

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: ENGL-161: Literary Genres

CLASS SECTION: D08

TERM: Winter 2024

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Online Asynchronous

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Max Olesen

EMAIL: olesenm@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Paul Building, Room 328

OFFICE HOURS: Online D2L ZOOM – Check Calendar for times.

Face-to-face: Wed./Fri., 11:00 am – 12:00 pm; 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

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):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

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

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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

1. Course pack: *English 161: Literary Genres, Course Pack, Instructor: Max Olesen*

Notes: Readings from *English 161: Literary Genres, Course Pack, Instructor: Max Olesen* will be available on D2L as either PDF Scans, or links to online sources will be provided.

2. Plays: Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest* OR William Shakespeare, *Macbeth*

Notes: Given the online format, students can choose which one of these two plays they want to work on. These plays by Wilde and Shakespeare have many different editions available for purchase. You are welcome to use different ways to access the texts, and below are links to online versions of the plays that I use myself. Links to these will also be available via D2L.

Online *The Importance of Being Earnest*: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/844/844-h/844-h.htm>

Online *Macbeth*: <https://shakespeare.folger.edu/shakespeares-works/macbeth/>

3. 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.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 1 Jan. 8-12	Introduction to class; Short Story Unit begins... <u>Readings:</u> Ernest Hemingway, "A Very Short Story" Neil Gaiman, "The Mapmaker" Angela Carter, "The Werewolf"	
Week 2 Jan. 15-19	Short Story Unit continues... <u>Readings:</u> Ursula K. LeGuin, "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" Dagoberto Gilb, "Love in LA" & "Shout"	
Week 3 Jan. 22-26	Short Story Unit continues... <u>Readings:</u> Elizabeth Bowen, "The Demon Lover" Franz Kafka, "A Hunger Artist"	
Week 4 Jan. 29-Feb. 2	Short Story Unit concludes... <u>Readings:</u> Jorge Luis Borges, "The Aleph" Kelly Link, "The Specialist's Hat"	<u>Assignment: Short Story Essay due via D2L Dropbox Sunday, Feb. 4, 11:59 pm</u>
Week 5 Feb. 5-9	Drama Unit begins... <u>Readings:</u> Oscar Wilde, <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> , or William Shakespeare, <i>Macbeth</i>	
Week 6 Feb. 12-16	Drama Unit continues... <u>Readings:</u> Oscar Wilde, <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> , or William Shakespeare, <i>Macbeth</i>	

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 7 Feb. 19-Feb. 23	Reading Week – No class material this week	Feb. 21 – Family Day – College closed.
Week 8 Feb. 26-Mar. 1	Drama Unit concludes... <u>Readings:</u> Oscar Wilde, <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> , or William Shakespeare, <i>Macbeth</i>	<u>Assignment: Drama Project due via D2L Dropbox Sunday, Mar. 3</u>
Week 9 Mar. 4-8	Novel Unit begins... <u>Reading:</u> Kazuo Ishiguro, <i>Never Let Me Go</i>	
Week 10 Mar. 11-15	Novel Unit continues... <u>Reading:</u> Kazuo Ishiguro, <i>Never Let Me Go</i>	
Week 11 Mar. 18-22	Novel Unit continues... <u>Reading:</u> Kazuo Ishiguro, <i>Never Let Me Go</i>	
Week 12 Mar. 25-29	Novel Unit concludes... <u>Reading:</u> Kazuo Ishiguro, <i>Never Let Me Go</i> Poetry Unit begins... <u>Readings:</u> TBA from course pack selections	Mar. 29 - Good Friday – College closed. <u>Assignment: Novel Project & Novel Essay due via D2L Dropboxes Sunday, Mar. 31</u>
Week 13 Apr. 1-5	Poetry Unit continues... <u>Readings:</u> TBA from course pack selections	Apr. 1 – Easter Monday – College closed.
Week 14 Apr. 8-12	Poetry Unit concludes... <u>Readings:</u> TBA from course pack selections	<u>Assignment: Poetry Project due Sunday, Apr. 14</u>
Exam Period Apr. 15-23	Final Exam: Online, time TBA, scheduled during final exam period; Paragraph and Essay Responses covering all genre units.	

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 noticed is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Weekly D2L Discussion Forum Questions	15%
Short Story Essay	15%
Drama Project	10%
Novel Project	10%
Novel Essay	15%

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Poetry Project	10%
Final 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](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Content Warning:

While this is a course that focuses on fiction, which is inherently intended to present readers with new, unusual, and sometimes challenging ideas, it is important to create a safe and welcoming environment for our class. The content warnings provided are intended to give readers agency in preparing for material that might negatively impact their mental state. I will be providing individual content warnings for texts as needed, but 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, 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 to their assigned D2L drop-box by **11:59 pm** (PST) on their specified due dates.

Requests for formal extensions will be considered on an individual basis in discussion with the instructor.

Due dates: While we live in a particularly challenging time, and I aim to be flexible and understanding, due dates are there to help us move through class at a smooth, manageable pace. However, if an assignment is unavoidably late, it will receive a grade, but no comments. Late assignments will receive a grade, but no comments. If an assignment is more than a week late without a formal extension, it will lose 5% per day, including weekends, until it is submitted.

Plagiarism takes many forms. From the Camosun College School of Arts & Science Academic Honesty Guidelines (<https://legacy.camosun.ca/learn/school/arts-science/images/Arts%20and%20Science%20Academic%20Honesty%20Guidelines.pdf>) "As per Camosun College policy, plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the following: submitting an entire assignment written or made/created by someone else or based on collaboration with others; incorporating or paraphrasing passages from any source, including internet sites, without citations; submitting an assignment that an editor

or tutor has partially or entirely rewritten for you; submitting any portion of a group project which contains plagiarism; submitting anything created with input from a group as your own individual work.” Plagiarism will be met with serious consequences at Camosun College, as outlined in the Academic Honesty Guidelines. If you have difficulty completing assignments, please contact me for help, do not plagiarize.

Generative AI: I would not recommend the use of generative AI programs as they write boring 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. 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. The Camosun Library has produced a guide to help you in citing such tools: <https://camosun.libguides.com/ai/citation>. However, you are not a tool, you are a human being. It is all we have, really. Thinking your own thoughts and struggling slightly to produce your own work is far more interesting and valuable.

Class Environment:

This course is an inclusive, non-judgmental, and respectful space: While it is an online course, our class is 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. Disagree with one another, but disrespectful language and actions are not tolerated. Please practice 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 works or discussion comments 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 good online 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.

Communication outside class: Check your email and D2L email regularly (and possibly consider linking these accounts, which can be done through D2L), to keep connected with this asynchronous 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 connect with me via email or during my virtual 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 <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

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 Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the

appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/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 <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures"

(<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

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. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

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 or misconduct 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 and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

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 that 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 <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

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.