

***Creating Dangerously: Edwidge Danticat**

ENG 4386 AND ENG 5350

*This syllabus is subject to change at any time during the semester. I will notify you of any changes.

Instructor: Dr. Nicole Carr

Course Description:

As one of the most important living writers of the 21st century, Edwidge Danticat implores us to consider themes of belonging, border and boundary crossings, exile, and global migration. As such, we will ask ourselves what it means to, as Danticat asserts, "create dangerously" amid global uncertainty and instability. We will pay special attention to what we can create both in class and beyond.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Contextualize Haiti's ties to America, particularly Miami and New York.
2. Understand Haiti's complex political history.
3. Recognize key themes within Caribbean literature.
4. Understand Danticat's significance to American literature.
5. Explore the role of immigrant artists at work.

Book List*

Dew Breaker 9781400034291

Everything Inside 9780593164594

***Course Assignments**

*Each assignment will be weighted as we follow a labor based grading system. More specific information will be provided in the Assignment Guidelines folder.

Notetaking Annotation Assignments-Snapshot of notes/annotations taken while reading due on Blackboard at midnight.

Class Discussion Facilitator - Organize a mini-lesson around one of the texts listed on the syllabus. The presentation will include leading the class discussion (about thirty minutes) and providing the historical, cultural, and theoretical context in which the article/chapter was written. Facilitator will submit a 1-2 page paper explaining the rationale for the facilitated class discussion.

Oral Exam- Individual virtual meetings with Dr. Carr where we focus on a particular idea, theme, image, or tone expressed in the readings. Most questions posed will come directly from the readings, in-class discussions, and lectures.

In-class Essay- Extended analysis of a particular text. Students will receive questions beforehand.

Garden Assignment- Planting, pruning, and weeding in the garden. Final projects will culminate in a presentation connecting the planting process to themes in Danticat's works.

Annotated Bibliography (Graduates) – 10-15 summaries of academic articles/books. This will serve as pre-work for your final papers.

Class Participation and Attendance

Respectfully engaged participation. Completion of in-class assignments and minimal absences.

Final Assignments

Undergraduates

Lesson Plan Assignment- Project detailing how you would teach an imagined audience/class.

Final Assignment
Graduates

Final Paper-10-12 page paper engaging major themes in Danticat's works. All essays will need to show previous drafting work in Google Docs. Final Assignment Guidelines will have progress checkpoints throughout the semester. Any plagiarized or AI generated material will result in an automatic ZERO for the assignment and possible F grade in the class.