning of the next class period on Nov. 15.</p>
13	Nov. 15	<p>Class Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Robinson Crusoe" • "Tintern Abbey" • "Nature" • "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" 	<p>1. Read the following chapters and bring typed responses to the assigned Discussion Questions (DQs) to the next class period on Nov. 17:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 83 "The Everlasting Man" only (DQ 1, 2, 3) • Ch. 84 "The Journey of the Magi" only (DQ 1, 2, 3) • Ch. 85 "The Man Born to Be King" only (DQ 1, 2)
	Nov. 17	<p>Class Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The Everlasting Man" • "The Journey of the Magi" • "The Man Born to Be King" 	<p>Read the following chapters and bring typed responses to the assigned Discussion Questions (DQs) to the next class period on Nov. 29:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 86 "Till We Have Faces" only (DQ 1, 2, 3) • Ch. 89 (DQ 1, 2, 3) • Ch. 91 (DQ 1, 2, 3)
	Nov. 22-26	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
14	Nov. 29	Class Discussion:	Test 3 due by the beginning of the next class period on Dec. 1.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Till We Have Faces" • "I Have a Dream" • "Lake Wobegon Days" 	
	Dec. 1	Lecture: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Human Imagination 	
15	Dec. 6	FINAL EXAM DUE BY 10:00 a.m. LATE EXAMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.	

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

1. Attendance Policy: Leavell College follows the attendance policy as stated in the Leavell College catalog.
2. Policy for Late Submissions: See Course Requirements (above) for the late penalty for assignments that can be submitted late. Quizzes, tests, and the final exam will not be accepted late.
3. Plagiarism Policy: A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all Leavell College students. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Leavell College for further action.
4. Classroom and Online Decorum: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of the others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times. Electronic devices should be used only for classroom purposes as indicated by the professor.
5. Special Needs: If you need accommodations for a disability, please set up a meeting with the professor for consideration of any modifications you may need.
6. Emergency Plan: In the event the NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event, go to the seminary's website for pertinent information. Class will continue as scheduled through the Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the course's Blackboard site.
7. Technical Assistance: For general NOBTS technical help, go to www.NOBTS.edu/itc/
8. Style Guide: A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard shell, or it can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at: https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf
8. COVID-19: During the COVID-19 pandemic Leavell College is abiding by CDC safety guidelines and City of New Orleans safety guidelines. Students are expected to abide by such guidelines while on campus and in the classroom.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Wright, T.R. *Theology and Literature*. Oxford: Blackwell Press, 1988.

Wood, Ralph C. *Literature and Theology*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2009.

The Close Reading Assignment

A close reading (CR) is a formal essay that conveys your response to one specific aspect in a work of literature. No research is done. The paper should be 2½ - 3 pages in length, double spaced (about 500 – 700 words). The essay should interpret and analyze as concisely as possible a point or thesis that focuses on one single idea or aspect of the work. Arguments are used to justify that point, and those arguments are supported with evidence from the primary text in the form of paraphrases, summaries, and direction quotations. When information from the primary text is used, the page number should be enclosed in parentheses immediately following said information.

To Prepare for the CR:

1. Read the work, including the introductory material about the work and the author. Highlight and take marginal notes when necessary. Be sure to record both your emotional and intellectual response to the piece.
2. Establish a clear understanding of the work.
3. Brainstorm to decide the point on which you will focus your response. You may do so in several ways: examine your notes, record new ideas, use pro-con column analysis, or raise and answer questions about the piece.
4. After brainstorming, choose your area of focus. This focus could relate to genre or literary device but may focus on other issues related to the text as well.
5. Develop a thesis around that focus. Make sure the thesis makes a claim and can be supported with evidence from the text.
6. Organize an outline of the paper into three parts: introduction, body, and conclusion.
7. Refer to the notes you made in the text.
8. Use paraphrase, quotation, and summary from the text to support your claims. A good rule of thumb is that no more than 20% of your paper should be borrowed material.
9. Develop a conclusion that reemphasizes your thesis/response to the work.

To Write your CR Essay:

1. Include a title page for your assignment.
2. On the top of page 1, give a bibliographic citation for the piece you're analyzing.
3. The introduction should be only one paragraph. Remember, this paper is relatively short. State the title and author (if known) of the work in the text of the introduction, and provide your thesis.
4. The body supports the thesis with several pieces of evidence. Write two or three paragraphs about each piece of evidence you pulled to support your point. Each paragraph should show a clear relationship to the thesis.
5. A brief conclusion (perhaps only 2-3 sentences) reminds the reader of the point you are trying to establish about your close reading of the selected text. You may want to explain the importance of your thesis to the reader.

Choose from the following selections for your close readings:

CR 1: "The Apology (ch. 5); "Ecclesiastical History" (ch. 6); or "Funeral Oration on Melitius" (ch. 10)

CR 2: "The History of Calamities" (ch. 24); "Ancrene Wisse" (ch. 27); or "The Cloud of Unknowing" (ch. 32)

CR 3: "The Hymn of Heavenly Beauty" (ch. 44); "Pensées" (ch. 56); or "The Rules and Exercises of Holy Dying" (ch. 53)