**1.Inacccessible Sample Syllabus 2**

**ENGL 1234: The Attraction of the Harry Potter Series**

**Fall 2015, 8 week self-paced course**

Dr. Bartholomew Simpson

My office is located in Building X, room 456

My office hours are on M and W, 12:30-2:30 or by appointment.

You can reach me at 303-555-1234 or at Prof\_Bart@colorado.edu

**2.Course Information**

In this course, we will read the entire *Harry Potter* series to determine the attraction of these books to such a wide audience. We’ll look at character development, descriptions of the environments and settings, good vs. evil, and many other aspects of these books.

Reading the books is mandatory while viewing the movies is strongly recommended. Links to the films are provided in the D2L course site to make viewing easy.

**Textbooks and Materials**

3.All seven (7) books in the *Harry Potter* series:

*-Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s/Philosopher’s Stone*

*-Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

*-Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

*-Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*

*-Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*

*-Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

*-Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*

You can purchase these books through the CU bookstore or check them out of the library. You might also be able to borrow them or find them at a second-hand bookstore.

4.Audiobooks are also available, but you should read the text as it is written to fully appreciate the nuances of the stories.

All eight (8) films in the *Harry Potter* series:

-*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*

*-Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

*-Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

*-Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*

*-Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*

*-Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

*-Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1*

*-Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2*

Links to the films will be available in the D2L course site if you don’t otherwise have access to them.

**5.Assignments**

There is an assignment due each week and it is outlined below with additional information in the D2L course site. The assignment will be submitted to the appropriate Dropbox in D2L.

The mandatory assignment each week is a profile on a given topic. It should be typed as a Word Doc, at least 500 words double-spaced, 12 point Arial font, 1-inch margins. Remember to use the spelling and grammar checks.

Since this series has its own vocabulary and terms and sometimes complicated character relationships, you are also encouraged to create a glossary of sorts listing anything that will help you keep track of the details as they are presented, but this is optional. You will then be able to use this cross reference when studying for the exams. You will find a discussion forum in the D2L course site where you can share your findings and discuss ideas with your classmates. Remember to respect your classmates and follow proper netiquette.

There are two exams, a midterm and a final. The exams will have true/false, multiple-choice, and short answer questions.

The exams must be taken by the week they are assigned. You may take them earlier, but not later. The profile assignments are due by the end of the week they are assigned. If late, the grade will be reduced by 10% for each week late. Try to stay on schedule so you get the best grade possible.

**Course Calendar**

* 6.Assignments in red are mandatory and must be done
* Assignments in green are strongly recommended
* Assignments in black are optional but are very helpful in understanding the concepts of the material in the text

Note: For this course, the week starts on Monday and ends at 11:59pm on Sunday.

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| --- | --- |
| 7.Week | Assignments |
| 19/27-10/4 | READ: 1st Harry Potter book (mandatory)VIEW: 1st Harry Potter movie (strongly recommended)CREATE: a cross reference for terms and events (optional but encouraged)SUBMIT: profile of (3) characters and include pictures |
| 210/5-10/11 | READ: 2nd Harry Potter book (mandatory)VIEW: 2nd Harry Potter movie (strongly recommended)CREATE: add to your cross reference for terms and events (optional but encouraged)SUBMIT: profile of (3) rooms and include pictures |
| 310/12-10/18 | READ: 3rd Harry Potter book (mandatory)VIEW: 3rd Harry Potter movie (strongly recommended)CREATE: add to your cross reference for terms and events (optional but encouraged)SUBMIT: profile of (3) magic spells and include pictures |
| 410/19-10/25 | READ: 4th Harry Potter book (mandatory)VIEW: 4th Harry Potter movie (strongly recommended)CREATE: add to your cross reference for terms and events (optional but encouraged)SUBMIT: profile of (3) new characters and include picturesTAKE MIDTERM (mandatory) |
| 510/26-11/1 | READ: 5th Harry Potter book (mandatory)VIEW: 5th Harry Potter movie (strongly recommended)CREATE: add to your cross reference for terms and events (optional but encouraged)SUBMIT: profile of (3) “animals” and include pictures |
| 611/2-11/8 | READ: 6th Harry Potter book (mandatory)VIEW: 6th Harry Potter movie (strongly recommended)CREATE: add to your cross reference for terms and events (optional but encouraged)SUBMIT: profile of (3) games or books referenced and include pictures |
| 711/9-11/15 | READ: 7th Harry Potter book (mandatory)VIEW: 7th Harry Potter movie (strongly recommended)CREATE: add to your cross reference for terms and events (optional but encouraged)SUBMIT: profile of how (3) characters main characters have changed from books 1 to 7 and include pictures |
| 811/16-11/22 | VIEW: 8th Harry Potter movie (strongly recommended)CREATE: add to your cross reference for terms and events (optional but encouraged)TAKE FINAL (mandatory)Complete evaluation |

8.Grading

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Assignment(s) | Points | Percentage of Grade |
| Book (7) | 700 (100 per book) | 70% |
| Midterm | 150 | 15% |
| Final | 150 | 15% |

9.Your final grade will be based on the following scale. Please note that you must also pass **BOTH** of the exams in order to pass the course, regardless of your scores on the other assignments.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Grade | Points | Percent |
| A | 900-1000 | 90-100 |
| B | 800-899 | 80-89 |
| C | 700-799 | 70-79 |
| D | 600-699 | 60-69 |
| F | 0-599 | 0-59 |

10.**Using D2L**

Most of the activities in this course take place within the D2L learning management system. You can learn more about the accessibility of D2L: click this link.

11.Accommodation Statement

I am committed to providing everyone the support and services needed to participate in this course. If you need to request additional accommodations, carefully review the information on CU’s Disability Services website and get in touch with them.

12.

I hope you enjoy this class and investigating the world of Harry Potter. If you have questions, feel free to ask me or your classmates.

Key:

1. The document is not formatted using a style sheet with a clear hierarchy of headings, which makes the sections of the document inaccessible to a screen reader. Pages are not numbered.
2. There is a description of the course, but it does not situate the course within the department’s offerings or its place in the curriculum. There is no statement that connects course material to learning goals.
3. Books are listed by their titles, but they do not include the author, publisher, edition (if necessary) or ISBN.
4. While an option for alternate format text is mentioned (audiobooks), the language suggests that the instructor has a bias for print format, which might make a student who relies on alternate formatting feel uncomfortable.
5. While assignments are described in a good amount of detail, it would be better if the value of each assignment type was made clear as each is introduced.
6. Using red and green next to each other as a means of drawing attention to text is an unfortunate choice for students who are colorblind. However, because text is used in addition to color—indicating “mandatory” or “optional,” etc.—it is better than using color alone.
7. The point values of how much each assignment is worth are not repeated next to the assignments. The schedule is formatted as a table, which is difficult for screen reader technology to navigate.
8. Grading shows the weight of each assignment but does not provide any indication of how assignments will be evaluated or how assignments relate to learning goals in the course. The grades are formatted as a table, which is difficult for screen reader technology to navigate.
9. The statement that students must pass both the midterm and final in order to pass the course does not align with the weight of these items in the grading chart above. Again, the grades are formatted as a table, which is difficult for screen reader technology to navigate.
10. The statement about course technologies does not explain that the name of the platform is Desire to Learn, and while it refers students to a helpful link, it indicates that it is a link rather than using descriptive text and an embedded link, which sounds more logical when read by a screen reader.
11. The accommodation statement does not provide contact information for other resources like Disability Services, which could be useful for students new to the university.
12. There are several other recommended university syllabus statements that are left out, such as campus policy regarding discrimination and harassment, academic integrity, classroom behavior and religious holidays.