

Welcome to Classic Literature!

As a semester-long survey course, this class will expose you to some of the greatest literature in the written language. Approaching the literature from a number of different perspectives, we will be studying poetry, novels, dramas, short fiction, and non-fiction.

As part of the course, I strongly *suggest* that students read the following text in order to discuss many of the symbols and archetypes that we will come across during the semester:

How to Read Literature like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines by Thomas C. Foster. ISBN-13: 978-0062301673 / ISBN-10: 0062301675

The ISBN numbers are to the revised edition; however, if you happen to find the non-revised version, that is quite all right, too. As of my typing this letter, there is a pdf version online. You can try to access that free online copy by Googling “How to read literature like a professor pdf.” There are no guarantees about the free pdf, however, so be warned.

Some people love Foster’s book; some do not. The objective, however, is to give you an insight into literature and some of the elements that are seen throughout literature, and some that we’ll see in Classic Lit.

There is no summer reading assessment, though we’ll apply Foster’s ideas to the classroom texts and films as they come along. I’ll refer to the book throughout the semester, and it’s an enlightening read for everyone—even parents!

I am thoroughly looking forward to an active, interesting, thought-provoking semester! Enjoy!

Sincerely, Meredith Tarczynski
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