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Calumet College

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of Saint Joseph

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## COURSE SYLLABUS

**Term:** Spring 2017 (2016-2)

<b>Course: EWPC 111B The Literary Experience</b>
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**Instructor Name:** Mark Cassello  
**Office Number:** Room 180  
**Phone Number:** (219) 473-4322  
**Email:** mcassello@ccsj.edu  
**Hours Available:** Tuesday/Thursday 10:00-12:00, Wednesday 10:00-3:00, or by appointment.

**Instructor Background:** Like many of the students at CCSJ, I am a first generation college student that hails from a working class family. My mother emigrated from Norway after the Nazi invasion of Oslo during World War II. My father dropped out of high school and earned his GED in the army where he served in Korea shortly after the Korean War. Later, he worked for CTA in Chicago as a laborer and foreman with the South Shops. As for myself, while working full-time, I attended Indiana University Northwest for my undergraduate degree. Buckling under the pressure of juggling work and school, I left college for a decade to pursue a career in retail management for Wal-Mart and Office Depot. Unhappy with this career path, I took classes in the evening and eventually finished my BA in English. Soon after, I earned a Master's Degree in American Literature from Indiana University in Bloomington where I am currently completing a Ph.D.

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### Course Information:

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**Course Time:** Tuesday/Thursday, 12:00PM - 1:30PM  
**Classroom:** 268  
**Prerequisites:** None  
**Required Books & Materials:** Kennedy and Gioia, *Backpack Literature: Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Writing*, 5th ed.  
Barnet and Cain, *A Short Guide to Writing About Literature*, 12th edition.  
(OPTIONAL)  
**Learning Outcomes/ Competencies:**

1. Students will understand **the role of stories and songs** in their lives.
2. Students will understand **character** in narrative: character types, flat versus round characters, static versus dynamic characters, protagonists versus antagonists.

3. Students will understand the **elements of plot**, including exposition, conflict, complication, crisis, climax, and denouement.
4. Students will understand **the relation of character to plot** (i.e. the interrelationship between character traits and motivation to action)
5. Students will understand the significance of **point of view** in storytelling, especially first and third person narration.
6. Students will know the basic **elements of poetry**: rhythm, rhyme, figurative language, theme, and form.
7. Students will understand **literary language**: the difference between the denotation and connotation of words, the difference between the literal and figurative use of language, the different kinds of tropes (e.g. metaphor and metonymy) and the difference between the vehicle and tenor of a metaphor.)
8. Students will understand **basic poetic form**, including fixed or metered forms (like the ballad and the sonnet) and various free verse or organic forms of poetry.
9. Students will apply their knowledge of literary elements to the intelligent **reading, analysis, and interpretation poems and stories** from both the Western literary canon and pop culture.
10. Students will develop an **appreciation and life-long love of great literature**.

### **Course Description:**

Using both Western literary classics, contemporary short stories and poems, examples from comic books, pop songs, and films, this course introduces students to the elements of fiction and poetry and to the interpretive skills necessary to deepen their experience of great literature. Students study the arch of Western literary history and examine the role of stories and poems in creating oneself and a meaningful life.

### **Learning Strategies:**

A college won't and can't educate you. It can only provide a setting for you to educate yourself. You'll get out of it what you put into it. You can't teach a kid how to ride a bicycle if he doesn't pedal; in other words, a successful class depends how much you engage. Here is what you have to do.

1. **Read Regularly.** The reading assignments tend to be short and interesting. However, even short pieces of writing require significant attention. Be sure to take notes, annotate the texts, and re-read each assignment. Short stories may need to be read two or three times, and poems can be read and re-read countless times before they begin to make sense.
2. **Take Good Notes.** My lectures are designed to introduce the authors and literary concepts that will generally aid your understanding of the weekly reading. They are focused on facts and concepts you need to know and understand to pass the course. To do so, you need to listen closely to lectures, to take legible, accurate, well-organized, and thorough notes, and to study those notes regularly.
3. **Ask and Answer Questions.** Weekly readings are designed to make you think. Come to class ready to ask and answer questions. Don't be afraid to appear stupid if don't understand; school is the one place you are allowed to ask any sincere question, and it must be taken seriously.
4. **Participate in discussion.** Part of our class period will be spent just trying to understand. But the fun part begins *after* we have understood, and we all get to share our responses, voice our opinions, and clarify and test our ideas with and against one another. Jump into the conversation; give it a shot. You never know what you can do until you try. Participating in class teaches you to express yourself clearly and to respond intelligently and productively to one another.

## Experiential Learning Opportunities:

-Dramatic performance (table reading), mock trial character role play

## Assessments:

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**Major Assignments:** Your final grade in this class will be assigned based on your performance in **four different areas** as follows:

### Weekly Responses:

*At certain points during the semester, you will be required to turn in a 250-300 word literary analysis in response to a question I pose during class or in response to an assigned reading. Your response should include at least one piece of evidence (a quoted section) from the text and detailed explanation of this evidence.* **30%**

### Literary Analysis Essays:

*To pass this class you must write two, 750-1000 word literary analysis essays.* **40%**

1. *The first essay, on **a short-story**, will be due at mid-term;*
2. *The second essay, on **a poem**, will be due at the end of traditional classes.*

*Your essay will offer interpretation about one of the texts we have read during the semester. Ideally, your essay should grow out of observations made in your weekly response papers. These papers are not summaries of the plots of the stories or poems; instead, they examine the texts to reveal some interesting insight. They might, for example, explore the significance of “the Misfits” final speech in “A Good Man is Hard to Find” or explain how modern imagery is used in Jean Toomer’s poems to emphasize urban life.*

### Competency Exam:

*Students will take a competency exam that provides a summative assessment of their attainment of the course objectives. The exam consists of four sections: Elements of Literature, Analyzing Literature, Elements of Poetry, and Analyzing Poetry.* **10%**

### Attendance and Participation:

*Regular participation is required to succeed in this course. Students are expected to arrive on time, attend class, and participate during class and through regular online activity. **Students who are (A) absent more than three times, (B) come to class without a textbook, and/or (C) fail to submit any assignment will receive a zero (0) for the “Attendance and Participation” portion of their grade.*** **20%**

<b>Grading Scale:</b>	100-92	<b>A</b>
	91.9-90	<b>A-</b>
	89.9-88	<b>B+</b>
	87.9-82	<b>B</b>
	81.9-80	<b>B-</b>
	79.9-78	<b>C+</b>
	77.9-72	<b>C</b>
	71.9-70	<b>C-</b>
	69.9-68	<b>D+</b>
	67.9-62	<b>D</b>
	61.9-60	<b>D-</b>
	59.9-0	<b>F</b>

## Daily Schedule of Assignments

*I reserve the right to change this schedule to meet the needs of the class.*

### Understanding the Schedule of Assignments:

*BL* = Backpack Literature

*SG* = A Short Guide to Writing About Literature

Online = Reading will be handed out or posted to Blackboard

**BOLD ITEMS** = Homework due, exams, or important information

[ ] = Planned in-class activities

### Week One

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**Tues 1/10** READ: *SG*, Chapter 4: Two Forms of Criticism – Explication and Analysis  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Course policies; Introduction to literature]

**Thurs 1/12** READ: *BL*, “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson, p. 258  
*BL*, Plot (14-17)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Plot; Discuss reading]

### Week Two

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**Tues 1/17** READ: *BL*, Response Paper (1127-1130)  
[Continue discussing “The Lottery;” How to write a literary response]

**Thurs 1/19** **DUE: WEEKLY RESPONSE 1**  
READ: *SG*, “Reading with a Pen in Hand” (11-13)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Students share their responses]

### Week Three

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**Tues 1/24** READ: *BL*, “The Storm” by Kate Chopin, p. 95  
*BL*, Character (54-55)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Character; Discuss reading]

**Thurs 1/26** **DUE: WEEKLY RESPONSE 2**  
READ: *SG*, “Writing about a Character” (132-135)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Calixta Mock Trial]

Week Four

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**Tues 1/31** READ: *BL*, "A Clean, Well-Lighted Place" by Ernest Hemingway, p. 142  
*BL*, Setting (93-95)  
*SG*, "Setting and Atmosphere" (140-41)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Setting; Assign performance groups]

**Thurs 2/2**

[*Today's Topic(s)*: Rehearsal for "A Clean Well-Lighted Place" performance]

Week Five

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**Tues 2/7** **DUE: "A CLEAN WELL-LIGHTED PLACE" PERFORMANCE**  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Narrators and Theme]

**Thurs 2/9** [*Today's Topic(s)*: Writing a Literary Analysis Essay; Brainstorm topics]

Week Six

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**Tues 2/14** **DUE: ROUGH DRAFT, LITERARY ANALYSIS ESSAY (SHORT STORY)**  
READ: *SG*, Chapter 10: Writing about Fiction  
*BL*, Topics for More Extended Papers (1132)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Bring copy of your essay for peer review]

**Thurs 2/16** **PAPER CONFERENCES**  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Meet with professor to discuss your paper ideas]

Week Seven

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**Tues 2/21** **PAPER CONFERENCES**  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Meet with professor to discuss your paper ideas]

**Thurs 2/23** **DUE: FINAL DRAFT, LITERARY ANALYSIS ESSAY (SHORT STORY)**  
READ: *BL*, Chapter 9, Reading a Poem  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Types of Poetry]

**NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK (2/27 – 3/3)**

Week Eight

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**Tues 2/28** READ: *SG*, Explication (244-48)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: How to explicate a poem]

**Thurs 3/2** READ: *BL*, Chapter 10, Listening to a Voice  
*SG*, The Speaker and the Poet (221-223)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Tone, Irony]

Week Nine

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**Tues 3/7** **DUE: WEEKLY RESPONSE 3**  
READ: *BL*, Chapter 11, Words  
*SG*, Diction and Tone (223-26)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Diction; Write response]

**Thurs 3/9** READ: *BL*, Chapter 12, Saying and Suggesting  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Denotation and Connotation]

Week Ten

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**Tues 3/14** **DUE: WEEKLY RESPONSE 4**  
READ: *BL*, Chapter 13, Imagery  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Meet with response group; Write weekly response (imagery)]

**Thurs 3/16** READ: *BL*, Chapter 15, Sound  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Euphony, Cacophony, Alliteration, Consonance, Assonance]

Week Eleven

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**Tues 3/21** **DUE: WEEKLY RESPONSE 5**  
READ: *SG*, Chapter 13, Writing About Poetry (227-243)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Writing an essay about poetry; Write weekly response]

**Thurs 3/23** READ: *BL*, Chapter 16, Rhythm  
*SG*, Meter (250-63)  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Introduction to Meter]

Week Twelve

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**Tues 3/28** **DUE: ROUGH DRAFT, LITERARY ANALYSIS ESSAY (POEM)**  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Paper Conferences; Bring your essay to work on during class]

**Thurs 3/30** READ: *BL*, Chapter 17, Closed Form  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Introduction to Basic Forms]

Week Thirteen

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**NO CLASS – HUMANITIES FESTIVAL (4/3 – 4/6)**  
[*NO CLASS, but you must attend FIVE Humanities Festival Events during this week*]

Week Fourteen

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**Tues 4/11** **PAPER CONFERENCES**  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Meet in small groups with professor to discuss your paper ideas]

**Thurs 4/13** **PAPER CONFERENCES**  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Meet in small groups with professor to discuss your paper ideas]

Week Fifteen

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**Tues 4/18** **DUE: COMPETENCY EXAM**  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Student poetry reading /party, course evaluations]

**Thurs 4/20** **DUE: FINAL DRAFT, LITERARY ANALYSIS ESSAY (POEM)**  
[*Today's Topic(s)*: Course Reflection]

## Responsibilities

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<b>Attending Class</b>	<p>You cannot succeed in this class if you do not attend. We believe that intellectual growth and success in higher education occur through interaction in the classroom and laboratories. However, we do not want to penalize students for participating in college-sponsored events. When you miss class because of a college event, you must give notice of your absence in advance, and you are responsible for all missed work. Being absent doesn't excuse you from doing class work; you have more responsibilities to keep up and meet the objectives of this course.</p> <p>In accordance with the English Department attendance policy, <b>any student missing more than NINE (9) hours of class—six class sessions—will receive an F.</b> These nine hours include both excused and unexcused absences; it also includes all tardies of more than 15 minutes. Please be aware these hours include absences due to birthdays, sport events, illness, work, etc.</p>
<b>Turning In Your Work</b>	<p>You cannot succeed in this class if you do not turn in all your work on the day it is due.</p> <p>All assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date listed on the course syllabus. All written work must be typed and stapled (unless otherwise instructed).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Late Projects:</b> Projects (e.g. Weekly Responses, Essays) will not be accepted late unless you have made formal, written arrangements with me via email prior to the next scheduled class session. In other words, do not show up to class a week later with an overdue project and expect it to be accepted; it will not be.</li></ul> <p><b>Missed Work:</b> Except under dire circumstances (e.g. serious bodily injury requiring hospitalization or prolonged illness) in-class activities, journals, worksheets, study guides, quizzes, and exams cannot be made up if you are absent on the day the assignment is due. Completing assignments late is inherently unfair to your classmates who have completed their assignments on time.</p>
<b>Using Electronic Devices</b>	<p>Electronic devices can only be used in class for course-related purposes. If you text or access the Internet for other purposes, you may be asked to leave, in which case you will be marked absent.</p>
<b>Participating in Class</b>	<p>You will receive a grade for your classroom participation. You must come to class prepared, be on time, stay for the duration of the class, engage in a constructive way with your classmates, and demonstrate your knowledge of assigned coursework. If you are unprepared or disengaged, you may be asked to leave, in which case you will be marked absent.</p>
<b>Communicating with your Professor</b>	<p><i>Social Media:</i> This course requires regular use of websites including, but not limited to, YouTube, Wordpress, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Blackboard, and CCSJ email. The class will have a private Facebook group that will be used to share texts and extend our classroom discussion. If you are not a regular Facebook user, you can set up an account using an alias. Look for me on Facebook (Mark Cassello) and send a friend request.</p> <p><i>Blackboard:</i> Blackboard will be used to distribute readings, handouts, and announcements. Your grades will also be recorded regularly in Blackboard. It is essential that you log into Blackboard daily to ensure that you stay informed about the course. If the campus is closed or class cancelled due to bad weather, alternative assignments will be distributed via Blackboard and must be completed on time.</p> <p><i>Office Hours:</i> Students are encouraged to use office hours for assistance and clarification. Office hours are an excellent forum to discuss individual questions which are not appropriate during class (a question about your particular assignment, a question about</p>

the Communications program, your attendance, etc.). Appointments are not necessary, but they help me to prepare for your visit and ensure that I will not be out of the office. My office hours are specified on the first page of the syllabus.

*Email:* I will use CCSJ's email to send urgent announcements about class or assignments. You should use CCSJ's email to communicate about absences and to ask small but important questions (e.g. clarification about an assignment). Don't use email to request information or materials readily available elsewhere (e.g. due dates ← listed on the syllabus, handouts ← available on Blackboard). I generally respond to emails within 24-48 hours with the exception of breaks/holidays when I may be unavailable until the next scheduled work day.

*Phone Calls:* Reserve phone calls for urgent communications. For example, call if you have a flat tire and will be unable to make it to class or if you have been snowed in. My office phone number is (219) 473-4322.

In all instances (Facebook Blackboard, office hours, email, phone), remember that communication with college instructors should *always* maintain standards of professionalism and formality.

### **Doing Your Own Work**

If you turn in work that is not your own, you are subject to judicial review, and these procedures can be found in the College Catalog and the Student Planner. The maximum penalty for any form of academic dishonesty is dismissal from the College.

Using standard citation guidelines, such as MLA or APA format, to document sources avoids plagiarism. The Library has reference copies of each of these manuals, and there are brief checklists in your Student Handbook and Planner.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All papers may be electronically checked for plagiarism.

### **Withdrawing from Class**

After the last day established for class changes has passed (see the College calendar), you may withdraw from a course by following the policy outlined in the CCSJ Course Catalog.

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## **Resources**

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### **Student Success Center:**

The Student Success Center provides faculty tutors at all levels to help you master specific subjects and develop effective learning skills. It is open to all students at no charge. You can contact the Student Success Center at 219 473-4287 or stop by the Library.

### **Disability Services:**

Disability Services strives to meet the needs of all students by providing academic services in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. If you believe that you need a "reasonable accommodation" because of a disability, contact the Disability Services Coordinator at 219-473-4349.

### **Counseling Services:**

If you are in need of emotional support, CCSJ has free services available on campus. A mental health professional is on campus in Room 301 at various times throughout the week. Br. Jerry Schweiterman is the head of the campus ministry and can be found in Room 408.

### **Other Services:**

CCSJ has a food and clothing pantry available for students which is located in the basement. Contact Diane Bailey in the Student Activities Center for more information: dbailey@ccsj.edu

**CCSJ Alerts:**

Required: Calumet College of St. Joseph's emergency communications system will tell you about emergencies, weather-related closings, or other incidents via text, email, or voice messages. Please sign up for this important service annually on the College's website at: <http://www.ccsj.edu/alerts/index.html>.

In addition, you can check other media for important information, such as school closings:

**Internet:** <http://www.ccsj.edu>

**Radio:** WAKE - 1500 AM, WGN - 720 AM, WIJE - 105.5 FM, WLS - 890 AM, WZVN - 107.1 FM, WBBM NEWS RADIO 780

**TV Channels:** 2, 5, 7, 9, 3

# Emergency Procedures

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

### EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Call 911 and report incident.
2. Do not move the patient unless safety dictates.
3. Have someone direct emergency personnel to patient.
4. If trained: Use pressure to stop bleeding.
5. Provide basic life support as needed.

## FIRE

### EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Pull alarm (located by EXIT doors).
2. Leave the building.
3. Call 911 from a safe distance, and give the following information:
  - Location of the fire within the building.
  - A description of the fire and how it started (if known)

## BUILDING EVACUATION

1. All building evacuations will occur when an alarm sounds and/or upon notification by security/safety personnel. **DO NOT ACTIVATE ALARM IN THE EVENT OF A BOMB THREAT.**
2. If necessary or if directed to do so by a designated emergency official, activate the building alarm.
3. When the building evacuation alarm is activated during an emergency, leave by the nearest marked exit and alert others to do the same.
4. Assist the disabled in exiting the building! Remember that the elevators are reserved for persons who are disabled. **DO NOT USE THE ELEVATORS IN CASE OF FIRE. DO NOT PANIC.**
5. Once outside, proceed to a clear area that is at least 500 feet away from the building. Keep streets, fire lanes, hydrant areas and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel. The assembly point is the sidewalk in front of the college on New York Avenue.
6. **DO NOT RETURN** to the evacuated building unless told to do so by College official or emergency responders.

### IF YOU HAVE A DISABILITY AND ARE UNABLE TO EVACUATE:

Stay calm, and take steps to protect yourself. If there is a working telephone, call 911 and tell the emergency dispatcher where you are **or** where you will be moving. If you must move,

1. Move to an exterior enclosed stairwell.
2. Request persons exiting by way of the stairway to notify the Fire Department of your location.
3. As soon as practical, move onto the stairway and await emergency personnel.
4. Prepare for emergencies by learning the locations of exit corridors and enclosed stairwells. Inform professors, and/or classmates of best methods of assistance during an emergency.

## HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SPILL/RELEASE

### EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Call 911 and report incident.
2. Secure the area.
3. Assist the injured.

4. Evacuate if necessary.

## TORNADO

### EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Avoid automobiles and open areas.
2. Move to a basement or corridor.
3. Stay away from windows.
4. Do not call 911 unless you require emergency assistance.

## SHELTER IN PLACE

### EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Stay inside a building.
2. Seek inside shelter if outside.
3. Seal off openings to your room if possible.
4. Remain in place until you are told that it is safe to leave.

## BOMB THREATS

### EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Call 911 and report incident.
2. If a suspicious object is observed (e.g. a bag or package left unattended):
  - Don't touch it!
  - Evacuate the area.

## TERRORISM AND ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATIONS

### EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Call 911 and report intruder.

## RUN, HIDE OR FIGHT TIPS:

1. **Prepare** – frequent training drills to prepare the most effectively.
2. **Run and take others with you** – learn to stay in groups if possible.
3. **Leave the cellphone.**
4. **Can't run? Hide** – lock the door and lock or block the door to prevent the shooter from coming inside the room.
5. **Silence your cellphone** -- use landline phone line.
6. **Why the landline?** It allows emergency responders to know your physical location.
7. **Fight** – learn to “fight for your life” by utilizing everything you can use as a weapon.
8. **Forget about getting shot – fight!** You want to buy time to distract the shooter to allow time for emergency responders to arrive.
9. **Aim high** – attack the shooter in the upper half of the body: the face, hands, shoulder, neck.
10. **Fight as a group** – the more people come together, the better the chance to take down the shooter.
11. **Whatever you do, do something** – “react immediately” is the better option to reduce traumatic incidents.