

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: ENGL-161-Literary Genres

CLASS SECTION: 005

TERM: 2024F

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): **Face-to-face**

Thursdays, 6:00 – 8:50 pm, Wilna Thomas, 101

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and WSÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Max Olesen

EMAIL: olesenm@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Lansdowne - Paul Building, Room 328

HOURS: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm; Thursdays only, 4:00-5:00 pm; Online office are held from 1-2 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays. Please contact me for details about how to access them.

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the study of literature in English with a focus on genres: short fiction, novel, poetry, drama. Reading, writing, oral and interpretive skills necessary for analyzing literature are emphasized, including close reading, literary criticism, and terminology. Academic reading and essay writing skills, transferable to any discipline, are practised.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

B in English 12

C+ in Camosun Alternative

C in ENGL 151

CO-REQUISITE(S):

EQUIVALENCIES:

ENGL 160

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course a student will be able to:

Reading and Writing:

- Analyze literature in English written in genres of poetry, short fiction, novel, and drama from different historical periods;
- Analyze literature in English by authors from various cultural backgrounds;
- Identify different literary forms and genres;
- Acquire a working vocabulary of literary critical terminology;
- Recognize literary forms and make linkages between forms and content;
- Make, support, and evaluate inferences about the function of specific literary elements;
- Develop formal/informal, critical, reflective, and personal responses to texts;
- Use literary and analytical terms correctly (e.g. metaphor, irony, character, setting, and plot);
- Compare and contrast themes and issues;
- Develop appropriate interpretive skills where non-print kinds of texts are studied (film, visual, audio, digital, multi-media);
- Demonstrate the difference between paraphrase and analysis;
- Develop and argue, in an academic essay format, a coherent reading of a literary text;
- Select and integrate primary textual evidence that effectively supports an essay's argument;
- Integrate secondary sources where applicable;
- Use a scholarly essay form, including a thesis; topic sentences; argument and/or analysis; use of quotations; unified, coherent paragraphs and transitions; rhetorical strategies appropriate for purpose and audience; and effective introductions and conclusions;
- Use a critical approach with appropriate language and terminology;
- Produce writing under exam or exam-like conditions;
- Write clear, concise, effective prose, and know how to identify, as well as correct, common mechanical and grammatical errors.

Information Literacy Skills:

- Determine the nature and extent of the information needed;
- Know and use what information resources available, in different formats;
- Use print and electronic resources effectively and efficiently;
- Evaluate sources for authority, relevance, reliability, currency, and other criteria;
- Incorporate and integrate research through correct use of summary, paraphrase, and quotation;
- Document sources fully and ethically, according to specified bibliographic conventions.

Discussion/Reflection:

- Discuss and analyze literature in class;
- Identify a variety of literary approaches and/or theories that can be taken towards a text;
- Articulate one's position in a critical debate of ideas;
- Engage respectfully with different interpretations;
- Reflect on one's own writing for continuous improvement.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

- **Course pack:** *English 161: Literary Genres, Course Pack, Instructor: Max Olesen*
Notes: Available for purchase at Camosun Bookstore.
- **Novel:** Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go* (Vintage Canada Edition, 2010)
Notes: Other editions of this novel exist, however, my notes will be referencing (for example, for page numbers) the edition available at the Camosun Bookstore. It can also be purchased elsewhere at local bookstores and online.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

You are expected to have all class texts before the class during which they will be discussed.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 1 Thursday, Sept. 5	Introduction to class; Short Story Unit begins... <u>Texts:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ursula K. LeGuin, "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" - Brothers Grimm, "Little Red-Cap" - Angela Carter, "The Werewolf" 	
Week 2 Thursday, Sept. 12	Short Story Unit continues... <u>Texts:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dagoberto Gilb, "Love in LA" & "Shout" - Franz Kafka, "A Hunger Artist" 	
Week 3 Thursday, Sept. 19	Short Story Unit continues... <u>Texts:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jorge Luis Borges, "The Aleph" - Kelly Link, "The Specialist's Hat" 	
Week 4 Thursday, Sept. 26	Short Story Unit concludes...	<u>In-class Short Story Paragraph Response Exam, in-class on Thursday, Sept. 26</u>
Week 5 Thursday, Oct. 3	Novel Unit begins...Please have ALL of the novel read before this class. <u>Text:</u> Kazuo Ishiguro, <i>Never Let Me Go</i>	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 6 Thursday, Oct. 10	Novel Unit continues... <u>Text:</u> Kazuo Ishiguro, <i>Never Let Me Go</i>	
Week 7 Thursday, Oct. 17	Novel Unit continues... <u>Text:</u> Kazuo Ishiguro, <i>Never Let Me Go</i>	
Week 8 Thursday, Oct. 24	Novel Unit concludes... <u>Text:</u> Kazuo Ishiguro, <i>Never Let Me Go</i> Poetry Unit begins... <u>Texts:</u> TBA from course pack selections	
Week 9 Thursday, Oct. 31	Poetry Unit continues... <u>Texts:</u> TBA from course pack selections	<u>Novel Essay due Monday, Oct. 28</u>
Week 10 Thursday, Nov. 7	Poetry Unit continues... <u>Texts:</u> TBA from course pack selections	
Week 11 Thursday, Nov. 14	Poetry Unit concludes...	<u>Poetry Presentations due in-class, Thursday, Nov. 14</u>
Week 12 Thursday, Nov. 21	Film & Adaptation Unit begins... <u>Texts:</u> - Ted Chiang, "Story of Your Life" - Denis Villeneuve & Eric Heisserer, <i>Arrival</i>	
Week 13 Thursday, Nov. 28	Film & Adaptation Unit continues... <u>Texts:</u> - Ted Chiang, "Story of Your Life" - Denis Villeneuve & Eric Heisserer, <i>Arrival</i>	
Week 14 Thursday, Dec. 5	Film & Adaptation Unit concludes... <u>Texts:</u> - Ted Chiang, "Story of Your Life" - Denis Villeneuve & Eric Heisserer, <i>Arrival</i>	
Exam Period Dec. 9-17	<u>Final Exam:</u> Time TBA, scheduled during final exam period.	<u>Final Essay Exam – focused on "Story of Your Life" and Arrival</u>

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams). <https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
In-class Writing Responses	10%
D2L Discussion Forum Pre-Class Posts	10%
In-Class Short Story Paragraph Response Exam	20%
Novel Essay	20%
Poetry Presentations	15%
Final Essay Exam	25%
	TOTAL
	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](#) policy for more information.

<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Content Warning: This is a course focused on fiction, which is inherently intended to present readers with new, unusual, and sometimes challenging ideas. However, it is important to create a safe and welcoming class environment. I will be providing individual content warnings for texts as needed. These content warnings are intended to allow readers to prepare for material that might negatively impact their mental state. Texts will have individual content warnings, but generally, certain texts in the class contain discussions and depictions of death/dying, violence/gore, murder, political violence, child abuse/endangerment, psychological distress, intrusive thoughts/obsessive behaviour, eating disorders, paranoia, misogynistic attitudes, sexual harassment, ghosts/spirits, the afterlife, poverty, antiquated views of mental health, medical malpractice and abuse, and disregard for personal autonomy.

If the content discussed in these texts may upset you, please contact me to discuss any concerns, if you feel safe and comfortable doing so. If you need to discuss the content with a counsellor, you can contact Camosun College Counselling Services: <http://camosun.ca/services/counselling-centre/>. If I have overlooked troubling content in a specific text's content warning, I apologize sincerely and assure you that I will try to do better in the future. Any clarification that you feel safe and comfortable offering is welcomed and appreciated.

Assignment Expectations:

- All specific instructions and formatting requirements for assignments will be provided on their respective assignment sheets.

- **Assignment submissions:** Please submit assignments either as a paper copy submitted to me on the due date or as a digital copy submitted to the appropriate D2L drop-box by **11:59 pm** (PST) on their due dates.
- **Due dates:** While I aim to be understanding, due dates are there to help us move through class at a smooth, manageable pace. If you need an extension, you must discuss it with me in-person, via a Zoom meeting, or via a phone call to me. I do not discuss requests for extensions by email alone. If an assignment is late without a formal extension, it will lose 5% per day, including weekends, until it is submitted. Late assignments will receive a grade, but no comments.
- **Academic Integrity:** The Camosun College's policy on Academic Integrity (<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-09/e-1.13.pdf>) defines it this way: "Academic integrity is the commitment to and demonstration of honest and ethical behaviour in an academic setting. It is the performance of all academic work without cheating, plagiarizing, lying, stealing, inappropriately collaborating, falsifying information, or receiving unauthorized assistance from any other person or using any source of information not appropriately authorized or attributed" (Camosun College, 2). As Camosun's policy further states, "Academic integrity is the responsibility of the entire College community" (Camosun College, 2). I take my responsibility in this regard seriously, and all suspected instances of academic misconduct will be addressed by me. If you have difficulty completing assignments, please do not engage in unethical academic behaviour. Instead, contact me for help. My main responsibility is to your academic well-being, and I aim to be understanding.
- **Generative AI:** I do not recommend the use of generative AI programs in your work. I can see a place for working with these tools in creative and ethical ways. However, for me, they must be the tool rather than the artist, so to speak. These tools write essays that tell me and you nothing about yourself and your thoughts. I would rather have an imperfect essay where I see you thinking, trying, and working things out than bland, smooth monotony. These tools also consistently produce information that uses uncited research or creates false citations. This could lead to allegations of fraud under Camosun's Academic Integrity policy. Further, if you do use any generative AI, its work is not your work. As such, you must put its words in quotation marks to let me know they are not your words, and you must provide a proper citation. If you don't do this citing, it is plagiarism. The Camosun Library has produced a guide to help you in citing such tools: <https://camosun.libguides.com/ai/citation>. However, thinking your own thoughts and struggling slightly to produce your own work is far more interesting and far more valuable to you than outsourcing your thinking to a computer program. Developing your critical and creative skills first will lead to you more effectively and ethically using these tools when that time comes.

Class Environment:

- **This course is an inclusive, non-judgmental, and respectful space.** I want our class to be a shared environment wherein we are all learners and collaborators; it is a place where we have fun, learn, and express ourselves. New knowledge is gained when we learn collaboratively and feel connected. Respect for each other, and the many divergent views we will encounter in this course, is a requirement for all participants. We will disagree with one another, but disrespectful language and actions are not tolerated. Please practice tolerance, judgment, maturity, politeness, and respect in all interactions and communications with your fellow learners and with your instructor. Interpreting literature is a personal experience. If you find that any texts or discussion comments are troubling to you, please let me know, to the extent you feel safe and comfortable doing so, so that you can be well supported.

- **Participation** will be essential to creating a classroom. Being comfortable sharing your views and learning from others can take time, but it will benefit your learning and communication skills. Be curious, record your observations, questions, and ideas as you read, reflect on what we read and discuss, ask questions, and develop your critical thinking skills. As stated, part of your participation is coming to class prepared by reading class texts before the class during which they will be discussed.
- **Please practice polite tech etiquette:** Devices and computers, including smartphones, may be used in class **only as required for an instructor-directed activity or assignment** (e.g., research or in-class writing), or if your CAL designation includes use of a computer. **Please mute your devices. Please no texting, calls, or social media use during class time.** You will be asked to leave the class if you are doing these activities. If you must answer a call, text, or message for personal reasons, please quietly excuse yourself from class to do so.
- **Communication outside class:** Check your email and D2L email regularly (and possibly consider linking these accounts, which you must do through D2L), to keep connected to this class. To contact you via email, I will use the email address provided to me via myCamosun, which is the email you used to register for classes with; if you do not receive an email message from me within the first week, please let me know. You can also connect with me via email or during my office hours listed above.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit camosun.ca/services.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/academic-advising
Accessible Learning	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning
Counselling	camosun.ca/services/health-and-wellness/counselling-centre
Career Services	camosun.ca/services/co-operative-education-and-career-services
Financial Aid and Awards	camosun.ca/registration-records/financial-aid-awards
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	camosun.ca/programs-courses/iecc/indigenous-student-services

Support Service	Website
International Student Support	camosun.ca/international
Learning Skills	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills
Library	camosun.ca/services/library
Office of Student Support	camosun.ca/services/office-student-support
Ombudsperson	camosun.ca/services/ombudsperson
Registration	camosun.ca/registration-records/registration
Technology Support	camosun.ca/services/its
Writing Centre	camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/help-centres/writing-centre-learning-skills

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to comply with all College policy regarding academic integrity; which is about honest and ethical behaviour in your education journey. The following guide is designed to help you understand your responsibilities: <https://camosun.libguides.com/academicintegrity/welcome>

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.13.pdf> for Camosun's Academic Integrity policy and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Camosun College is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a documented disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) and register as early as possible. Please visit the CAL website for more information about the process of registering with CAL, including important deadlines:

<https://camosun.ca/cal>

Academic Progress

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2023-02/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <https://camosun.ca/registration-records/tuition-fees#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal (see [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawals policy](#)). Please visit <https://camosun.ca/services/forms#medical> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence Policy: <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence-support-and-education.

To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-05/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Looking for other policies?

The full suite of College policies and directives can be found here: <https://camosun.ca/about/camosun-college-policies-and-directives>

Changes to this Syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.

