

Camosun College - Course Outline

English 084E

Introduction to Fiction, Poetry and Drama

Winter 2003

Section 03

Instructor: Elizabeth West

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Office Hours: Tuesday: 9:30 – 10:20; 1:30 – 2:20 and Wednesday 9:30 – 10:20; 2:30 – 3:20
or by appointment

Class Hours: Monday: 2:30 – 4:20; Tuesday and Thursday: 2:30 – 4:00

Classroom: Fisher 216

Texts (*required*): *Perrine's Literature* by Thomas Arp

The Quiet American by Graham Greene

Course Description:

This course provides instruction and practice in reading, discussing, evaluating, and writing about short stories, novels, poetry and drama. By studying these genres, non-native English students will also be introduced to basic literary terms and concepts.

Course Objectives:

This course is specifically designed for students who are non-native speakers of English and, hence, of diverse linguistic, cultural and literary backgrounds. It offers instruction and practice to read, understand, enjoy, and write about all genres of literature. It seeks to generate in the students the awareness, sensitivity and insights necessary for the understanding of literature.

During this course, students will read selected short stories and poems by a cross section of writers, past and contemporary. They will also read a prescribed novel and a play, analytically and critically. The students will examine the themes and explore the language and the literary devices and techniques exemplified by these literary works. By the end of the course, students will be familiar with the elements and techniques found in all four genres of literature and be able to recognize, analyze, interpret and evaluate, and write about them.

Students will receive instruction on general principles of effective writing with special attention to strategies of writing about literature. This will give students initial exposure to the art of discipline driven writing - i.e. using terms, styles and methodologies specific to a discipline – while using content of universal appeal, i.e., the human experience. The critical, interpretive and analytical thinking, the focussed writing, and the interactive, cooperative classroom activities required and fostered in English 084E are designed to give the students skills and strategies that are (with minor adjustments of style and diction) transferable to, and effective in, most academic and professional environments.

Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of English 084E, students will be able to do the following

1. Express analytical and critical thinking about literary texts through clear and grammatically correct academic writing:
 - a) Plan and write a variety of assignments using accurate literary terminology.
 - b) Present a logical and unified progression of thought within assignments, well argued, well supported and of appropriate length.
 - c) Write well-focused and accurate answers to test questions.
2. Read, comprehend, and appreciate selected literary texts:
 - a) Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of literary texts showing understanding of form and content.
 - b) Compare and contrast specific aspects of selected stories, poems, plays, and novels.
 - c) Summarize, paraphrase, and quote accurately and appropriately from selected literary texts.
3. Understand and function effectively in a Canadian post-secondary classroom:
 - a) Prepare and present an organized oral presentation relevant to purpose and audience using appropriate audiovisual supports.
 - b) Demonstrate respect for learner colleagues, including those from differing cultural and linguistic backgrounds.
 - c) Collaborate with others in group tasks and discussions.
 - d) Abide by the concept of academic honesty.

Literary elements to be studied:

Fiction	The theme and its development The plot and its development The Conflict, Climax/Resolution Flashbacks, Foreshadowings Characterization Setting and Mood Irony, humor, suspense etc. Imagery, Symbolism etc. The authors' life and times - attitudes and insights
Poetry	The theme and its development The language of Poetry Two levels of meaning: Connotation & Denotation Form and Meaning; Sound and Meaning Poetic Devices: Imagery, Symbolism, Sound, Form

	The poets' life and times; attitudes and insights
Drama	The theme and its development Elements of Drama: Plot, Setting, Characterization Acts and Scenes; Stage Directions and Dialogues The playwright's life and times; attitudes and insights
Overview	Fiction, Poetry and Drama - Similarities and Differences

Evaluation:

Four in-class quizzes.	40%
An essay of a short story	10%
A literary essay of a novel.	10%
Analysis of a Poem	10%
An essay of a play.	10%
An oral presentation.	10%
In-class participation and performance.	<u>10%</u>

Total = 100%

*Students must get a passing aggregate in the unassisted in-class writing assignments in order to receive a passing grade in the course.

Grades

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

Important information

- (a) Students whose future goals do not require a *C*, may be awarded a *D* (or Pass = 50-59%) provided they have completed all major assignments and their total grade for the course is between 50 and 59 %.

- (b) In cases where the total mark is below 50% and attendance less than 80%, an *F* grade may be given.
- (c) All in-class and out-of-class assignments must be done or handed in on the specified dates. Late assignments will not be accepted or graded down.
- (d) All out-of-class assignments must be *typed (*using appropriate format - double spaced, one-inch margins, etc.)
- (e) Attendance is vital for the successful completion of this course. If you cannot attend a class because of illness or some other valid reason, please contact the teacher or have another student relay the message.

Your success in this course depends mainly on the effort you make. You will have to do a lot of reading and writing outside of class. If you do all the assignments, attend all or most of the classes, and actively participate in class activities you will probably do well in this course. Moreover, you will get a lot of personal satisfaction and enjoyment from what you will have accomplished.

English 084E Schedule

Week 1:	Jan 6 - 9	Short Stories
Week 2:	Jan 13 - 16	Short Stories
Week 3:	Jan 20 - 23	Short Stories
Week 4:	Jan 27 - 30	Short Stories
Week 5:	Feb 3 - 6	Short Stories/Novel
Week 6:	Feb 10 - 12	Short Stories/Novel (<i>The Quiet American</i>)
Reading Break: Feb 13 and 14		
Week 7:	Feb 17 - 20	Novel
Week 8:	Feb 24 - 27	Novel
Week 9	March 3 - 6	Poetry
Week 10:	March 10 - 13	Poetry
Week 11:	March 17 - 20	Poetry/Play (<i>A Doll House</i>)
Week 12	March 24 - 27	Play
Week 13	March 31 – April 3	Play
Week 14	April 7 - 10	Presentations and Final Test

Assignments

Short Story quiz: Feb 3
Short Story essay: Feb 11

Novel quiz: Feb 27
Novel essay: March 3

Poetry quiz: March 18
Poem analysis: March 24

Drama quiz: April 8
Drama essay: April 10
Presentation: TBA

