

ENGL 1590 - Introduction to Literature

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 43934,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Dolores Sisco

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Professor. Dr. Dolores V. Sisco

Professional Qualifications:

Ph.D. English Literature, MSU College of Law, Michigan State University

Master's, English Literature, Central Michigan University

Bachelor's, English Literature, University of Baltimore

Certificate in Piano Performance, Peabody Conservatory, Johns Hopkins University

Certificate in Foundational Compliance, American Bankers Association

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Course Description

1590. Introduction to Literature. Literary works from various genres and periods by culturally diverse authors. Students learn literary terms to analyze and interpret literature. A major goal is to improve critical thinking skills by relating literature to film, music, art and/or live performance. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee		

Course Readings: Required *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Additional Course Materials: Various short stories and essays will be posted on Blackboard weekly.

Désirée's Baby; How to Talk to Girls at Parties; The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

The Ethics of Living Jim Crow; A Perfect Day for Bananafish; A&P; Battle Royal

Spunk; Sweat; The Unnatural Mother; Mother to Son; Dear Mama

A Good Man Is Hard to Find; Good Country People; A Rose for Emily; Madam to You; The Passing of Grandison; Me and My Captain/We Wear the Mask

Butcher Rogaum and His Theresa; A Ghetto Wedding

The Devil and Tom Walker; Young Goodman Brown: Feathertop

The Secret Lives of the Nine Negro Teeth of George Washington; The Goophered Grapevine

Poetry by Langston Hughes; Remembering the Great Depression in the Rural South 1929-c1939.

Class, Race and the Moral Center

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Reading & Class Discussion Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	The Tell-Tale Heart; The Black Cat; The Monkey's Paw	ENGL 1590 Lecture I: Why Study Literature	
8/31	Désirée's Baby; How to Talk to Girls at Parties; The Legend of Sleepy Hollow	ENGL 1590: Lecture II Understanding the Text – Plot	Syllabus Quiz: 9/4 Discussion Forum I: Due 9/6
9/7	The Ethics of Living Jim Crow; A Perfect Day for Bananafish; A&P; Battle Royal Writing About Literature	ENGL 1590: Lecture III: Understanding the Text – Narration & POV	Discussion Forum II: Due 9/13
9/14	: ENGL 1590: Lecture IV A: Understanding the Text – Theme in Literature	Writing About Literature	Discussion Forum II: Due 9/13
9/21	The Unnatural Mother; Mother to Son; Dear Mama Writing About Literature	ENGL 1590: Lecture IV B: Understanding the Text – Theme in Literature	Reading Quiz I: 9/25
9/28	A Good Man Is Hard to Find; Good Country People; A Rose for Emily; Madam to You; The Passing of Grandison; Me and My Captain/We Wear the Mask	ENGL 1590: Lecture V: Understanding the Text – Character	Discussion Forum III Due 10/4
10/5	Butcher Rogaum and His Theresa; A Ghetto Wedding	: ENGL 1590: Lecture VI: Understanding the Text – Setting	Reading Response II: 10/11
10/12	The Devil and Tom Walker; Young Goodman Brown: Feathertop	: ENGL 1590: Lecture VII: Understanding the Text – Symbol, Allegory & Myth	Discussion Forum IV Due 10/18
10/19	The Secret Lives of the Nine Negro Teeth of George Washington; The Goophered Grapevine Poetry by Langston Hughes ENGL 1590 To Kill a Mockingbird Character List ENGL 1590 To Kill a Mockingbird Overview	ENGL 1590: Lecture VII: Understanding the Text – Symbol, Allegory & Myth	Reading Quiz II: 10/23
10/26	ENGL 1590 Remembering the Great Depression in the Rural South 1929-c1939. ENGL 1590 To Kill a Mockingbird Character List ENGL 1590 To Kill a Mockingbird Overview ENGL 1590 Class, Race and the Moral Center Novel: To Kill a Mockingbird Chapters 1-11	ENGL 1590 To Kill a Mockingbird Overview	Discussion Forum V Due 11/1
11/2	Novel: To Kill a Mockingbird Chapters 12-20	ENGL 1590 To Kill a Mockingbird Overview	Discussion Forum VI Due 11/8
11/9	Novel: To Kill a Mockingbird Chapters 21-25	ENGL 1590 To Kill a Mockingbird Overview	Reading Response III Due 11/15
11/16	Novel: To Kill a Mockingbird Chapters 26-31 Writing About Literature	ENGL 1590 To Kill a Mockingbird Overview	Mandatory Office Visits/in Office & Virtual
11/23	Novel: To Kill a Mockingbird Chapters 26-31 Writing About Literature	ENGL 1590 Class, Race and the Moral Center	11/23 -11/24 Mandatory Office Visits/in Office & Virtual
11/30	Novel: To Kill a Mockingbird Chapters 26-31 Writing About Literature	ENGL 1590 To Kill a Mockingbird Overview ENGL 1590 Class, Race and the Moral Center	Reading Quiz III 12/1
12/7	Writing About Literature		Final Essay Due 12/9

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