

ENG 223: Themes of Literature: "Reading Las Vegas"
Spring 2011 Courtney Danforth
Office Hours: 4-4:30, M-R; 6-7:20, T and R
Email: Please email through Angel

Responsibilities Each student is expected to do the following: 1. Read all assignments before class. 2. Read a variety of sources for research and other assignments. 3. Participate in class activities, group discussions, individual conferences, and oral presentations, as assigned.

Textbook Title: The Bedford Anthology of World Literature (Books 1-3) Publisher: Bedford Year of Publication: 2004

Plagiarism: Directly quoting, summarizing, or paraphrasing the ideas of others without specific identification of the sources, and handing in work, which is not the student's own, all constitute plagiarism. Although in cooperative study and peer editing students may ask for criticism, such aid must be limited. The individual student is responsible for the preparation and presentation of assignments.

Late Assignments: No late assignments will be accepted in this course.

Grade Disputes: Should you believe a grade to be incorrect, please email your instructor 24-48 hours after the grade is posted. In your email, please state the problem, a proposed solution, and any pertinent evidence. The more persuasive you are, the more likely you are to see a result in your favor.

Recommendations: I will not write recommendations for students who have taken fewer than two courses with me.

Schedule

24-28 January

- Welcome
- Read: Wolfe's "Las Vegas (What?) Las Vegas (Can't Hear You! Too noisy!) Las Vegas!!!!"

31 January - 4 February

- Write: Wolfe Book Report
- Watch: Viva Las Vegas (1964)
- Write: Wolfe Landmark
- Write: Viva Las Vegas Landmark

7-11 February

- Read: Thompson's Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas
- Write: Thompson Book Report

14-18 February

- Watch: Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (1998)
- Write: Thompson Landmark
- Write: Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas Landmark

23-25 February

- Read: O'Brien's Leaving Las Vegas
- Write: O'Brien Book Report

28 February - 4 March

- Watch: Leaving Las Vegas (1995)
- Write: O'Brien Landmark
- Write: Leaving Las Vegas Landmark

7-11 March

- Watch: Showgirls (1995)
- Write: Showgirls Google Earth Landmark

14-18 March

- Watch: Casino (1995)
- Write: Casino Landmark

28 March - 1 April

- Prepare: oral history assignment

4-8 April: Definition Essays

- Read Baudrillard's "Desert For Ever"
- Write: Baudrillard Book Report
- Write "Desert For Ever" Landmark
- Collect: oral history

11-15 April:

- Prepare: oral history presentation
- Present: oral history

18-22 April

- Present: oral history

25-29 April

- Watch: Vegas Vacation (1997)
- Write Vegas Vacation Landmark

2-6 May

- Watch: The Hangover (2009)
- Write The Hangover Landmark

9-13 May

- Write: Final Essay

16-21 May

- Discuss: So what is it about Vegas?