Instructor: Nathan Chang (please call me Nate. Yes, I’m serious. Don’t call me Mr. Chang, that’s just weird.)
Email: nchang@pierce.ctc.edu
Office Hours: 8-8:40am daily
Time: 9-9:50 daily daily
Location: Puyallup Campus, AAH 131
Credits: 5
Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify course content and/or substitute assignments in response to institutional, weather, or class situations without notice. I probably won’t do this but keep an eye on Canvas anyway.

Required Textbooks & Materials:
Writing implements (pen/pencil, paper – laptops & tablets are fine as long as I don’t catch you on Facebook or whatever.)

No textbook is required. All assigned readings will be available free online.

Course Description:
Writing expository and argumentative essays based upon literary readings and studies.

Course Content:
A. Readings of literary texts—designed within the course to create a unifying whole, whether the unity be based upon genre approaches, authorial studies, thematic content, or historical context(s)
B. Application of literary theory and critical approaches in the interpretation and appreciation of texts
C. Literary terminology
D. Writing critical analytical essays responding to assigned literary works
E. Composition process in writing critical literary and research essays
F. Information competency

Course Outcomes:
1. Appreciate value and meaning of literature
2. Write unified, coherent analytical essays that develop and support a thesis statement
3. Critically analyze literary works through the application of theoretical approaches
4. Explicate literary works through the appropriate use of literary terminology
5. Practice the skills of information competency in research
6. Apply the writing process in the composition of expository and argumentative essays
7. Recognize historical, social, philosophical, psychological, and cultural contexts for literature

Campus Learning Outcomes:
Pierce College has identified ability areas that encompass knowledge and are important skills, behaviors, attitudes, and values that students will need in order to be successful in and after leaving college:
Critical, Creative and Reflective Thinking
Responsibility
Information competency
Effective Communication
Multiculturalism

How we can fulfill the College & Course Outcomes:
A. Class discussion
B. Reading and writing journal
C. Essay exams
D. Short answer exams
E. Individual/small group oral reports
F. Expository and argumentative essays
G. Research essays
H. Teacher observation

Schedule:
**Weeks 1-3:** Literature foundation, thesis development, critical theory, Paper #1
**Weeks 4-6:** Critical Thinking, context, Paper #2
**Weeks 7-10:** Refining critical voice, Paper #3
**Weeks 11-end:** Creating your own literature, Paper #4

The complete schedule of assignments, readings, and discussions is on Canvas. Read ahead, plan ahead, work ahead.

Grading:
Under Pierce’s numerical grading system, instructors may report grades from 4.0 to 1.0 in 0.1 increments, and the grade of 0.0. Grades in the range 0.9 to 0.1 may not be assigned.


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Assignments and Late Work:
All assignments will be due on Canvas at 11:59pm unless otherwise stated. DO NOT wait until 11:50 to submit your assignment! Canvas can only handle so many submissions at a time before it starts rejecting people, meaning that even if your work is done, Canvas may lock you out if you wait too long to submit. “Canvas wouldn’t let me submit” is NOT an excuse for late work and will result in me laughing at you because I warned you this exact thing would happen if you procrastinated, and you didn’t listen.

Late work is not accepted for any reason whatsoever. Why? Because everything you need to do for the entire term is posted on Canvas RIGHT NOW. There will be no surprise assignments, quizzes, exams, or any other change in the established Canvas order without at least two weeks’ notice. Exceptions WILL NOT be made for technical problems, illness, family emergencies, etc. DON’T WAIT TO GET STARTED!

Saving your work to a cloud is CRITICAL. iCloud, Google Docs, Microsoft OneDrive, Dropbox – whatever you use, having an offsite backup of your work is absolutely essential in today’s world. If you don’t know how to use any of these, please ask. “It’s on my flash drive at home” is not a valid excuse, and will result in late work which, as you’ve just read, is worth a total of zero (0) points. Almost every cloud out there is free.
Read ahead, plan ahead, work ahead.

**TALK TO ME**

I understand that life happens, that you may be having a rough term, whatever. Please understand that I am not a mind reader – if you’re having a hard time and need help, you need to TALK TO ME. Unless you walk into class with a big scar on your face, I won’t have any idea that you’re going through a rough time unless you tell me. You are welcome to email me at any time for any reason and can expect a response within 24 hours (except on weekends.) While I do not have an office, I am more than willing to meet with you in the common area outside the cafeteria during office hours.

**Attendance & Participation:**

Attendance and participation in class is essential to your learning experience. You CANNOT just submit the assignments on Canvas, not show up to class, and expect to pass. If you are in the room but doing nothing but playing games or texting or Facebooking, you’re not really in class. Failure to participate (not helping with group projects, using a phone for something other than class activities, etc) will result in your being marked absent.

If you can’t make it to a class because of extenuating circumstances, you have 24 hours to contact me for an excused absence. “I forgot to set my alarm” or “I had the worst hangover” do not constitute extenuating circumstances.

If you are 5 minutes late, you are marked Late, and will lose points. If you are more than 10 minutes late, you are marked Absent.

*Note that more than five unexcused absences and/or failing to attend the final exam will result in total course failure, no matter how well you are doing otherwise.*

**Academic Dishonesty:**

Dishonest activities such as cheating on exams and submitting or copying work done by others will result in disciplinary actions including but not limited to receiving a failing grade and criminal prosecution. Knowingly misrepresenting your work or the work of others is plagiarism. DON’T DO IT! If you need extra time on an assignment, come see me. There is NEVER any excuse for plagiarized work.

Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- Copy/pasting work from a website
- Slightly editing a friend’s piece so it looks just a little different, but is essentially the same piece
- Having someone else write your paper for you
- Paying someone to write a paper which you use as a “study guide”
- Utilizing text (direct copy or paraphrase) from a source without a citation
- Using your friend’s answers on a reading check-in
- Using work submitted for credit to a previous class
Disabilities and Support Services:
No student shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination on the basis of his or her disability, under any college program or activity. Pierce College District Eleven is committed to providing qualified students with a disability an equal opportunity to access the benefits, rights, and privileges of college services, programs and activities, in the most integrated setting appropriate to the student’s needs, in compliance with Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and State of Washington Laws of 1994, Chap. 105.

Pierce College is committed to providing academic adjustments, including auxiliary aids and services to qualified students with disabilities. The purpose of this policy is to identify the rights and responsibilities of students under the ADA and Section 504 and to establish clear guidelines for seeking and receiving academic adjustments, including auxiliary aids and services.

To receive academic adjustments, including auxiliary aids and services, students are responsible for requesting such adjustments and documenting the nature and extent of their disability in a timely manner with the Disabilities Support Services Office.

Pierce College will make those academic adjustments, including auxiliary aids and services, that (1) are reasonably necessary to ensure that circumstances without such adjustments, do not discriminate, or have the effect of discriminating against a qualified student with a disability based on that disability and (2) do not impose an undue hardship on the college or require alteration of essential program requirements.

Academic adjustments, including auxiliary aids and services, will be provided to qualified students with disabilities for recruitment, the application process, enrollment, registration, financial aid, course work, academic counseling, and non-academic programs and service.

Student Accommodation for Faith/Conscience
Reasonable Accommodations for Faith/Conscience: Students who will be absent from or endure significant hardship in course activities due to reasons of faith or conscience may seek reasonable accommodations so that grades are not impacted. Such requests must be made in writing within the first two weeks of the beginning of the course. Students should review the Accommodations for Faith/Conscience Policy and follow the procedures: https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/policy-faith-conscience.

Procedures
- Students must submit a completed Request for Accommodation for Faith/Conscience form. Forms are available in the Offices of the Vice President for Learning and Student Success at Fort Steilacoom and Puyallup, and of the Executive Director of Pierce College at Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM), as well as online at https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/policy-faith-conscience. The form must be submitted to the Office of the Vice President for Learning and
Student Success, the Executive Director of Pierce College at JBLM, or via email to LSSoffice@pierce.ctc.edu within the first two weeks of the beginning of the course in which the absence/hardship will occur.

- All requests under this policy must be approved in advance by either the Office of the Vice President for Learning and Student Success or the Executive Director of Pierce College at JBLM; consideration will be given for absence/hardships that occur within the first two weeks of the term. After the first two weeks of the beginning of the course, the college will not authorize an accommodation for an absence/hardship for a student without exceptional and compelling circumstances.

- Once approved, students should obtain a signature from each professor with whom they have class on the affected day(s). After notification of the absence/hardship, each professor will determine what adjustments, if any, will need to be made to the scheduled assignments/activities. These adjustments should be communicated from the professor to the student within four business days of receiving the notification.

- Students enrolled in Veterinary Technology, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, and other programs with an internship or clinical component should consult with their Program Director and consider Program Handbook policies and procedures early in this process to assure that a reasonable accommodation can be determined.

- Students whose courses include a performance or residency requirement that conflicts with an anticipated absence/hardship should speak with the professor to determine whether a reasonable accommodation can be made (e.g. a concert cannot be rescheduled, a host institution may not be able to adjust their calendar, etc.).

- If the student’s absence/hardship occurs on a day when a test/assessment is scheduled or an assignment is due, the professor may require that the student take the test or submit the assignment before or after the regularly assigned date. If a substantial group engagement activity/project is planned, students should work with their professor to determine whether a reasonable accommodation can be made to minimize impact on other students and assure a similar opportunity for learning can be implemented.

- If a student fails to complete the formal process, the professor is not obligated to make any accommodations for the student or treat an absence/hardship as authorized under this policy or the law.

- If there is disagreement with regard to determining reasonable accommodation, either party may make their concerns known to the campus vice president/JBLM executive director. Students who have concerns about approval or a grade impact may utilize the student grievance procedure for concerns not directly related to grades https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/policy-grievance, or to the grade appeal process in cases impacting a final grade https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/policy-grade-appeal.