

Professor Belli  
ENG 2001, Fall 2017

1

English 2001: Introduction to Literature I: Fiction (D532, 32295)  
Fall 2017  
Tuesday/Thursday 2:30-3:45pm  
Classroom: Midway 307  
New York City College of Technology, CUNY

Professor: Dr. Jill Belli  
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Office: Namm 520 / Mailbox: Namm 512  
Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 3:45-4:45pm & by appointment

**OpenLab Course Site:** <https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/belli-f2017-eng2001/>

**Course Description** (3 hours, 3 credits; Prerequisites: ENG 1101)

*Analysis and critical understanding of selected fiction. Exams and essays based on readings.*

Together, we will learn the elements of fiction and practice close reading through various short stories and two post-apocalyptic novels that explore notions of identity, storytelling, and imagining other possibilities/worlds. In particular, we will consider how the texts' settings constrain their narrators, and how these narrators make sense—through language—of their lives when they don't always have control over what happens to them. We will pay close attention to how these narrators constantly revisit, revise, and re-imagine their stories, blurring the lines between fiction and fact, and re-shaping the plots, themselves, and their worlds in the process.

\*Writing-Intensive Course; Fulfills "Creative Expression" Category for Pathways

### **Learning Outcomes**

[See "Learning Outcomes" document](#) (handed out first day of class) for General Education and English Department Course Learning Outcomes.

### **Required Texts**

- Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid's Tale*. 1984. [ISBN: 978-0385490818]. 1985. Anchor, 1998. \$15.95.
- St. John Mandel, Emily. *Station Eleven*. 2014. Vintage, 2015. [ISBN: 978-0804172448]. \$16.00.

\*The required texts above are available for purchase at the City Tech Bookstore (you may find them cheaper other places, such as Amazon.com). Please note that you must have hard copies of these texts (these specific editions); no eBooks.

\*Other texts will be provided in-class or on our OpenLab course site. **It is your responsibility to print these texts and bring them to class.** You may print up to 30 pages per day in the City Tech computer labs, but if you do not have a printer at home, you

may want to invest in one (remember: you have minimal costs for texts for this class, and a laser printer is a good, long-term investment for your college and professional careers). \*You may be required to attend local, relevant events and exhibitions for this course, so please factor transportation/admission into your budget for our course materials (though some are free). You may also be asked to view various films (and other media) outside of class, some of which may be available freely online, and others that you may need to purchase, borrow, rent, or watch as part of a subscription service (such as Netflix, Amazon Prime Instant Video, Hulu, or Kanopy). Please factor these costs into your budget for our course materials.

### **Grading**

Your final course grade is calculated as follows:

- Participation: 10%
- Exams: 20%
- Essays: 40%
- Blogging / OpenLab Composing: 30%

**Participation** counts as **10%** of your final course grade and includes:

- consistent and punctual attendance
- timely completion and thoughtful engagement with of all reading (reading blog posts, comments, and materials posted on OpenLab is part of course reading/viewing)
- having the assigned text(s) in class with you on the dates they are to be discussed (printed, if they are online texts): these texts must be read/annotated
- active participation in-class
- taking class notes (at least once during the semester, but perhaps more, as needed) & posting them on OpenLab in a timely fashion (e.g., by the night of that class)
- miscellaneous homework assignments
- announced & unannounced in-class quizzes and writing exercises based on prompts, activities, and readings
- presentations
- collaborative group work; pre-drafts; peer review
- conferences with the instructor outside of class (in my office hours); additional work (and tutoring) at the Learning Center, as necessary
- respectful attitude toward your instructor, peers, and coursework
- engagement and improvement throughout the semester

**OpenLab Composing** counts as **30%** of your final course grade and includes:

- blogging (creating your own posts)
- reading/commenting on each other's blog posts
- active participation in our digital (OpenLab) "class discussions"

Our [OpenLab course site](#) is where you can find everything you need this semester (all announcements, updates to the schedule, posted readings, reading responses, and online

discussions will take place here). However, this is not just a place where you will come to find information and read what I have already written. Instead, you are expected to *consistently and actively participate in creating* content on our Course Site, such as posting responses to the readings/films, discussing ideas with me and your classmates, reading and commenting on what others have posted, and linking to interesting/relevant material you have found through everyday experience as well as outside research. This material, which is *your* writing, will become part of the *required reading* for the course and of our class meetings. We will discuss excerpts from student posts (both to facilitate writing workshops and to use as a jumping-off point for the day's reading/discussion). In addition, everyone in the course will be reading your writing (and our course blog and all of its content is become public to the larger college community and anyone on the Web), so you should spend time and take pride in composing your posts and comments there. Please see the [Blogging Grading Rubric and Guidelines/Expectations](#) on our OpenLab Course Site (under Assignments, Blogging).

### Course Policies

- You are responsible for having a working, accessible City Tech e-mail and for checking this account daily (all announcements, notifications, and emails from me and from the OpenLab—including our course site—will go to your City Tech email).
- If you don't already have one, you must sign up for an [OpenLab](#) account and join our [ENG 2420 Course](#), and check our course site regularly.
- Consistent absence/lateness will lower your participation grade significantly, and potentially result in failure of the course. If you must miss a class, it is courteous to let me know ahead of time. It is also your responsibility to contact a classmate and to find out/complete missed assignments &/or to see me during my office hours; however, in-class work (including quizzes, freewriting, discussions, peer review, and in-class essays and exams) cannot be made-up.
- All assignments are due on the dates/times specified. **Late assignments will not be accepted.**
- Unless otherwise noted, final drafts of assignments are just that: final drafts. Drafting/revision is expected to occur prior to submitting your final drafts, so **no further revisions** will be offered after the fact. I am always happy to discuss your drafts/revisions with you at any point throughout the semester.
- You should always come to class prepared with a writing device of some type, all relevant assigned texts for that day, dictionary (it can be one on your phone, tablet, or laptop), and writing utensils (pens, pencils, and highlighters). **All course materials** (including in-class freewriting, quizzes, handouts, readings, essays, peer review, exams) must be kept in a binder or folder, and brought to each class session.

- All assigned texts should be printed, brought to class, and annotated (marked up with highlighting, questions, comments, notes, definitions of words you don't know). If you do not have your annotated readings with you on the day they are being discussed, **you will lose participation points for that day.**
- Disagreement and (constructive) criticism are encouraged in our class and on our OpenLab course site. However, you must always be respectful of the work/opinions of others, and conduct yourselves (in person and online) in mature, respectful, and generous ways. Our class is a community, and all of your contributions to it should reflect that ethos.
- You are **not allowed to record**, in any manner (audio, video, image) class sessions, office hours, or conversations, without the explicit knowledge of me (and your classmates, where relevant).
- A consistent display of organizational, logical, syntactical, and grammatical errors in your work disrupts your writing and will lower your grade. Students are encouraged (and may be required) to take advantage of online resources (linked through our OpenLab course site) and available services at City Tech.
- **I strongly encourage you to visit me during my office hours** throughout the semester to discuss your work in the course. If you ever would like more individualized feedback on your work in the course (including blog posts, freewriting, quizzes, exams, projects, and reading/analysis texts), you should come see me to discuss your work.

### **Attendance and Lateness Policy**

According to College attendance policy, a student may be absent during the semester without penalty for 10% of the class instructional sessions (for twice-per-week course, this policy translates to **three absences**). In my class, frequently coming to class late will significantly lower your grade, and consistent lateness will add up to absences. If you are frequently absent &/or late, **you may not pass the course.**

### **New York City College of Technology Policy on Academic Integrity**

"Students and all others who work with information, ideas, texts, images, music, inventions and other intellectual property owe their audience and sources accuracy and honesty in using, crediting, and citing sources. As a community of intellectual and professional workers, the College recognizes its responsibility for providing instruction in information literacy and academic integrity, offering models of good practice, and responding vigilantly and appropriately to infractions of academic integrity. Accordingly, academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion. The complete text of the College policy on Academic Integrity may be found in the catalog."

## Schedule

- All reading and writing assignments are due on the days listed. Unless otherwise stated, all blogs (and comments) are due by 11:59pm on the due date.
- Except for some films, all texts not available through the College Bookstore will be provided in-class or on our OpenLab course site (including readings on writing process/strategies to accompany our in-class writing workshops and help you with your assignments). **It is your responsibility to print out these texts and bring them to class with you** (you can print for free at the college's computer labs). It is mandatory to have the assigned texts printed and in class when we are discussing them. If you don't, you will be considered absent for the day.
- Additional texts/assignments may be added throughout the semester to supplement the texts listed here.
- Some weeks require a heavy amount of reading and/or writing, so I encourage you to plan ahead.
- **Always consult the dynamic [Schedule](#) on our OpenLab site** for the most up-to-date version of the schedule, access to readings, and more detail about assignments.