

School of Arts & Science ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

ENGL 160-006 Introduction to Literature 2006F

COURSE OUTLINE

The Approved Course Description is available on the web @ _____

 Ω Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.

Course Description

Three general goals of this course are that you will gain insight into human experience through literature, that you will increase your ability to read serious literature independently with enjoyment, and that you will be able to express your views about literature with greater facility.

This course, which is a discussion of fiction, poetry, drama and nonfiction, is an introduction to the study and analysis of literature. It includes a diverse and challenging range of materials. You will be assigned 4 essays. Individual assignments range from 200-1,200 words in length (course total of 4,000-4,500 words).

1. Instructor Information

| (a) | Instructor: | Laurie Elmquist | |
|-----|---------------|--|--------------------|
| (b) | Office Hours: | Tues. and Thurs. 11:00 – 12:00 (or by appointment) | |
| (C) | Location: | Paul 332 | |
| (d) | Phone: | 370-3355 | Alternative Phone: |
| (e) | Email: | elmquist@camosun.bc.ca | |
| (f) | Website: | | |

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(<u>No</u> changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

Upon completion of this course:

- 1. <u>In reading literature</u>, students will be encouraged to make connections, consider meaning, make and support inferences, and evaluate. Instructors will select course materials and provide information to enable students to:
 - Analyze literature in the genres of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and drama from different periods.
 - Analyze literature by men and women from various cultural backgrounds.
 - Identify literary forms, elements, and techniques.

- 2. <u>In discussing literature</u>, students will be given the opportunity to develop and communicate responses and interpretations using varied methods and resources. Students will be expected to:
 - Distinguish between literal and figurative meaning.
 - Use literary terms such as metaphor, irony, character, setting, and plot.
 - Use vocabulary associated with analyzing fiction, poetry, drama, and nonfiction.
 - Analyze themes.
 - Identify a variety of literary theories.
 - Develop an informed critical response.
- 3. <u>In writing about literature</u>, students will be expected to explain, support, and illustrate points in essays by:
 - Using a critical approach with appropriate language.
 - Comparing pieces of literature in English.
 - Documenting sources using current MLA bibliographic conventions.

3. Required Materials

| (a) | Texts | Required Kirszner, Mandell, Fertile, <u>Literature: Reading, Reacting, Writing</u>, 2007. "book club" texts (we'll talk about this in class!) Recommended |
|-----|-------|--|
| | | 3-ring binder for class handouts |
| (b) | Other | |

4. Course Content and Schedule

(Can include: class hours, lab hours, out of class requirements and/or dates for quizzes, exams, lectures, labs, seminars, practicums, etc.)

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(Should be linked directly to learning outcomes.)

Evaluation

Each assignment will be preceded by *detailed* instructions.

| Participation | 15 |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| One-page response papers | 5 |
| In-class essay on short story | 15 |
| Essay on nonfiction | 20 |
| Essay on drama | 15 |
| Final Exam | <u>30</u> |
| | 100 |

Important Note: All assignments must be completed for credit in this course.

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6. Grading System

(<u>No</u> changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

| Percentage | Grade | Description | Grade Point Equivalency |
|------------|-------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 95-100 | A+ | | 9 |
| 90-94 | А | | 8 |
| 85-89 | A- | | 7 |
| 80-84 | B+ | | 6 |
| 75-79 | В | | 5 |
| 70-74 | B- | | 4 |
| 65-69 | C+ | | 3 |
| 60-64 | С | | 2 |
| 50-59 | D | | 1 |
| 0-49 | F | Minimum level has not been achieved. | 0 |

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at **camosun.ca** or information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

| Temporary Grade | Description | |
|--|---|--|
| Incomplete: A temporary grade assigned when the require course have not yet been completed due to hardship or ext circumstances, such as illness or death in the family. | | |
| IP | <i>In progress</i> : A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. | |
| cw | <i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement. | |

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at **camosun.ca** for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at <u>camosun.ca</u>.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED

Students' Responsibilities

- 1. <u>All assignments</u> must be completed for credit in this course. Failure to hand in an assignment will result in a failing grade in the course. A late assignment may result in a zero grade, but it still must be completed and handed in.
- 2. <u>Attendance</u>: Students will be expected to attend class regularly (emailing, phoning or relaying a message if unable to be present). Attendance will be recorded each class. You cannot learn from the course and participate in class activities if you do not attend. Repeated absences will result in my request that you drop the course.
- Participation: Students will be expected to complete assigned readings, contribute to class and online discussions, set personal goals, choose topics they know and care about, request assistance, have drafts and final copies ready on-time, and encourage and assist other students. This course uses WebCT tools (mail, discussion board, and chat) as a way to foster communication between students.
- <u>Peer Review:</u> A full draft of the writing assignment must be brought to class on the day designated for peer review. Students who skip a scheduled peer review will automatically receive a deduction of 10%. Peer reviews must be completed **in-class** by **peers**. Format for final papers must follow MLA style, which is fully explained in your text: *Documenting Your Sources* (1431-1447).
- 5. <u>Policy for Late Work:</u> 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.
- 6. <u>Plagiarism</u> is the conscious theft of another person's ideas and/or words, presenting them as your own by not acknowledging their true source. Two of the principal goals of the academic experience are to foster original thought and intellectual honesty. Plagiarism is a violation of academic ethics which results in serious penalties. Therefore, it is vital to give credit where credit is due. <u>Use research/reference materials to support your ideas, not replace them, and make sure your documentation is accurate</u>. For College policies regarding plagiarism, see Student Conduct Policy, "Academic Misconduct""in the <u>Camosun Student Calendar</u>.

Instructor's Responsibilities

The instructor will adapt the course appropriately, function as a senior learner, share her own ideas, 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.

Required Texts: Literature: Reading, Reacting, Writing by Kirszner, Mandell, and Fertile¹

Instructions: Choose one from each category.

| Category 1 – Short Stories (in your textbook) | | |
|---|---|--|
| Chapt.4 Plot: | Town and Country Lovers, Nadine Gordimer (80) | |
| | Swimming Lessons, Rohinton Mistry (488) | |
| Chapt.5 Character: | The Things They Carried, Tim O'Brien (528) | |
| | Stones, Timothy Findley (134) | |
| Chapt.6 Setting: | A Field of Wheat, Sinclair Ross (173) | |
| | The Boat, Alistair MacLeod (188) | |
| Chapt.7 Point of View: | Borders, Thomas King (218) | |
| | Loons, Margaret Laurence (248) | |
| Chapt.8 Style, Tone, Language. | | |
| | Soldier's Home, Ernest Hemingway (272) | |
| Chapt.9 Symbol and Allegory: | A Very Old Man, Gabriel Garcia Marquez (432) | |
| | The Rocking-Horse Winner, D.H. Lawrence (369) | |

Category 2 -- Contemporary Nonfiction

Hunting for Hope: A Father's Journeys, Scott Russell Sanders (Beacon, 1999) The Partly Cloudy Patriot, Sarah Vowell (Simon and Schuster, 2003) Angela's Ashes: A Memoir, Frank McCort (Scribner, 1999) Riding the Bus with My Sister: A True Life Journey, Rachel Simon (Plume, 2003) After Long Silence, Helen Fremont (Delta, 2000) Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, the Man Who Would Cure the World, Tracy Kidder (Random House, 2004)

Category 3 – Drama (in your textbook)

The Importance of Being Earnest, Oscar Wilde (960) A Doll House, Henrick Ibsen (1012) The Brute, Anton Chekhov (1080) The Ecstasy of Rita Joe, George Ryga (1377) Oedipus the King, Sophocles (1292) I Am My Own Wife, Doug Wright (Belfry Theatre Sept. 19 – Oct. 15)²

Category 4 – Ancient tales

Decameron Selected Tales, Boccaccio (Dover Thrift Edition) Selected Fables, Aesop (La Fontaine) (Dover Thrift Edition) Favorite Fairy Tales, Brothers Grimm (Dover Evergreen Classic)

Favorite Tales from the Arabian Nights Entertainments (Dover Thrift Edition)

King Arthur: Tales from the Round Table, Andrew Lang (Dover Evergreen Classic) Metamorphoses: Selected Stories in Verse, Ovid (Dover Thrift Edition)

Category 5 – 19th Century Fiction

Dracula, Bram Stoker (Dover Thrift Edition) Frankenstein, Mary Shelley (Dover Thrift Edition) The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, Robert Louis Stevenson (Dover Thrift Edition) The Picture of Dorian Gray, Oscar Wilde (Dover Thrift Edition) Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll (Dover Thrift Edition) Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain (Dover Thrift Edition)

Category 6 – Poetry (in your textbook)

¹ Short Stories, Drama and Poetry are all found in your text, *Literature: Reading, Reacting and Writing*. The first page number is indicated in parentheses.

² Instead of reading a play, you will watch it at the Belfry. Be sure to buy your ticket soon because they sell out fast. Although Fri. and Sat. night tickets tend to be pricey (\$25) you can go to a Sunday or Wednesday matinee or Tuesday night for \$14. Be sure to take home the program and read the reviews in local newspapers.

Poems about Parents (570-578) Poems about Love (578-586) Poems about War (587-598) Poems: Word Choice, Diction (654-674) Poems with Imagery (683-699) Poems with Simile, Metaphor, Personification (701-711)

Further Instructions!

Do some exploring before making your choices:

- 1) browse through your textbook
- 2) go to one of the bookstores to look at the books
- 3) go to <u>www.amazon.com</u> to read a bit about the book (and to check out reviews!)
- 4) ask profs, ask friends, ask family

Choose a book in each category that you have not read before, either for a class or on your own. If you have read all the books in a category, please see me.

Choose a book in each category that looks interesting to you.

Do not buy anything yet!!

Come to class on <u>Thursday, Sept. 7</u> with a piece of paper on which you have your first, second and third choices listed. In *each* category, include a sentence or two explaining why you want to read this book.

On Tuesday, Sept. 12, I will return your sheets of paper with a book in each category checked. Go to the bookstore ASAP to buy your books (in case they have to order).

By class time on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>Sept. 21</u>, you should have purchased the rest of your books. We will begin reading the choice texts Week 2.

| Date | Readings ³ | Assignments Due |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| | | |
| Week One Tues. Sept. 5 | Introduction to the Course For the Love of Reading Virginia Woolf (handout) | |
| Thurs. Sept. 7 | Read: Introduction to Literature (3-71) Meet in Ewing 113 for WebCT lab | |
| Week Two Tues. Sept. 12 | Simple Recipes (45-52) Madeleine Thien | Due: #1 One-page response to the questions on Woolf's essay. 1% |
| Thurs. Sept. 14 | Category #1: Short Stories Book Clubs meet to discuss Short Story #1 and #2 | |
| Week Three Tues. Sept. 19 | "Mixed Groups" discuss the stories and look for commonalities among them. | Due: #2 One-page response that discusses how the stories are similar in theme. 1% |
| Thurs. Sept. 21 | | In-class comparison essay on two short stories (15%). Know your book club stories well. This essay must be written in-class so it is important that you are not absent on this day. |
| Week Four Tues. Sept.26 | Category #2: Contemporary Nonfiction Intro to Nonfiction | |
| Thurs. Sept. 28 | Book Clubs discuss Contemporary Nonfiction | • |
| Week Five Tues. Oct. 3 | "Mixed Groups" meet to discuss Contemporary Nonfiction | |
| Thurs. Oct. 5 | | Due: Nonfiction Essay for Peer Review |
| Week Six Tues. Oct. 10 | Category #3: Drama • Intro to Drama Read: Understanding Drama (904 – 947, 1069-1079, 1242 – 1246, 1335 – 1340) | |
| Thurs. Oct. 12 | Book Clubs discuss Drama | |
| Week Seven Tues. Oct. 17 | Book Clubs discuss Drama | |
| Thurs. Oct. 19 | Mixed Groups meet to discuss Dramas | |

³ All readings are done **before** class. If you see a page number beside the reading, it is from our textbook, *Literature: Reading, Reacting, Writing.*

| Week Eight Tues. Oct. 24 | | Due: Drama Essay for Peer Review |
|---|---|--|
| Thurs. Oct. 26 | Category #4: Ancient Tales ⁴ Introduction to Ancient Tales/Myths | |
| Week Nine Tues. Oct. 31 Happy Halloween | Book Clubs discuss Ancient Tales | |
| Thurs. Nov. 2 | Book Clubs discuss Ancient Tales | Due: #3 One-page response that focuses on one story and how it discusses a truth in symbolic terms. 1% |
| Week Ten Tues. Nov. 7 | Mixed Group meets to discuss Ancient Tales Last Day to Withdraw | |
| Thurs. Nov. 9 | Category #5: Classic Novels | |
| murs. Nov. 9 | Introduction | |
| Week Eleven Tues. Nov. 14 | Book Clubs discuss 19th and 20th Century Fiction | |
| Thurs. Nov. 16 | Book Clubs discuss 19th and 20th Century Fiction | |
| Week Twelve Tues. Nov. 21 | Mixed Groups meet to discuss 19th and 20th Century Fiction | Due: #4 One-page response that examines one aspect of the classic novel. 1% |
| Thurs. Nov. 23 | Category #6: Poetry Introduction to Poetry Reading and Writing about Poetry (599 – 617) | |
| Week Thirteen Tues. Nov. 28 | Book Clubs discuss poetry | Due: #5 One-page response that discusses one element of poetry (metaphor, image etc) and its use in 2-3 poems. 1% |
| Thurs. Nov. 30 | Book Clubs discuss poetry | |
| Week Fourteen Tues. Dec. 5 | Mixed Groups meet to discuss poetry | |
| Thurs. Dec. 7 | Exam Review | |

 $^{^{\}rm 4}$ The final exam will include questions on Ancient Tales, Classic Novels and Poetry.

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