

CAMOSUN COLLEGE - COURSE OUTLINE
ENGLISH 270 (Fall 2004)
CANADIAN LITERATURE

Instructor: Laurie Elmquist
 Office: Paul Building Rm. 332
 Office Hours: Wed. and Fri. noon – 1 p.m. (or by appointment)
 Phone: 370-3355
 E-mail: elmquist@camosun.bc.ca

Course Time: Tues./Thurs. 11:30 - 12:50 p.m.
 Location: TBA
 Workload: 3 hrs. in class; 6 hrs. out of class per week
 Prerequisites: English 150 and 160

Texts: Required

- Wright, Richard Clara Callan, 2002.
- Bennett and Brown, A New Anthology of Canadian Literature, 2002.
- Course Pack of Readings and Assignments

- Joanna Glass, *Trying*
 playing at the Belfry Theatre from Oct. 26 - Nov. 21
Tickets are on sale now, so buy yours a.s.a.p. as they sell fast:
 \$12 for a Sunday or Wednesday matinee; \$27 for a Fri. or Sat. performance.
Essay due Nov. 23

Course Description:

Through a study of various authors, this course investigates Canadian literature from the late nineteenth century to the present day. Readings, which may include the short story, poetry, drama, the essay, and the novel, are presented in a variety of contexts, including historical and geographical. Critical essays and a final examination are required. Finished assignments total approximately 5000 words and range from 500 to 2500 words.

Outcomes

When reading Canadian literature, students will be encouraged to make connections, evaluate works based on established critical criteria, and recognize both the general characteristics of Canadian literature as well as those of individual authors.

Students will

- Analyze Canadian literature from the nineteenth century to the present, with an emphasis on post 1950 literature and the rich diversity of authors and their works.
- Evaluate a variety of genres, which may include poetry, short fiction, novels, drama, and essays, according to critical precepts appropriate to the specific genre.
- Compare works such as those from E.J. Pratt, Earle Birney, Dorothy Livesey, P.K. Page, Al Purdy, Margaret Laurence, Margaret Atwood, Alice Munro, Timothy Findley, Thomas King, and Rohinton Mistry while applying concepts that demonstrate the development of Canadian literature. Individual instructors may choose from this list and add to it.

When discussing Canadian literature, students will be encouraged to develop their own interpretations of the works using a variety of critical methods and resources.

Students will

- Identify the socio-historical context of the works and relate the works to others as part of a literary continuum.
- Identify and account for recurring themes in Canadian Literature.
- Compare and contrast various works, authors, and styles within the context of the overall development of Canadian literature.
- Distinguish between the subjective and objective aspects of works in order to formulate informed judgments about the works being discussed.
- Identify the influence of dominant critical theories or movements in the contexts of the literature studied.

When writing about the literature, students will be expected to demonstrate their understanding of the above issues and to explain, support, and illustrate their interpretations of literature in essays and a final examination.

Students will

- support their work with relevant textual evidence.
- Document sources using MLA conventions.

Evaluation

Each assignment will be preceded by *detailed* instructions:

1. Discussion Assignments	10	
2. In-class essay on the short story	15	
3. Author Readings (3 x 5)	15	
4. Essay on the Belfry drama		15
5. Essay on Richard Wright's novel	15	
6. 6-min. oral presentation on poetry	10	
7. Final exam	20	

Grading System:

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
		INC	= Incomplete

Students' Responsibilities

1. Attend class regularly (phoning or relaying a message if unable to be present). Attendance will be recorded each class.
2. Contribute to class discussion; request assistance; and encourage and assist other students.
3. Read closely and critically all assigned readings from the text *before* class.
4. Complete all assignments *before* class (as they are due at the beginning of each class).
5. **All assignments must be completed for credit in this course. Failure to complete even *one* assignment will result in a failing grade in the course.**
6. Hand work in on time (at the beginning of class on the due date). Late submissions must be negotiated and will be penalized 5% per day, counting weekends, up to a maximum of 5 week days, after which they will not be accepted.
7. Demonstrate knowledge of MLA documentation. Plagiarism is a violation of academic ethics which results in serious penalties; therefore, it is vital to give credit where credit is due. Use research/reference materials to support your ideas, not replace them, and make sure your documentation is accurate. For College policies regarding plagiarism, see Student Conduct Policy, "Academic Misconduct," in the Camosun Student Calendar.

Instructor's Responsibilities

The instructor will adapt the course appropriately, function as a senior learner, share her own ideas and writing, stimulate and support the learning of others, give every opportunity for success, provide knowledge as needed, facilitate cooperation and community, provide clear instructions and examples for assignments, comment helpfully, return work promptly, and treat students with respect, fairness, and honesty.