

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY  
CANTON, NEW YORK**



**MASTER SYLLABUS**

**ENGL 315—SHORT FICTION: THE ART OF THE TALE**

**CIP Code: 230101**

**Created by: Nadine Jennings, PhD  
Updated by: Phil LaMarche, December 2019**

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND HUMANITIES  
DECEMBER 2019**

A. **TITLE:** Short Fiction: The Art of the Tale

B. **COURSE NUMBER:** ENGL 315

C. **CREDIT HOURS:**

3 Credit Hours

3 Lecture Hours: 3 per week

Course Length: 15 Weeks

D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** Yes

E. **GER CATEGORY:** GER 8

F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer

G. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The short story genre is explored by reading selections from various writers around the world. Students also write their own short stories in order to gain perspective on the literary form of the short story, the range of ideas expressed within that form, and the creative process used to produce that form.

H. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**

a. Pre-requisite(s): ENGL 101

b. Co-requisite(s): None

c. Pre- or co-requisite(s): None

I. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

<b><u>Course Student Learning Outcome [SLO]</u></b>	<b><u>PSLO</u></b>	<b><u>GER</u></b>	<b><u>ISLO</u></b>
a. <i>argue</i> for specific interpretations of course materials	1.	GER 7	2. Critical Thinking [IA]
b. <i>understand</i> and display ability to apply terms common to the humanities		GER 7	1. Communication
c create their own examples of short fiction stories and evaluate the writing of their peers.		GER 8	1. Communication

<b>KEY</b>	<b><u>Institutional Student Learning Outcomes [ISLO 1 – 5]</u></b>
<b>ISLO #</b>	<b>ISLO &amp; Subsets</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Communication Skills</b> Oral [O], Written [W]
<b>2</b>	<b>Critical Thinking</b> <i>Critical Analysis [CA], Inquiry &amp; Analysis [IA], Problem Solving [PS]</i>
<b>3</b>	<b>Foundational Skills</b> <i>Information Management [IM], Quantitative Lit./Reasoning [QTR]</i>
<b>4</b>	<b>Social Responsibility</b> <i>Ethical Reasoning [ER], Global Learning [GL], Intercultural Knowledge [IK], Teamwork [T]</i>
<b>5</b>	<b>Industry, Professional, Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills</b>

J. **APPLIED LEARNING COMPONENT:** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No X \_\_\_\_\_

K. **TEXTS:**

Charters, Ann. “The Story and Its Writer: Compact 9<sup>th</sup> Edition”. Bedford/St. Martins, New York, 2018.

Or an equivalent text.

L. **REFERENCES:**

May, Charles E. The New Short Story Theories. Ohio UP, 1994.

Shaw, Valerie. The Short Story: A Critical Introduction. New York: Longman, 1983.

M. **EQUIPMENT:** Technology enhanced classroom

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F

O. **SUGGESTED MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Papers
- Participation

P. **DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**

I. Introduction

A. History of Short Fiction

1. Early Tale-Tellings

2. Early 19th Century: The Form Comes Into Its Own

II. The Short Story Form

A. Character

1. Protagonist vs. Antagonist

2. Development

B. Setting

1. Place and Time
  2. Development
- C. Plot
1. Aristotle's Plot Structure
  2. Other Plot Structures
  3. Development
- D. Point of View
1. First Person
  2. Second Person
  3. Third Person
  4. Choosing Point of View
- E. Style
1. Elements
  2. Development
  3. Consistency
  4. Style vs. Tone
- F. Theme
1. Definition
  2. Development
  3. Re-stating Themes

Q. **LABORATORY OUTLINE:** N/A