

COURSE NUMBER: ENG236H5S

COURSE TITLE: Detective Fiction

INSTRUCTOR: M. Crimmins

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will study the evolution of the Detective Fiction genre from Poe and Doyle to postmodern variants of the genre by Paul Auster and Julia Kristeva. Along the way we will examine one of Agatha Christie's most accomplished mysteries; Japanese detective fiction by Edogawa Rampo, featuring master detective Kogoro Akechi and criminal queen the Black Lizard; hardboiled detective narration by Raymond Chandler's Philip Marlowe; a Chicago detective story featuring Sarah Paretsky's Violet Warshawski; and Janet Evanovich's Chick Lit detective Stephanie Plum, in her debut appearance.

REQUIRED READING: Arthur Conan Doyle: *A Study in Scarlet* (1887); Agatha Christie: *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* (1926); Edogawa Ranpo: *The Black Lizard and The Beast in the Shadows* (1934 and 1928); Raymond Chandler: *The Big Sleep*; Sarah Paretsky: *Killing Orders* (1985); Janet Evanovich: *One for the Money* (1994); Paul Auster: *City of Glass: The Graphic Novel* (2004); Julia Kristeva: *Murder in Byzantium* (2004, 2006).

FIRST THREE TEXTS/AUTHORS TO BE STUDIED: Poe, Doyle, Christie

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: Lecture and discussion

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

2 Short Papers:	20% each
2 Short Tests:	10% each
Final Exam:	30%
Participation	10%