

English 102, LACC, led by Dr. S. A. Eisenstein, office JH302F e-mail: sameisenstein@hotmail.com Office hours 8:15-9 daily, and also 12-1:45 Th.

Required text:

To be arranged

* The class is a swift (not sweet) sixteen weeks long. If you do not already love to read, you will never get through it.

* Texts should be read at gulps of 1/15 or about 8% of each and every book each week, so that at the beginning of Week Fourteen you will be ready for horrible tests.

* The genres are roughly fiction, drama and poetry, although most good work includes elements of all three. We will spend about four weeks on each genre.

* Instead of one long term paper at the end, you will be required to write, every five weeks, an at-home essay in which you compare, in detail, work of a writer or writers in the text book with the work of a writer or writers not included in any of your text books.

* Three reports are required following attendance at a poetry reading, a stage play, an art exhibit, even a TV show or ball game, although you may attend as many others as you wish for even more credit. How do you write a review of one of these affairs? Read LA TIMES or one of the throw-away rags to learn what reviewers do, which is, generally, to attempt to impress the reader with their erudition, perspicacity, depth of soul. What **you** must do is underline your thesis sentence, which announces your argument, and back it up, and include plenty of details about the work to make the reader really sorry s/he wasn't there. That is: three event reviews, due anytime.

* You must keep up. The instructor isn't going to waste his time discussing the contents of this course for "students" who may or may not elect to read the work sometime or other.

The purpose of the class is to acquaint and familiarize the student with insightful literature, written recently or long ago, that deals with the human condition: immaturity, maturity, confusion, rage, love—all that make us human. How not all situations end with a neat bow tied up and everyone going home happy. The readings will broaden every reader's tolerance and benevolence, if he or she allows it to do so.