FOR THE FIRST WEEK COME HAVING READ GLASPELL’S TRIFLES AND BE READY TO DISCUSS IT, THE PIECE IS AVAILABLE ON-LINE.

This class satisfies the writing requirement. Your grade is based on your papers (3 short ones, due at semester thirds, or you may consolidate two into one longer paper), class participation, and weekly quizzes.

Your grade formula is the minimum of (quiz grades, and 0.5 paper grade + 0.5 class participation grade). In other words, if your quiz grades are lower than that specified weighted average, your quiz grade is your grade. Otherwise I average your paper and participation grades and this is almost always what happens because people typically come well prepared for the quizzes and ace them.

The honor code covers all aspects of this class and please let me know if appropriate allowances need to be made for student disabilities. I note also that some of the readings cover or describe some violent and traumatic acts; if you prefer a substitute assignment for any particular reading or topic, please let me know.

Professor Tyler Cowen, x2312 (Fairfax), x4910 (Arlington) tcowen@gmu.edu.

The New English Bible, Oxford Study Edition
Guantanamo Diary, by Mohamedou Ould Slahi
Glaspell’s Trifles, available on-line.
Year’s Best SF 9, edited by David G. Hartwell and Kathryn Cramer, used or Kindle edition is recommended
The Metamorphosis, In the Penal Colony, and Other Stories, by Franz Kafka, edited and translated by Joachim Neugroschel.
In the Belly of the Beast, by Jack Henry Abbott.
Sherlock Holmes, The Complete Novels and Stories, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, volume 1, also on-line.
I, Robot, by Isaac Asimov.
The Pledge, Friedrich Durrenmatt.
Ian McEwan, The Children Act
Curtis Dawkins, The Graybar Hotel
Sarah Langford, In Your Defence

Movies: To be determined.

We also will cover some very short on-line readings, as I will distribute at the appropriate times; your papers may draw on these as well.