

Dr. Buckman
TR 9-10:15am

HRS 188: Fantasy and Romance
GE Area C3: Introduction to the Humanities

Spring 2009
MND 4004

Office: 2020 Mendocino Hall
Office Hours: TR10:30-11:30am
R 4:00-5pm and by appointment

Office Phone: 278-5335
e-mail: abuckman@saclink.csus.edu
I am not on campus MWF

Required Texts:

JRR Tolkien, *The Hobbit*
Bram Stoker, *Dracula*
Octavia Butler, *Fledgling*
Course pack (CP) available at University Copy and Print

Other materials:

2 scantron sheets (886E -- multiple choice plus essay)
Saclink account for WebCT (additional class materials will be available on WebCT)
In addition, there will be materials presented in class for which you will be responsible, such as videos and handouts.

Course Description and Expectations:

Catalog Description: Exploration of the aesthetic of fantasy. Approaches may include emphasis on the historical development of the quest-romance or the use of the fantastic as social commentary. Particular genres, such as science fiction, may be explored.

NB: The "Romance" portion of the course title refers to the Romantic aesthetic developed in the late 18th century rather than to the more contemporary romance novel (ex. Harlequin paperbacks). In this course, we will be looking at the construction of the fantastic, especially in relation to its aesthetics. The class is structured as a combination of lecture and discussion, and, thus, a willingness to contribute actively to the class and to explore diverse viewpoints respectfully is central to the course. Although this is a GE course, it is a 3-credit course, and the workload corresponds to this.

Learning Goals:

Upon completion of HRS 188, successful students will be able to:

- Identify, explain, and analyze aspects of the fantastic and romantic as presented in course materials, including the aesthetics of each
- Demonstrate visual and textual literacy
- Apply the techniques of formal analysis to various works of literary and visual arts
- Communicate effectively in both oral and written formats
- Demonstrate research skills and the ability to integrate research with analysis

Class Policies and Procedures:

Classroom Etiquette: Tardiness is frowned upon, since it disrupts both students and professor; in addition, you are likely to miss important information for which you are responsible. Please do not enter the classroom more than 5 minutes past class time unless you have notified the instructor of your tardiness prior to class. All electronic devices should be turned off. Students should not leave class early unless they have a compelling reason and should, if at all possible, notify the instructor prior to class and sit near the door.

Additional Resources: Accommodations will be made for recognized disabilities, provided the student notifies the instructor of all requirements and provides certification of said disability.

Due to the recent proliferation of inappropriate use of laptops, students may not use laptops in class without prior instructor approval.

Coursework: Your grade will consist of participation, in-class assignments, quizzes, exams, and two essays. Quizzes and in-class work may be announced or unannounced and cannot be made up. *Late essays will receive appropriate deductions as per below and will not be accepted more than one week after they were due.*

Academic Integrity (The “P” word): Please turn in work that is solely your own. Appropriate credit must be given to the work of other authors used; this includes the proper use of paraphrasing and quoting as well as citation within and at the end of the paper. If you are unsure about what this means, please come and speak with me. See also the library’s page on plagiarism (<http://library.csus.edu/content2.asp?pageID=353>). **Plagiarism has serious consequences and will result in failure of the assignment. Other possible consequences include failure of the course, and/or expulsion from the college. It is not an option -- no rewrites will be allowed.**

Formatting of Essays: Essays should be typed, double-spaced, and have 1" margins. The font and its size should be normal, ex. Times New Roman 12 in Word. Please staple your essays prior to class. Don't bother with plastic or cardboard covers. At the top of the first page, single-spaced, include a descriptive title for your paper in addition to tagging information (your name/my name/the date/essay #). MLA style should be used for endnotes and works cited page. Essays may not be turned in to the department secretary. Placing papers under my door carries no guarantee of its safe arrival in my hands; you do so at your own risk. E-mailed essays will not be accepted.

Participation: This class depends upon the full engagement of students with the material and the class itself. Students should participate in discussions on a regular and informed basis. *Simply being in attendance does not qualify as participating in the class.* You CAN receive a failing participation grade even if you attend every class. 15% is a large chunk of your grade: resolve to participate in the class! Disruptive behavior works against you in your participation grade. This is a classroom that emphasizes mutual respect.

Attendance: Absences affect your ability to participate and turn in assignments. There will be assignments completed and/or assigned during class as well as other opportunities for participation. In-class assignments and quizzes may not be made up. If you miss class, it is YOUR responsibility to get notes from a classmate and any other information that you missed. Peers should be your first resource for getting missed information – be sure to make the acquaintance of at least one person in the class.

Grading:

Midterm	20 points	Essay 1 10points	Assignments/Quizzes 10points
Final	20 points	Essay 2 25 points	Participation 15 points (see above)

Due Dates:

Essays: Two researched essays: 1) 3-5pp and 2) 8-10 pp. Essays are due *at the beginning of class*; papers turned in after the beginning of class are subject to a 5 point deduction for tardiness. Late papers will be penalized 5 points for every day thereafter and will not be accepted more than one week after they are due. If you have problems completing an assignment, please talk to me BEFORE it is due.

Tests: Tests are scheduled as indicated on the class calendar. Make-ups are not permitted unless a compelling and verifiable emergency interferes – *this does not include family vacations.* Make-ups are given at the convenience of the test giver, generally at the testing center. Quizzes and assignments may not be made up.

Assignments: Work assigned for completion outside of class must be turned in at the beginning of the class in which it is due.

Schedule of Readings (may change at discretion of instructor)

NB: There are several novels toward the end of the class: be aware of this and stagger your reading accordingly.

1/27 Intro

1/29 Fantasy and Aesthetics I: Read: excerpts from Plato: *Phaedrus* and Aristotle: *The Poetics* (SacCT)

2/3 Fantasy and Archetypes: Lecture or view: Joseph Campbell

2/5 Read: LeGuin, “The Child and the Shadow,” “Myth and Archetype in Science Fiction”; Lecture: Vladimir Propp; Carl Jung. Essay one: research a fairy tale.

2/10 Origins of Fantasy and Romance I: Read: excerpts from Malory’s *Le Morte d’Arthur* (SacCT); Listen: medieval music

2/12 Read: Bunce, Chapter 1; Perrault: “Cinderella”; “Conkijahgharuna”; The Grimms, “Aschenputtel”; Indian Cinderella; “Cupid and Psyche”; “The Fairy Serpent”; “The Prince Who Had the Head of a Horse” (SacCT)

2/17 Read: de Villeneuve, *Beauty and the Beast* (CP) (It is important that you use this version, since it differs in important ways from other versions we will explore)

2/19 Read: de Beaumont, “Beauty and the Beast”; Cummins, “Romancing the Plot” (SacCT); Disney, *Beauty and the Beast* (watch on your own prior to class) Quiz on Beauty and the Beast

2/24 Read: Addison, “Fairy Type of Writing” (CP); “Hurd, “Letters on Chivalry and Romance” (CP); Coleridge, “Letter to Thomas Poole” (CP); Dickens “Frauds on Fairies”(SacCT); Chesterton, “Fairy Tales” (SacCT). Also: Coleridge, “La Belle Dame Sans Merci”; Rosetti, “Goblin Market” (SacCT)

3/3 Fantasy and Aesthetics II: Read: Shelley, “A Defence of Poetry”; read excerpt from *Frankenstein* (SacCT)

3/5 MIDTERM

3/10 TBA

3/12 American Romanticism: Read: Hawthorne, “Rappaccini’s Daughter,” “The Birthmark,” “Young Goodman Brown” and Poe, “The Fall of the House of Usher” (SacCT)

3/17 Art: 19th C. art and the sublime

3/19-3/26 Read and discuss: Stoker, *Dracula*. Quiz 3/19 on *Dracula*; turn in paragraph on research paper topic

3/31 and 4/2 Spring Recess

4/7 Read: LeGuin, “Why Are Americans Afraid of Dragons?” and “From Elfland to Poughkeepsie”(CP); Tolkien, “On Fairy Stories” (SacCT); Bettelheim, Introduction (CP)

4/9-4/16 Tolkien, *The Hobbit*. Quiz on *The Hobbit* (4/9)

4/21 Lecture: 20th C. art

4/23-5/5 Revisionings: Read: Butler, *Fledgling*. Quiz on *Fledgling*

5/7 View: one of the *Harry Potter* movies on your own prior to class or read one of the novels; Read: Pennington, “From Elfland to Hogwarts”; **Essay two due**

5/12-5/14 View *Pan’s Labyrinth* (in class); read excerpt from Pratchett (CP)

5/19: Final, 8-10am