



## The English Handbook: A Guide to Literary Studies

By William Whitla



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*The English Handbook: A Guide to Literary Studies* is a comprehensive textbook, providing essential practical and analytical reading and writing skills for literature students at all levels. With advice and information on fundamental methods of literary analysis and research, Whitla equips students with the knowledge and tools essential for advanced literary study.

- Includes traditional close reading strategies integrated with newer critical theory, ranging from gender and genre to post-structuralism and post-colonialism; with examples from *Beowulf* to Atwood, folk ballads to Fugard, and Christopher Marlowe to Conrad's Marlow
- Draws on a wide range of resources, from print to contemporary electronic media
- Supplies a companion website with chapter summaries, charts, examples, web links, and suggestions for further study

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### Editorial Review

Review

"It would certainly be helpful to students to have multiple copies available in their academic libraries."  
(*Reference Reviews*, 2012)

Review

"A marvellously useful book, one that I would recommend fervently for any gateway class introducing students to the theory and practice of literary criticism".

**Peter C. Herman, San Diego State University**

"[This book] combines introductory material on the process of reading and literary interpretation with discussions of genre, poetics, library research, and introductory literary theory ... a valuable tool for students who are just beginning to think about how best to interpret literature, as well as the teachers who are striving to present the diverse field of literature to the students."

**Cindy Weinstein, California Institute of Technology**

From the Back Cover

*The English Handbook: A Guide to Literary Studies* is a comprehensive new textbook providing essential practical and analytical reading and writing skills for literature students at all levels. *The Handbook* features coverage of all key areas, from sonnets to irony to close textual analysis. Unprecedented in bringing within one volume a combination of traditional and contemporary methods for literary analysis of fiction, drama and poetry, this is a uniquely practical reference tool.

Detailed yet succinct, the book contains guidance on library and web research techniques, new technologies, and provides help in shaping essays and other assignments for different class requirements. The companion website provides further clarity and insight with helpful chapter summaries and resources for continuing study. With a perfect balance of academic rigor and essential practical information, *The English Handbook* is an accessible and wide-ranging manual, indispensable for all students of literature.

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