

ENG 2305: Introduction to Fiction  
Instructor: Will Donnelly

In this class, we will explore the primary concepts involved in the interpretation and appreciation of fiction writing – plot, character, point of view, structure, and so on – as well as the sometimes strange psychology of storytelling. Why is it, for instance, that even when we know that a story isn't true, we still allow ourselves to be so moved by it? And what about storytelling has made it such a significant and enduring cultural institution throughout human history?

The course will focus primarily on short fiction, though we will also read one novel. Most of our readings will appear in our primary textbooks, though some will be distributed via email and online. Readings will be assigned for every class period, and three essays will be required – two shorter papers and one longer, final essay near the end of the semester.

Required Texts:

The Norton Anthology of Short Fiction, Shorter Seventh Edition. Richard Bausch and R.V. Cassill, eds.

The Road. Cormac McCarthy.