

class. Yom Kippur.

10/7 Topic: The English Renaissance; Elizabethan theater

Reading: Shakespeare's *Hamlet* (written 1599-1601 AD), Acts 1 to 3 (*Norton*, Vol. 1, pages 1801-1866. We will look at Shakespeare's versification (metrical structure) as well as the first three acts of the five-act play.

10/14 Topic: Elizabethan theater. Reading: Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Acts 4 and 5 (*Norton*, Vol. 1, pages 1867-1900)

Midterm exam, Oct. 14: The midterm covers literary movements and diverse world cultures from the ancient to the Elizabethan world. The exam will cover all readings up to this date. It will have three parts: literary term definitions, quote identification, and an essay question.

10/21 Topic: Late 19th-early 20th century: Modernism; women and creativity. Reading: Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper"

(<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/theliteratureofprescription/exhibitionAssets/digitalDocs/The-Yellow-Wall-Paper.pdf>) and Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*, Chapters 1 and 3 (*Norton*, Vol. 2, pages 1309-1335)

Looking ahead: Research paper #2, due Nov. 11: Discuss gender, class and ethnicity (if applicable) in relation to creativity and self-actualization in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper" and Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own* **OR** in Zora Neale Hurston's "Sweat" and Alice Walker's "In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens." Draw upon at least three secondary scholarly sources to develop your analysis.

10/28 Topic: The Harlem Renaissance and contemporary African American women's writing. Reading: Zora Neale Hurston's "Sweat" and Alice Walker's "In Search of Our Mother's Gardens." Texts will be e-mailed. "Sweat": <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ma01/grand-jean/hurston/chapters/supporting/Sweat.html> "Gardens": www.msmagazine.com/spring2002/walker.asp

Critical Response/Discussion Board: Discuss the situation in the first three acts of *Hamlet*. Who is the protagonist? The antagonist? How is the theme of revenge developed? Do you sympathize with Hamlet? What mistakes does he make? (Cover all three acts in your discussion.)

Topic for extra credit on Blackboard (a regular Blackboard post is not due on this date): Do you see a narrative arc in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*? Briefly, what is the rising action, the climax, the falling action? Why is this play called a tragedy? Were you satisfied with the ending? Why or why not?

Critical Response/Discussion Board: Discuss the connections between the texts by Gilman and Woolf, in terms of their style and their exploration of women's creativity and self-actualization. How are the texts fundamentally different? Use the terms "short story" and "essay" in your discussion.

Critical Response/Discussion Board: Discuss the connections between the texts by Hurston and Walker, in terms of style and exploration of women's creativity and self-actualization. How are the texts different? How are their themes similar?