

## LITERATURE

### *An Exploration of Illness and Wellness in Literature*

- I. CRITICAL READING 15%
  - A. Purpose and Main Idea
  - B. Structure
  - C. Restatement of Information
  - D. Genres and their Characteristics
  - E. Language and Tone
  - F. Grammar and Syntax
  - G. Vocabulary in Context
  - H. Diction
  
- II. MARY SHELLEY'S *FRANKENSTEIN* (1818) 45%
  - A. *Frankenstein* and the Theme of "In Sickness and in Health"
  - B. Biographical Contexts for the Novel
  - C. The Birth of *Frankenstein*
  - D. Editions of the Novel
  - E. Volume and Chapter Summaries and Analyses
  - F. Scientific and Cultural Contexts for the Novel
    - 1. Materialist vs. Vitalist Debates
    - 2. Monsters
    - 3. Body Snatching and Grave Robbing
    - 4. Reanimation and Resuscitation
  - G. Settings
    - 1. The Arctic
    - 2. Geneva and Lake Geneva
    - 3. The French Alps and Mont Blanc
  - H. Literary Movements and Genres
    - 1. Romanticism
    - 2. The Gothic
  - I. Allusions
    - 1. Greek Mythology—Prometheus
    - 2. Milton's *Paradise Lost*
  - J. Elements of Nature
  - K. The Sublime
  - L. Narrative Elements
    - 1. Frame Narratives
    - 2. Unreliable Narrator
    - 3. Epistolary Fiction
  - M. Contemporary and Current Critical Responses
    - 1. Contemporary Criticism
    - 2. Current Criticism

- a. Health humanities criticism
- b. Disability studies criticism
- c. Feminist and gender studies criticism
- d. Postcolonial criticism

N. *Frankenstein's* Onscreen Afterlife

III. SHORTER SELECTIONS

40%

A. The Shorter Selections and the Theme of “In Sickness and in Health”

B. Nonfiction

- 1. Autobiography and Illness Narratives
- 2. SELECTED WORK: “ON BEING A CRIPPLE” (1986) BY NANCY MAIRS
  - a. Nancy Mairs (1943–2016): background and biography
  - b. Analysis of “On Being A Cripple”
- 3. SELECTED WORK: “PONY PARTY” AND “LUCK” FROM *AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A FACE* (1994) BY LUCY GREALY
  - a. Lucy Grealy (1963–2002): background and biography
  - b. Analysis of “Pony Party”
  - c. Analysis of “Luck”

C. Fiction: Short Story

- 1. SELECTED WORK: “THE BIRTHMARK” (1843) BY NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE
  - a. Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804–64): background and biography
  - b. Analysis of “The Birthmark”

D. Poetry

- 1. SELECTED WORK: “ODE TO A NIGHTINGALE” (1819) BY JOHN KEATS
  - a. John Keats (1795–1821): background and biography
  - b. Analysis of “Ode to a Nightingale”
- 2. SELECTED WORK: “IN THE THEATRE” (1977) BY DANNIE ABSE
  - a. Dannie Abse (1923–2014): background and biography
  - b. Analysis of “In the Theatre”
- 3. SELECTED WORK: “DEAR WORLD” (1988) BY PAULA GUNN ALLEN
  - a. Paula Gunn Allen (1939–2008): background and biography
  - b. Analysis of “Dear World”
- 4. SELECTED WORK: “WHAT THE DOCTOR SAID” (1989) BY RAYMOND CARVER
  - a. Raymond Carver (1938–88): background and biography
  - b. Analysis of “What the Doctor Said”
- 5. SELECTED WORK: “THE SICK WIFE” (1996) BY JANE KENYON
  - a. Jane Kenyon (1947–95): background and biography
  - b. Analysis of “The Sick Wife”
- 6. SELECTED WORK: “WHAT YOU MOURN” (2007) BY SHEILA BLACK
  - a. Sheila Black (b. 1961): background and biography
  - b. Analysis of “What You Mourn”
- 7. SELECTED WORK: “HEALTH” (2010) BY RAFAEL CAMPO
  - a. Rafael Campo (b. 1964): background and biography
  - b. Analysis of “Health”