

ENGL 1153: Reading & Writing about Literature

section	Days	Time	Place
206/254	TR	9:30 - 10:50	BO314

Instructor Dr. Wonjeong Kim
Email wonjeong.kim@msutexas.edu
Office BW 215
Office Hours Tue. & Thur. 1 pm - 3 pm; Wed. 2 pm - 3 pm; by appointment
[What is "Office Hours?"](#)

Required Text

- Available at MSU bookstore/Amazon -
- Steph Cha, *Your House Will Pay: A Novel*. ISBN: 0062868853.

Course Description

The central theme of this class is "Growing Up, Growing Old." This class will read literary texts from different genres (poetry, short stories, novels, and drama) and discuss how literature addresses various issues of human life, including family, identity, and relationships. Students in this class will practice active and critical reading, text interpretation, analytical writing, and research skills.

Course Goals

- Read various literary texts united by a common theme or topic.
- Apply knowledge of literary analysis to interpret literary texts.
- Engage in a writing process that includes invention, drafting, and revision.
- Write various genres of academic essays.
- Find, evaluate, and synthesize credible sources in support of a research paper.
- Use sources ethically and in contextually appropriate ways and follow a designated style guide.
- Demonstrate proficient use of Standard Written English.
- Additional information about course objectives can be found on <https://msutexas.edu/academics/libarts/english/index.php>.

Grading Policy

This course will use a labor-based grading system. Per the labor-based grading system, the grade you receive from this course depends on how much labor you put into your work. For each of the “Required Tasks” you turn in, you will receive a Satisfactory (S), if your work meets the assignment requirements, or Unsatisfactory (U), if your work follows the assignment instructions. Students who complete all the “Required Tasks” with a Satisfactory (S) will receive a C in this course.

In order to earn an A or B, you can choose to do the “Investment Tasks.” The “Investment Tasks” require you to invest your time and effort into improving your critical reading and writing skills by submitting extra reading responses, revisions of essay assignments, and visiting the writing center.

Required Tasks

Syllabus Quiz	10
Participation & In-Class Work	100
Reading Response (5 required)	100
Short Essay 1	100
Short Essay 2	100
Annotated Bibliography	100
Research Essay	200
Presentation	50

Total 760

Investment Tasks

Extra Reading Response	Up to 100
Exemplary/Revised Essays	Up to 200
Writing Center Visit Report	Up to 200

Total Possible Points 1000

Letter Grade

A	900 - 1000
B	800 - 899
C	700 - 799
D	600 - 699
F	0 - 599

Participation: This is a discussion-based class, and participation is key. Students are expected to come to class prepared, make regular and thoughtful contributions to the class discussion, and respond respectfully to the ideas and questions of others. Also, Students are expected to behave as responsible adults in class. Please keep in mind the following information regarding classroom etiquette:

- Arrive on time and do not leave early
- Raise your hand before speaking
- Do not chatter with your neighbor when others are talking
- Do not text, surf the internet, or take calls during class
- Do not wear headphones or earbuds in class
- You may bring beverages to class, but please do *NOT* eat in the classroom unless you bring enough to share with the entire class

Midterm Grades

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, I will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student's WebWorld account. I will submit a grade for all students, not just those in danger of failing the course. Midterm grades will not be reported on the students' transcript; nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give you an idea of where you stand at the midpoint of the semester. Students earning below a C at the midway point should make an appointment with me and consider visiting the Writing Center.

Final Exam

Final project is in lieu of a final exam. Further instructions for the final project will be given in class.

Submission Format and Policy

All formal assignments are to be typed and formatted – and outside sources documented - according to MLA style. All formal papers will be uploaded into the D2L Dropbox folder as **Word.doc or PDF**. By enrolling in this class, the student expressly grants MSU a “limited right” in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The “limited right” shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes. Please note that it is the student's responsibility to check that your paper has been submitted correctly. After each submission, students should always download the file they just submitted in order to make sure it opens properly.

Note: You may not submit a paper for a grade in this class that already has been (or will be) submitted for a grade in another course, unless you obtain the explicit written permission of me and the other instructor involved in advance.

Late Assignment Policy

All assignments should be turned in on the assigned due date. Late work submitted after 72 hours past the original deadline will not be accepted unless students make prior arrangements with the instructor.

Academic Dishonesty

The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. All formal papers will run through the Turnitin for an originality report. **At the very least, plagiarism will result in an F on the assignment; at worst, the consequence will be an F in the course.** Offenders will be reported to the Chair of the Department of English, Humanities, and Philosophy. Please understand that students have the right to appeal an alleged incident of Academic Dishonesty. More information about this policy and appeal procedure can be found on page 55 of the Student Handbook <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/assets/files/handbook.pdf>

Attendance Policy

In this class, you are permitted THREE (3) absences. Please keep in mind that these are only to be used for unforeseen events like illnesses and family emergencies, and *NOT* for sleeping in. Any additional absences beyond this will lower your participation grade by 25 points each. Repeated tardiness will also affect your attendance; coming late twice is equivalent to one absence.

Students who have more than SEVEN (7) absences (whether the absence is excused or not) **will receive an F for this course.**

If you have scheduling conflicts with work or other obligations and find you are unable to come to class, I would strongly encourage you to reassess your schedule. Student-athletes who have to miss class to attend sporting events must talk to me at the beginning of the semester.

Contacting Your Instructor

Email is the best way to contact me. Please allow at least 24 hours for a response during the week and 48 hours over the weekend. As a university student, you are expected to write formal and professional emails to your instructors and professors. In your emails, you must have a clear subject line, formally address the instructor, and clearly state your purpose. See the following example:

Subject: ENGL 1153-[section#]_Question about [X]

Dear [instructor's name],

My name is [student's name], and I am currently a student in your [Course#;Section#; Date Class Meeting Times] this semester. I am writing to you [explain the issue].

*Thank you,
[student's name]
[M. number]*

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Support Services in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center, 940-397-4140.

Safe Zone Statement

The professor considers this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect as a human being – regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Additionally, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided you can agree to disagree. It is the professor's expectation that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.

Writing Center

Tutoring and Academic Support Programs (TASP) provides free drop-in tutoring for MSU students. Located on the first floor of Moffett Library, TASP's Learning Center provides tutoring support in a number of core courses and subject areas. Writing tutors are available

Monday through Thursday from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm and Sunday 2:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Remember that you don't need an appointment to utilize these services.

For Distance Education students, TASP has partnered with Thinkingstorm, an online tutoring company that provides you with high-quality, 24/7 tutoring support. Located at the top of your D2L course page, select the tutoring tab to book an appointment with a tutor.

Campus Carry Statement

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at MSU Texas's Campus Carry page.

ENGL 1153 Course Schedule

The following is the weekly schedule for the course. The schedule may change as necessary.

Week 1

1/17 (T) Course Introduction

1/19 (R) **Syllabus Quiz**

Read: Course Syllabus

Read: D2L > Essays > [“How to Read a Poem” by Edward Hirsch](#)
> “Can Poetry Matter?” by Margaret Randall

Week 2:

1/24 (T) **Discuss:** Reading and Writing about Poems

Read: D2L > Poems > [“My Papa’s Waltz” by Theodore Roethke](#)
> [“Nani” by Alberto Ríos](#)

1/26 (R) **Discuss:** Reading and Writing about Poems

Read: D2L > Poems > [“Mother to Son” By Langston Hughes](#)
> [Sonnet 73 by William Shakespeare](#)

Week 3: Reading Response 1 due by Monday

1/31 (T) **Discuss:** Reading and Writing about Stories

Read: D2L > Short Stories > [“Salvation” by Langston Hughes](#)

2/2 (R) **Discuss:** Reading and Writing about Stories

Read: D2L > Short Stories > [“Sonny’s Blues” by James Baldwin](#)
Short Essay 1 due Friday

Week 4: Reading Response 2 due by Monday

2/7 (T) **Discuss:** Reading and Writing about Stories

Read: D2L > Short Stories > “Mine” by Alexander Chee

2/9 (R) **Discuss:** Reading and Writing about Stories

Read: D2L > Short Stories > “A Rose for Emily” by William Faulkner

Week 5: Reading Response 3 due by Monday

2/14 (T) **Discuss:** Reading and Writing about Stories

2/16 (R) **Peer Review - Short Essay 2 first draft due**
Short Essay 2 revised draft due Friday

Week 6: Reading Response 4 due by Monday

2/21 (T) **Read:** *Your House Will Pay*, part I: pp. 3-100

2/23 (R) **Read:** *Your House Will Pay*, part III & IV: pp. 195-299

Week 7: Reading Response 5 due by Monday

2/28 (T) **Read:** *Your House Will Pay*, part II: pp. 103-192

3/2 (R) **Read:** *Your House Will Pay*, part III & IV: pp. 195-299

Week 8: Reading Response 6 due by Monday

3/7 (T) **Discuss:** Writing about literature

3/9 (R) **Discuss:** Writing about literature

Week 9:  **Spring Break** 

Week 10: Reading Response 7 due by Monday

3/21 (T) **Discuss:** Reading and Writing about plays

Read: D2L > Plays > *The Father* by Florian Zeller

3/23 (R) **Discuss:** Reading and Writing about plays

Read: D2L > Plays > *The Father* by Florian Zeller

Week 11: Reading Response 8 due by Monday

3/28 (T) **Discuss:** Adaptations

3/30 (R) **Discuss:** Adaptations

Week 12: Reading Response 9 due by Monday

4/4 (T) **Discuss:** Writing about literature

Annotated Bibliography Due before Holiday Break

4/6 (R)  **NO CLASS - Holiday Break** 

Week 13: Reading Response 10 due by Monday

4/11 (T) **Discuss:** Writing about literature

4/13 (R) **Discuss:** Writing about literature

Week 14

4/18 (T) Workshop

4/20 (R) Workshop

Research Essay Due by Friday

Week 15

4/25 (T) **Presentation**

4/27 (R) **Presentation**

Week 16

5/2 (T) Individual Conference

5/4 (R) Individual Conference

Last day to turn in "Investment Tasks"

Week 17

No exam