



**School of Arts & Science
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

**ENGL 270-001
Canadian Literature
Fall 2008**

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.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Christine Kirchner		
(b)	Office Hours:	Tues. & Thurs., 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. or by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Paul 226		
(d)	Phone:	(250) 370-3329	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	kirchner@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:			

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

When reading Canadian literature, the student 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. Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Analyze Canadian literature from the nineteenth century to the present, with emphasis on post 1950 works and the rich diversity of authors and works.
2. Evaluate a variety of genres, which may include poetry, short fiction, novels, drama, and essays, according to critical precepts appropriate to the specific genre.
3. 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, and Rohinton Mistry while applying concepts that demonstrate the development of Canadian literature. Note that individual instructors may put a slight change of focus in this course by choosing one author over another, but the general tenor of the course will remain the same.

When discussing Canadian literature, the student will be encouraged to develop their own interpretations of the works using a variety of critical methods and resources. Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Identify the socio-historical context of the works and relate the works to others as part of a literary continuum.
2. Identify and account for recurring themes in Canadian Literature.
3. Compare and contrast various works, authors, and styles within the context of the overall development of Canadian literature.

4. Distinguish between the subjective and objective aspects of works in order to formulate informed judgements about the works being discussed.
5. Identify the influence of dominant critical theories or movements in the contexts of the literature studied.

When writing about the literature, the student 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. Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Support their work with relevant textual evidence.
2. Document sources using current MLA conventions.

3. Required Materials

- (a) Texts: Bennett and Brown, *A New Anthology of Canadian Literature*, 2002.
Michael Ondaatje, *The English Patient*, 1993.
- (b) Other: English 270 Course Package.

Performances: Required

John Mighton, *Half Life*

Playing at the Belfry Theatre from Sept. 16 – Oct. 19, 2008.

Tickets are on sale now, so buy yours a.s.a.p. as they sell fast:

Approx. \$14 for a Sunday or Wednesday matinee; \$28 for a Fri. or Sat. performance.

Essay due Mon., Oct. 27.

4. CLASS SCHEDULE

Wed., Sept. 3	Course Introduction
Mon., Sept. 8	<p>Unit I: Short Fiction</p> <p>LITERARY ELEMENTS, p. 17, Course Pack (CP). Excerpt from <i>Survival</i> by Margaret Atwood, pp. 19-22 (CP). More About Grosse Ile, p. 23 (CP). Susanna Moodie, pp. 93-122, Bennett & Brown (B&B). Margaret Atwood pp. 783-784; 786 (B&B). ❖ Discussion Questions on Atwood's <i>Survival</i>, Moodie's <i>Roughing it in the Bush</i>, and Atwood's "Dream 2: Brian the Still-Hunter," p. 18 (CP).</p>
Wed., Sept. 10	<p>Excerpt from <i>A Passion for Narrative</i> by Jack Hodgins about Point of View, pp. 26-27 (CP). "Metafiction" by Elizabeth Simpson and Laurie Elmquist, p. 28 (CP). Sinclair Ross, pp. 397-408 (B&B). ❖ Discussion Questions on Sinclair Ross's "The Runaway," p. 25 (CP).</p>
Mon., Sept. 15	<p>Excerpt from <i>The Canadian Short Story</i> by Michelle Gadpaille, pp. 30-37 (CP). Alice Munro, pp. 661-79 (B&B). ❖ Discussion Questions on Alice Munro's <i>The Progress of Love</i> and Michelle Gadpaille's article, "Alice Munro," p. 29 (CP).</p>

- Wed., Sept. 17** "Time for Everything" by Elizabeth Simpson, pp. 40-41 (CP).
Feminist Criticism, p. 42 (CP).
Carol Shields, pp. 742-56 (B&B) (film).
❖ Discussion Questions on Carol Shields' "Hazel," p. 39 (CP).
- Mon., Sept. 22** "Interview with Alistair MacLeod" by Stott, Jones, and Bowers,
pp. 50-52 (CP).
Alistair MacLeod, pp. 756-62 (B&B).
Tomson Highway, pp. 1046-55 (B&B).
❖ Discussion Questions on Alistair MacLeod's "As Bird's Bring
Forth the Sun," "Interview with Alistair MacLeod," and Tomson
Highway's *Kiss of the Fur Queen*, p. 49 (CP).
- Wed., Sept. 24** Interview by Linda Hutcheon, pp. 44-47 (CP).
Michael Ondaatje, pp. 899-912 (B&B).
❖ Discussion Questions on Michael Ondaatje's "The Bridge" and
Linda Hutcheon's "Interview with Ondaatje," p. 43 (CP).
- Mon., Sept. 29** Excerpt from *The Truth About Stories* by Thomas King,
pp. 54-69 (CP).
Thomas King pp. 913-7 (B&B).
❖ Discussion Questions on Thomas King's "A Coyote Columbus
Story" and on Chapter One of Thomas King's *The Truth About
Stories*, p. 53 (CP).
- Wed., Oct. 1** **Exam: In-class essay** {See p. 8 (CP) for Assignment
Instructions}
Guy Vanderhaeghe pp. 1057-72 (B&B).
Rohinton Mistry pp. 1074-89 (B&B).
{Interview with Rohinton Mistry, pp. 71-74 (CP)}.
- Mon., Oct. 6** **Unit II: DRAMA**

Discuss Drama Assignment pp. 9-10 (CP).

Unit III: Novel

Introduction to the novel, *The English Patient*, by Michael
Ondaatje. (film)

Novel Essay Assignment, pp. 11-12 (CP).
- Wed. Oct. 8** *The English Patient*, cont'd. (film)
- Mon., Oct. 13** *THANKSGIVING DAY. COLLEGE CLOSED.*
- Wed., Oct. 15** *The English Patient*, cont'd. (film)

"Who's Who" pp. 81-82 (CP).
"Archetypes" pp. 83-88 (CP).

❖ Discussion Questions on *The English Patient*, pp. 77-79 (CP).
- Mon., Oct. 20** *The English Patient*, cont'd.
- Wed., Oct. 22** *The English Patient*, cont'd.

Mon., Oct. 27

Due at the beginning of class: Essay on the Belfry Play.

The English Patient, cont'd.

Unit IV: POETRY

ELEMENTS OF A POEM, pp. 91-92 (CP).

“Terminology Associated with the Analysis and Discussion of Poetry,” pp. 93-99 (CP).

“Critical Questions for Reading Poetry,” p. 101 (CP).

“Meter,” pp. 103-104 (CP).

“Rediscovering Princess Pauline,” pp. 106-108 (CP).

Wed., Oct. 29

E. Pauline Johnson, pp. 167-168 (B&B). (film)

“The Song My Paddle Sings” p. 171 (B&B).

“His Majesty the West Wind” p. 172 (B&B).

“The Lost Island” p. 175 (B&B).

❖ Discussion Questions on Pauline Johnson, p. 105 (CP).

Mon., Nov. 3

“Preface to an Uncollected Anthology” by Northrop Frye, pp. 110-111 (CP).

“Archibald Lampman: A Confederation Poet,” pp. 112-113 (CP).

Archibald Lampman, pp. 177-178 (B&B).

“Heat” pp. 179-180 (B&B).

“Winter Evening” p. 186 (B&B).

“In November” p. 113 (CP).

❖ Discussion Questions on Archibald Lampman, Literary Criticism of Northrop Frye (“Preface to an Uncollected Anthology”), and “Archibald Lampman: A Confederation Poet,” p. 109 (CP).

Wed., Nov. 5

PRESENTATION TOPICS: Sign up for the poem of your choice. All poems must be from our text. {See pp. 13-14 (CP) for Assignment Instructions}

“Music in words and emotion in movement” p. 115-116 (CP).

Earle Birney, pp. 378-9 (B&B).

“Vancouver Lights” pp. 379-80 (B&B).

“Bushed” pp. 384-5 (B&B). (film)

❖ Discussion Questions on Earle Birney and “Music in words and emotion in movement,” p. 114.

Mon., Nov. 10

Al Purdy, pp. 546-7 (B&B). (film)

“Say the Names” p. 567 (B&B).

Critiques by Susan Musgrave, pp. 118-122 (CP).

“Concerning Ms. Atwood” p. 123 (CP).

“Wilderness Gothic” pp. 552-3 (B&B).

“Elegy for a Grandfather [1986]” pp. 559-60 (B&B).

“Grosse Isle” pp. 565-6 (B&B).

- ❖ Discussion Questions and film on Al Purdy's Poetry, p. 117 (CP).

Wed., Nov. 12

Bronwen Wallace, pp. 936-7 (B&B).
 Interview with Janice Williamson, pp. 126-130 (CP).
 "The Woman in this Poem" pp. 937-9 (B&B).
 "Testimonies" pp. 943-4 (B&B).
 "The Watermelon Incident" pp. 944-6 (B&B).

- ❖ Discussion Questions on Bronwen Wallace and Interview with Janice Williams, p. 125 (CP).

Mon., Nov. 17

George Elliot Clarke, pp. 1146-7 (B&B).
 "An Impoverished Style: the Poetry of George Elliot Clarke" by M. Travis Lane"
 pp. 133-140 (CP).

The Adoration of Shelley, Whydah Falls is a poem novel and consists of many poems. I'd like you to read seven (7) beginning with "The Argument" (p. 1147) and ending with "Each Moment is Magnificent" (p. 1152) (B&B).

- ❖ Discussion Questions on George Elliot Clarke and "An Impoverished Style: the Poetry of George Elliot Clarke" by M. Travis Lane," pp. 131-132 (CP).

Wed., Nov. 19

Due at the beginning of class: Novel Essay on *The English Patient*.

Oral Presentations

Mon., Nov. 24

Oral Presentations

Wed., Nov. 26

Oral Presentations

Mon., Dec. 1

Oral Presentations

Wed., Dec. 3

Discussion about the final exam.

Exam Period

Final Exam

(See exam schedule for date and location)

5. Evaluation: each assignment will be preceded by *detailed* instructions:

1. Discussion Assignments	10%
2. In-class essay on the short story	20%
3. Essay on the Belfry drama	20%
4. Essay on the novel	20%
5. Ten-minute oral presentation on poetry	10%
6. Final Exam	20%
	100%

6. Grading System

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Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

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 E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (<i>For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.</i>)
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.

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 camosun.ca.

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. 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 five (5) weekdays, 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 clear instructions and examples for assignments, comment helpfully, return work promptly, and treat students with respect, fairness, and honesty.