CRWR 491—The Least You Should Know

Prof. David Gates  Autumn 2015  NAC 011  T/H 2:10-3:30 p
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Office: LA 121  Office Hours: T/H 3:30-5 p & by appointment

Course Description:

This is a reading course for fiction writers, designed to acquaint, or re-acquaint, them with some basic works in a variety of fictional genres. Most serious fiction writers know most of them; they’re fundamental points of reference.

Required Books:

Students are required to provide their own copies of the following books: The Tempest by William Shakespeare; Emma by Jane Austen; Frankenstein by Mary Shelley; Molloy by Samuel Beckett; To the Lighthouse by Virginia Woolf; The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald; Lolita by Vladimir Nabokov. The Book Exchange, Fact and Fiction and Shakespeare Books may have most of them, they’re available at the library, they’re cheap on Amazon and some are available free online. In between the longer works, I’ll be distributing photocopies of short stories by writers ranging from Hawthorne and Melville to John Cheever and Donald Barthelme.

Assignments:

Students must participate in class discussions and write short response papers.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend every class.

Grades:

The highest grades will be awarded to students who complete the writing assignments with good attention to both the sentence-level construction and the overall content, and who pull their weight in class discussions.
Plagiarism

Defined in the UM Student Conduct Code as representing another person's words, ideas, data, or materials as one's own. In this course it will result in a failing grade for the class and a report to the Dean of Students.

Disabilities

Qualified students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course. Please come and see me to make arrangements. Be prepared to provide a letter from your DSS Coordinator.

➢ As the semester progresses, we, as a class, may agree to alter or amend this syllabus/schedule to suit our changing needs.