

CAMOSUN COLLEGE – COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH 286 SECTION 001

20TH CENTURY LITERATURE

Instructor: Susan R. Wilson
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Office Hours:

Monday	2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday	2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Thursday	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

or by appointment

Course Times and Locations:

Monday	4:00 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.	E348
Wednesday	4:00 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.	E348

Required Text: Damrosch, David, et al., eds. Longman Anthology of British Literature: Volume 2C The 20th Century. New York: Longman, 20002.

Optional Text: Barnet, Sylvan, and Reid Gilbert. A Short Guide to Writing About Literature. 1st Canadian Ed. Don Mills: Addison-Wesley, 1997.

This is a valuable resource for anyone hoping to pursue a degree in English or Literary Studies.

Throughout the twentieth century, the notion of “English Literature” and the focus of literary studies in English have undergone tremendous metamorphosis. Writers in English have not only responded to and challenged existing literary forms and trends, but have sought out innovative ways to give creative expression to human experience and perception. Thus, the potential range of a course entitled “20th Century Literature” is vast, encompassing not only all literature written in the English language, but embracing communities of writers that have been excluded from the traditional “Anglo-centric” canon of English literature. Obviously, it is impossible to do justice to this entire scope in a single semester. For this reason, this course will examine trends in 20th century literature in English from a transitional perspective by looking at major works.

Specifically, the course will begin by examining the nature of English Literature at the start of the 20th century and trace its metamorphosis through the movements that have subsequently become known as Modernism and Post-modernism, including an introductory overview of the impact of a diverse range of critical perspectives including Marxism, Psycho-analytic Criticism, Feminism, Post-structuralism, and Post-colonialism.

In order to trace the deconstruction and restructuring of what we think of as English Literature today within manageable parameters, the focus of this semester’s course readings will be primarily on the literary responses of writers to various social, historical, and cultural events of Great Britain in the 20th century.

Core Learning Objectives:

Students will:

Engage critically and analytically with major literary works of the 20th century;

Encounter new critical perspectives in literary theory;

Prepare and deliver oral presentations;

Participate actively in group work and class discussions;

Write correct, clear, cohesive, and effective English;

Prepare journal responses to assigned readings and discussion topics;

Write intelligent, articulate literary analyses of given works.

Research topics for literary essays;

Use a variety of sources;

Choose to summarize, paraphrase, or directly quote from sources;

Integrate the results of research into literary essays;

Document sources fully and ethically, according to MLA bibliographic conventions.

Evaluation:

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Assignments	90%	
Oral Presentation & Summary	15%	Throughout the Semester
Literary Essay #1	20%	Due Mon. 30 Sept. 2002
Mid-Term Test	15%	Weds. 30 Oct. 2002
Literary Essay #2	20%	Due Weds., 27 Nov. 2002
Final Exam	20%	TO BE ANNOUNCED
Student's Self-Evaluation	5%	
Participation	5%	
Total:	100%	

The assignments listed above will vary in terms of both their nature and their length. Explicit instructions will be given for each one, well in advance of its respective due date.

PLEASE NOTE:

This is a second year level course that involves a substantial amount of reading - all students will be expected to attend regularly and arrive in class with their homework and assigned readings completed. No meaningful participation can take place without this preparation.

Grades:

A+	=	95-100%	B-	=	70-74
A	=	90-94	C+	=	65-69
A-	=	85-89	C	=	60-64
B+	=	80-84	D	=	50-59
B	=	75-79	F	=	below 50

Assignment Formats and Due Dates:

- All assignments are due AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS on the date specified.
- Students **MAY NOT** SUBMIT PAPERS VIA E-MAIL.
- 10% WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR EACH SCHOOL DAY A PAPER IS LATE.
- PAPERS MORE THAN 2 DAYS LATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. EXTENSIONS MAY BE GRANTED IN EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT OBVIOUSLY THIS MUST BE NEGOTIATED WITH YOUR INSTRUCTOR. IN THE EVENT OF ILLNESS, A DOCTOR'S NOTE MUST BE PROVIDED.
- For correct essay presentation format (i.e. title page requirements, pagination, spacing, etc.), see the details specified with each assignment's instructions.
- FOLLOW THE MLA GUIDELINES for documentation of research/reference sources.
- ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TYPED. Those papers not conforming to the accepted standards of academic writing will not be graded.
- As the writing process is made up of various stages, KEEP ALL WORK PERTAINING TO EACH ASSIGNMENT UNTIL THE COURSE IS OVER. This work may be called in for review/assistance at the instructor's discretion. (It's extremely wise to keep a back-up copy of each assignment you hand in, either in the form of a photocopy, or a file stored on disk.)

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is the conscious theft of another person's ideas and/or words. Simply stated, this involves the use of someone else's prose or ideas in your writing without acknowledging where you got them. You thereby imply that someone

else's work is your own. **THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS ACADEMIC OFFENSE THAT WILL BE DEALT WITH ACCORDINGLY!**

Two of the principal goals of the academic experience are to foster original thought and intellectual honesty. Plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, is a violation of academic ethics that results in serious penalties. Therefore, it is vitally important "to give credit where credit is due."

Be sure to use research/reference materials to support your ideas, not to replace them, and make sure your documentation is accurate.

Classroom Protocols/Behavioural Expectations:

Each student is expected to take responsibility for his/her learning experience and contribution to the classroom environment. As members of this class, students are asked to adhere to the following protocols regarding appropriate behaviour; this will ensure positive interaction during the course:

- **Listen carefully to other people's views to understand and learn.**
- **Recognize the diversity of opinions – it's a source of strength.**
- **Participate in a balanced way by**
 - **Being mindful of "equal air time";**
 - **Avoiding interrupting others (one voice at a time);**
 - **Not dominating the discussion;**
 - **Maintaining a sense of humour;**
 - **Contributing to good time management.**
- **Respect anonymity and/or confidentiality.**
- **Recognize that silence implies neutrality or consent.**
- **If you are absent from class, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO OBTAIN COPIES OF ANY HANDOUTS DISTRIBUTED BY THE INSTRUCTOR. EITHER PICK THEM UP DURING OFFICE HOURS OR PHOTOCOPY A FRIEND'S.**

Attendance and Participation:

Due to the sheer volume of material covered in this course, it is impossible to successfully complete the course without at least 80% attendance. Your active participation is essential to a supportive, enlightening, stimulating, and mutually rewarding learning experience.

Each of us brings a unique experience, mind, and sensibility to what we read, so the class's interpretation(s) – the refined combination of many people's ideas and insights – should be larger and richer than any individual's. The achievement of such breadth, depth and richness is one of the important values of class discussion, and one of the reasons participating in discussion is not simply something a student might elect to do, but rather it is a student's responsibility.

Learning is not passive, but active. We learn by doing: reading, thinking, (analyzing, synthesizing, and questioning), writing, and talking. The classroom should be a laboratory of ideas, a place in which both students and instructor test and deepen their insights by speaking them out loud, countering, qualifying, or extending the insights of others. Therefore all students in this course are expected to participate in class discussion throughout the semester. Your participation will be noted and discussed with you, and eventually credited towards your grade. Obviously, to participate, you must attend class.

