



# UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

ENGLISH 131: SOCIETY AND LITERATURE

24 November 2012

## Final Exam Guide.

The final exam takes place on Monday, 10 December 2012, 4:00 p.m. in Bartlett 65.

There are 3 sections.

1. **Multiple Choice.** (15 questions, 15 points total) These questions are about information: plot, characters, setting, publishing date, literary movements, and so forth. If you read the books and attended the lectures, you will have all that information.
2. **Short Answer.** (5 questions, 5 points total) These questions ask you to scan two lines of poetry and identify parts of speech.
3. **Passage Recognition and Analysis.** (Choose 4 of 7 passages, 20 points total) Here, you will choose four passages from a list of seven. For *each* passage, you will a) identify the author and title, b) describe what's happening in the book at that point, and c) identify and discuss stylistic and thematic elements.

*Study Hints:* For sections 1 and 2, browse the books again, go over your notes, and check out plot summaries on the web (SparkNotes, Wikipedia, poetryfoundation.org, and so on).

For section 3, first try to come up with something general to say about each author's style. So, when you recognize Shakespeare, for example, you can write it down quickly. And second, make a very short list of things to look for in each author. So, when you recognize Shakespeare, you can look for them in the exam passage and write about them.

Also, I recommend preparing an index card (or page) on each author. It would look something like this:

**Name:**  
**Title:**  
**Date of publication:**  
**Literary movement:** [for example, Baroque, Modernist, etc.]  
**Main characters:**  
**Setting:**  
**Plot notes:**  
**Style notes (general):**  
**Style notes (specific):**

Then memorize them all. Good luck!