Some Over-Arching Questions to Consider in this Course:

1. What is the purpose of literature?
2. What constitutes great literature?
3. Why does some literature fail to move readers?
4. Is literature as highly valued as other academic subjects?
5. What are the most meaningful literary devices used by authors?
6. What are the most common themes found in literature?
7. Why do common literary themes exist?
8. What are some of the most famous literary quarrels and paradigm shifts?
9. Who determines the literature students read?
10. What are the effects of required reading?
11. Should educated people be required to read a particular canon of literature?
12. What are the ethics and ideologies of canon formation?
13. Should writers have a responsibility to improve and instruct society, or should they have total creative freedom?
14. What is the proper way to read literature?
15. Why do critics and scholars write about literature?
16. What are the conventions for writing about literature?
17. What are the guidelines for preparing a manuscript to be published in a journal?
18. Why do people read for pleasure?
19. What are the effects of pleasure reading?
20. Is the practice of reading literature thriving or dying in the United States?