Name of the course: Introduction to Prose Fiction
Lecturer name: Yael Ben-zvi
Course number: 132-1-217, 132-1-227
Office hours: by appointment

Short course description (5-10 lines) with key words at the end of the paragraph
This course will introduce you to the study of prose fiction. You will acquire a critical vocabulary that will enable you to understand and engage with prose fiction texts within the academic field of literary studies. You will become acquainted with the processes through which meaning is produced as people read texts, and with diverse modes of narration, plotting, characterization, and representations of perspective. We will consider the functions of narrative structures, themes, symbolism, imagery, and style, and we will attend to the contexts of literary production and the ways that texts address social, cultural, historical and political issues. This course is taught in tandem with the Academic Writing Workshop in which you will write about the primary texts you will read here. You must take both classes together.

Key words: fiction, prose, literature, narration, themes, structure

Course requirements:
Attendance required yes
1. Active participation 5%
2. Papers 45%
3. First revised paper 20%
4. Final revised paper 30%

Topics include:
- Identifying and distinguishing among plot, structure, and theme
- What does meaning mean?
- Narration, point of view, focalization
- Exposition
- Dialogue
- Tensions and conflicts
- Characters, character development
- Narrative gaps
- Irony
- Figurative language
- Setting
- Fabula and syuzhet
- Metafiction
- Ambiguity
- Allusions
- The novel

Texts:
• Secondary sources