

To: Introduction to Literature Students, Summer 2024

From: Professor Lisa R. Neilson

Date: May 13, 2024

Re: Welcome

Welcome to Intro to Literature, ENG 255L-721. The course begins on Monday, June 3, 2024 and ends Friday, July 26, 2024.

During this Summer Session we will be examining a variety of genres in literature, such as drama, poetry, short fiction, and the novel, and we will be analyzing major elements of literature, including plot, character, style, symbol and theme. Together, we will develop intellectual frameworks for discussing important ideas and concepts available in these genres. Please realize that we are squeezing work that is usually covered in a 15-week semester into 8 weeks. You will be earning three credits upon the completion of this course with the same quality and amount of content taught.

During the first week, we will spend a little time getting to know one another but we will also dive right in, exploring texts and posing questions regarding captivating pieces of literature. Please take a few moments to explore our class site as soon as you have access. At that time, review the **Syllabus and the Class Schedule of Assignments** as well as each week's page. This class is organized by week. Weeks open on Mondays at 8:00 AM and close on Sundays at 11:59 PM. You will have a Thursday 11:59 PM deadline for some of the work and the rest will be due by Sunday at 11:59 PM. Paying attention to details and thoroughly reading instructions are vital to your success in this course.

Many of the texts will be available on our course site on each week's page. Two additional texts required to purchase are:

- Shakespeare, William. *Romeo and Juliet*. ISBN: 9780743477116
- Zoboi, Ibi. *American Street*. ISBN: 978-0-06-247305-9 (a PDF is also available on the course site)

These can be purchased from the Marist bookstore or other online vendors. Please make sure that you have your textbooks before class begins. You will also need full internet access and a working device (laptop/tablet, smartphone or computer).

You can learn more about me on our course site. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at any time at [lisa.neilson@marist.edu](mailto:lisa.neilson@marist.edu) or (845) 594-6725.

I look forward to working with you this summer. Get ready for a great summer semester!