Course Description:
- This course focuses on the representation of women in literature, in particular works written in English. We will investigate diverse literary genres and styles including poetry, essays, short stories, novels and memoir. We will also screen several films, exploring visual texts, as companion pieces for the selected readings. By placing these works—and the women who produced them—in an historical context we can better understand the contributions of women writers to the literary tradition.
- Requirement: UCLR 100 for students admitted to Loyola University for Fall 2012 or later. No requirement for students admitted to Loyola prior to Fall 2012 or those with a declared major or minor in the Department of English, Department of Classical Studies, or Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.

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<th>Knowledge Area(s) satisfied:</th>
<th>Literary Knowledge and Experience, Tier 2</th>
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<td>Skill(s) Developed:</td>
<td>Critical Thinking &amp; Dispositions, Critical reading skills, Communication Skills (Written &amp; Oral)</td>
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Learning Outcomes • By the end of this class, students should be able to: demonstrate understanding of the representations of women in various periods of literary history, as well as to understand the manner in which these works were produced and the relevant cultural context.

Learning Objectives • Enhance skills in critical thinking and both oral and written expression. The student(s) will practice thinking critically about the literature they study and the interpretations they produce by questioning the key assumptions operating in the literary texts they read and those that inform their own interpretations of those texts. • The course will encourage student(s) to develop their own hypotheses, theories, and interpretations of the literature covered. Students will practice improving their descriptive, analytical, and argumentative skills in oral discussion and in formal, written critical analyses. • They will improve their ability to frame questions, present background information, analyze specific archetypes, images, symbols, passages, and scenes, and to present interpretations of literary work in both oral and written formats. • The course will improve student ability to understand how multiple interpretations of literary works are possible, and how differing interpretations reflect particular cultural and historical conditions that change over time. They will improve their ability to understand meaning in historical context, to explore the denotative and connotative meaning of words, and to develop a facility for using different critical approaches (such as feminist, formalist, psychological, political, biographical, as well as gender theory) to produce different analyses and interpretations of the texts.

Learning Activities • Readings and discussions will provide information regarding the texts, placing them in an historical context and providing avenues for critical analysis. Student(s) will be expected to read the materials in advance and be prepared to both ask and answer questions about the reading assignments. Discussion, homework, one midterm paper/essay exam, one oral presentation, and one final research paper or project will be used to assess literary knowledge, as well as writing and critical thinking skills.
Required Text / Materials:


- Additional assigned readings – short stories, selected poems, essays, criticism – will be available on Sakai.
- Films (TBD): Students may be required to do a close reading of a film (e.g. *Jane Eyre, Thelma & Louise, Bridget Jones’s Diary, The Piano, Out of Africa, Orlando, Portrait of a Lady*)

Evaluation & Grade Breakdown:

- Participation / Preparedness 10%
- Homework 15%
- Presentation or Close Reading Paper 20%
- Midterm Exam / Paper 25%
- Final Project: 30%

Attendance Policy

- Since our discussions (and your participation in them) are such a large component of this course, and we have fewer meetings than most courses, your attendance is mandatory. Absences (medical or otherwise) should be cleared with the JFRC Dean’s office. In accordance with the JFRC mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, all courses adhere to the following absence policy:
  - For all classes meeting once a week, students cannot incur more than one unexcused absence.
  - For all classes meeting twice a week, students cannot incur more than two unexcused absences.
  - For all classes meeting three times a week, students cannot incur more than two unexcused absences.
  - This course meets once a week, thus a total of one unexcused absence(s) will be permitted.
  - Two (2) unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your final grade by one complete grade. For example, a student with an A will drop to a B, a student with an A- will drop to a B- and so on. More than three (3) unexcused absences may result in failure for the course.

Late Work Policy

- Students who experience extenuating circumstance and would like to request an extension, in person or via email, at least 48 hours before the assignment is due. Please note that requesting an extension is not a guarantee of being granted an extension. Unless otherwise noted, late work will drop a letter grade for each day it is late unless otherwise noted. Work that is over one week late, may receive a failing grade.

Disability Policy:

- If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me within the first week of classes or let the Dean’s office know.

Academic Integrity:
Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable at the JFRC and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago’s guidelines. You are responsible for understanding what constitutes plagiarism according to the LUC Student Handbook. Please see me if you have questions about how to do research, document and cite sources, or with any other questions you may have about papers and assignments. Please familiarize yourself with Loyola’s standards for academic integrity here: http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml.

Course Schedule will be provided the first day of class.