

# ENC 1145- WRITING ABOUT WOMEN AND THE SEA

## Fall 2017

**Instructor:** Brooke Fortune

**Course meeting times & locations:** T: 2-3, R: 3, Matherly 118

**Office Hours:** Mondays, 12:45- 1:30, Tuesdays 10:30-11:30, or by appointment

**Instructor Email:** bfortune@ufl.edu

### Course Description:

From Odysseus's journey home from Troy to the *Pirates of the Caribbean* films, seafaring adventure narratives have engaged a variety of audiences. Even with this wide-ranging popularity, however, nautical narratives tend to be largely male-centric, despite a long and colorful history of women and the sea. As such, this course will explore women's roles in nautical history and literary traditions. This course will focus on several different types of seafaring women, from figures of mythology (such as mermaids and sirens), to Viking shield-maidens, and famous female pirates ranging from the Middle Ages to the nineteenth century—both in fiction and recorded history.

### General Education Objectives:

- This course confers General Education credit for either Composition (C) or Humanities (H). This course also fulfills 6,000 of the university's 24,000-word writing requirement (WR).
- Composition courses provide instruction in the methods and conventions of standard written English (grammar, punctuation, usage), as well as the techniques that produce effective texts. Composition courses are writing intensive. They require multiple drafts submitted to your instructor for feedback before final submission.
- Course content should include multiple forms of effective writing, different writing styles, approaches and formats, and methods to adapt writing to different audiences, purposes and contexts. Students should learn to organize complex arguments in writing using thesis statements, claims and evidence, and to analyze writing for errors in logic.
- The University Writing Requirement (WR) ensures students both maintain their fluency in writing and use writing as a tool to facilitate learning. To receive Writing Requirement credit, a student must receive a grade of C or higher and a satisfactory completion of the writing component of the course. This means that written assignments must meet minimum word requirements totaling 6000 words.

### General Education Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, students will be expected to have achieved the following learning outcomes in content, communication and critical thinking:

- Content: Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, theories and methodologies used within the academic discipline.
- Communication: Students communicate knowledge, ideas and reasoning clearly and effectively in written and oral forms appropriate to the discipline. Students will participate in class discussions throughout the semester to reflect on assigned readings.
- Critical Thinking: Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline-specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems.

### **Required Texts:**

The following texts are required:

- Joan Druett, *She Captains: Heroines and Hellions of the Sea*
- Skye Alexander, *Mermaids: The Myths, Legends and Lore*
- Anne Chambers, *Granuaile*
- Captain Johnson / Daniel Defoe, *A General History of the Pyrates*
- Phillip Gosse, *The History of Piracy*
- L.A. Meyer, *Bloody Jack*
- L.A. Meyer, *Under the Jolly Roger*
- Maturin Murray Ballou, *Fanny Campbell: The Female Pirate Captain*
- Daphne Du Maurier, *Jamaica Inn*

The following texts are recommended:

- Laura Sook Duncombe, *Pirate Women: The Princesses, Prostitutes and Privateers Who Ruled the Seven Seas*
- Margaret Creighton and Lisa Norling, *Iron Men, Wooden Women*

All other readings will be posted on Canvas.

### **Assignments:**

#### **2 Short Papers, 75 points each**

For these papers, you will respond to the readings from any given day. These papers **MUST** be argumentative in nature (organized around a thesis that makes a specific claim). You may choose to argue for connections between readings, compare and contrast two different figures, do a close analytical reading of a passage, etc. Outside sources are not required, but if used must be cited in MLA format. You can choose which readings you wish to respond to, but both papers must be submitted on or before **November 2**. Before submitting each paper, you **must** meet with me to

discuss a draft or outline during office hours (or by appointment), so plan ahead. Failure to do so will result in a 10 point deduction from your paper.

Word Count: 1000 words each

### **Presentation, 75 points**

You will choose a female figure from nautical history **that we do not discuss in class**. A sign-up sheet for presentations will be made available to you. Your presentation should include a summary of your chosen figure's life, major accomplishments, how they've been portrayed in the sources that cover them (particularly primary sources) and what you find most compelling and important about their story. Presentations should last between 7-10 minutes. You are welcome to use whatever format you are comfortable with (powerpoint, prezzi, strictly oral, etc.) Additionally, you are required to submit an outline of your presentation with any sources used correctly cited.

Words: 500

### **Final Paper, 400 points**

For your final project, you will write a research paper on a topic of your choice that pertains to the material and ideas we have covered in class. These papers **must** be argumentative in nature, and must include **five** outside sources (sources that have not been assigned in class, although you are welcome to use these in addition). Feel free to tailor these papers to suit your own interests, but they must largely rely on a figure(s) or text(s) assigned in class. Topic Proposals are due November 14, and rough drafts by November 30. Papers are **due December 13**.

Word Count: 2000 words

### **Creative Component, 75 Points**

Prior to submitting your final paper, you will submit a creative project that engages your topic in some fashion. For example, you may choose to create a movie poster or book cover for your figure or text, or write a short piece of fiction or a poem (you are in no way limited to these options). Along with the project itself, you are required to submit a short statement (500 words) explaining why you chose your particular project. **Ideas for your project should be included in your topic proposal**. You will present your project on the last day of class (**due December 5**).

Words: 500

## **Annotated Bibliography, 50 points**

You will also submit an annotated bibliography covering your five outside sources. For each entry, you should spend 3-4 sentences summarizing the main points of the sources and 1-2 sentences explaining its relevance to your project and how you intend to use it in relation to your own arguments. Citations **MUST** be in MLA format. **Due November 21.**

Word Count: 1000

## **Classwork (Homework, Quizzes, Participation), 10 points**

For each class, you are required to prepare a discussion question, a specific insight about the material you wish to share, or a particular passage from the readings you want to examine more closely as a class. These must be written down, and will be collected at the beginning of each class. These assignments will be graded on a check (100) or check minus (50) scale. At the end of the semester, your homework grades will be averaged with a participation grade that reflects your contributions to class discussions, etc, so make sure to attend class whenever possible as poor attendance will adversely affect your grade.

## **Course Policies:**

You must complete all assignments to receive credit for this course.

- 1. Attendance and Tardiness:** You are permitted three absences. For each absence beyond three, you will lose half a letter from your final grade. More than five absences will result in failure of the course. Two tardies will result in an absence. Please remember that missing a double block (Tuesday) counts as two absences. If you miss a class, you must reach out **to a fellow classmate** for material covered that day.
- 2. Paper Format & Submission:** All papers must be in MLA format. Papers must be uploaded to Canvas **AND** submitted in hard copy by the beginning of class on the due date. Failure to do both will result in deduction from your grade.
- 3. Late Papers/Assignments:** Late work is **not accepted** for minor assignments (homework, etc.) Major assignments will be deducted a letter grade for each day late. Assignments will not be accepted after three days past the due date.
- 4. Paper Maintenance Responsibilities:** Keep duplicate copies of all work submitted in this course. Save all returned, graded work until the semester is over.
- 5. Academic Honesty and Definition of Plagiarism:** Plagiarism violates the Student Honor Code and requires reporting to the Dean of Students. All students must abide by the Student Honor Code: <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>.

**6. Students with disabilities** who are requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)), which will provide appropriate documentation to give the instructor.

**7. For information on UF Grading policies, see:**

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

**8. Grade Appeals:** In 1000- and 2000-level courses, students may appeal a final grade by filling out a form available from Carla Blount, Program Assistant, in the Department office (4008 TUR). Grade appeals may result in a higher, unchanged, or lower final grade.

**9. Course Evaluations:** Toward the end of the semester, you will receive email messages asking you to go online and evaluate this course: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals/Default.aspx>

**10. Electronics:** Laptops are only permitted in class on days when online material has been assigned. Cell phone use during class is prohibited and will result in being marked absent for the day.

**11. Classroom Behavior:** You are required to be seated and prepared by class time and to be attentive throughout class. Open discussion and respectful debate of material is encouraged. Rudeness or intolerance will not be permitted in any form.

**12. Communication:** You are responsible for keeping track of your performance in class, absences, etc. and reaching out with any resulting questions and concerns. Please make use of office hours or make an appointment if you feel you are struggling or falling behind. Email correspondence should be conducted in a professional manner.

## **Class Schedule**

\* All readings are required and must be completed for the class under which they are listed.

### **WEEK 1**

August 22

- Introductions, Syllabus

### ***Unit 1, Mythology and the Ancients***

August 24

- Druett, Introduction

- *The Odyssey*
  - Book 12
- Cordingly, Chapter 10

## **WEEK 2**

August 29

- Skye Alexander, *Mermaids*
- Lao, *Seduction and the Secret Power of Women*
  - Introduction (Canvas)
- Presentation: Queen Teuta of Illyria

August 31

- Watch: *300 Rise of an Empire*
- Druett, Chapter 1
- Presentation: Cleopatra

## ***Unit 2, Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period***

## **WEEK 3**

September 5

- Druett, Chapter 2
- Saxo Grammaticus, *History of the Danes* (Canvas)
  - Book 9
- Screening: “Vikings,” selected episodes
- Presentation: Alfhild

September 7

- Jesch, *Women in the Viking Age* (Canvas)
  - Chapter VI, Conclusion
- “Vikings” discussion
- Presentation: Sela

## **WEEK 4**

September 12

- Watch: “Elizabeth: The Golden Age”
- “Elizabeth: The Golden Age” Discussion
- Presentation: Mistress Cowtie
- Presentation: Jeanne de Montfort

September 14

- Druett, Chapter 5 (Barbary Pirates)
- Presentation: Sayidda Al-Hurra
- Start reading *Granuaile*

## WEEK 5

September 19

- Chambers, *Granuaile*
  - Ch. 3, 4, 5, 6, 8
  - Pgs. 151-152
- Lady Gregory, “The Rising of the Moon” (Canvas)
- Screening: Grace O’ Malley Documentary
- Presentation: Jeanne de Clisson

September 21

- Writing Lesson
- Presentation: Elizabeth and Mary Killigrew

## *Unit 3, The Golden Age of Piracy and Beyond*

## WEEK 6

September 26

- Screening: History Channel Documentary on Pirates
- Gosse, Book III, Ch. 1-2
- Judith Butler, “Performative Acts and Gender Constitution”
- Presentation: Hannah Snell

September 28

- Defoe, *General History of the Pyrates*
  - Preface
  - Introduction

- Pp. 46-58 (Teach)
- Pp. 86-90 (Vane)
- Pp. 90-103 (Rackham)
- Druett, Chapter 7
- Presentation: Mary Ann Talbot

## **WEEK 7**

October 3

- Rediker, “Liberty Beneath the Jolly Roger” (Canvas)
- Screening: “Black Sails”
- “Black Sails” discussion
- Start reading *Bloody Jack*

October 5

- Meyer, “Bloody Jack”
- Presentation: Maria Cobham

## **WEEK 8**

October 10

- Screening: “Pirates of the Caribbean”

October 12

- Writing Lesson

## **WEEK 9**

October 17

- “Pirates of the Caribbean” discussion
- Presentation: Rachel Wall

October 19

- Dugaw, “Female Sailors Bold” (*Iron Men, Wooden Women*)
- Meyer, *Under the Jolly Roger*

## **WEEK 10**

October 24

- Ching Shih Discussion
- Gosse, Book IV, Ch. 3-4
- Jorge Luis Borges, “The Widow Ching”
- Presentation: Charlotte de Berry

October 26

- Writing Lesson

## **WEEK 11**

October 31

- *Fanny Campbell, Female Pirate Captain*
- Presentation: Sadie Farrell (Sadie the Goat)

November 2

- *Fanny Campbell* cont.
- Presentation: Mary Patten
- **Final Day to submit short papers**

## **WEEK 12**

November 7

- Individual Conferences

November 9

- Individual Conferences
- Start reading *Jamaica Inn*

## **WEEK 13**

November 14

- **Topic Proposals due**
- Finish reading *Jamaica Inn*
- “Jamaica Inn” screening
- Presentation: Lai Choi San

November 16

- Research tutorial and Annotated Bib workshop
- *Jamaica Inn*

## **WEEK 14**

November 21

- Annotated Bibliographies due
- Writing Lesson

November 23

- Thanksgiving Break, no class

## **WEEK 15**

November 28

- Individual Conferences

November 30

- Watch: “Cutthroat Island”
- “Cutthroat Island” Discussion
- Gosse, Epilogue
- **Rough drafts due**

## **WEEK 16**

December 5

- **Creative Projects due**
- Creative Project Presentations

**FINAL PAPERS DUE DECEMBER 13**