

English 160 (Winter 09)

Instructor: Raj Mehta

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Course Credit Value: 3 **Prerequisites:** English 150

Course Web Page (for uploading assignments): <http://online.camosun.ca/>

Course Description

This course is an introduction to literature through original works of prose, fiction, poetry, and drama. It introduces students to the pleasures of reading literature, to the interpretative approaches to literature, and to some of the specialized terms. Students will be expected to write and think about literature, thus enhancing their skills and their ability to reason logically and clearly. Finished assignments total 4000-4500 words.

Core Learning Objectives

Students in English 160 are expected to develop the following abilities:

In reading literature, students will be encouraged to make connections, consider meaning, make and support inferences, and evaluate.

Instructors will select course materials and provide information that will enable students to:

- Read a range of literature including various genres from different periods;
- Read literature by men and women from a variety of cultural and social backgrounds;
- Identify various literary forms, elements and techniques;

In discussing literature, 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 non-fiction.
- Analyze themes.
- Identify a variety of literary theories.
- Develop an informed critical response.

Required Texts

1. *Medicine River*, Thomas King
2. *Sophocles: Oedipus Tyrannus*, Edited and translated by Judith Affleck, Ian McAuslan
3. *Oxford Book of Short Stories*, Edited by V.S. Pritchett

Note: poetry readings will be distributed in class.

Assignments

ALL WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE UPLOADED ON THE D2L SERVER:

<http://online.camosun.ca/>

Please be forewarned - make sure you have access to the Dropboxes for the assignments. Excuses involving issues around Dropbox access will not be accepted and will automatically result in a grade of zero for the assignment in question.

<u>Poetry Presentation</u>	<u>20%</u>
<u>Midterm Essay</u>	<u>20%</u>
<u>Test</u> (one week before the last class)	<u>20%</u>
<u>Exercises (2@5%)</u>	<u>10%</u>
<u>Final Essay+ Peer Review</u> (due the last class)	<u>25% + 5%</u>

Evaluation

A+ = 90-100%	A = 85-89	A- = 80-84
B+ = 77-79	B = 73-76	B- = 70-72%
C+ = 65-69	C = 60-64	D = 50-59%
F = Below 50%	IN = Incomplete	

A word about grading standards: Merely fulfilling the terms of an assignment, and doing so in a competent, reasonable manner is generally only enough for a grade in the B- range. 'A' grades will only be awarded when work demonstrates notable creativity, insight and excellence. All papers will be give a numerical grade to reflect the value in the term's work. The mark will be based on organization, quality of ideas and support, style and grammar, according to the following criteria:

A Range (85 - 100%) Superior level of achievement - worth consulting.

exceptional insight into material or topic
detailed, significant discussion
effective organization for paper's purpose

fluent, error-free expression

B Range (70 - 84%) High level of achievement - worth keeping.

competent treatment of material or topic but less originality or perception than for A
full but not so detailed discussion as for A
organization contributing to sense but remaining workmanlike
expression free of common errors

C+ (65 - 69%) More than satisfactory level of achievement - worth doing.

sound content, reasonably well organized
clear but somewhat mechanical organization
expression generally free of errors that confuse sense. May display content at the B or even A level but with more than one or two serious mechanical errors.

C (60 - 64%) Sufficient level of achievement to proceed with next level – readable.

acceptable but commonplace content adequately supported
mechanical but generally coherent organization
adequate but sometimes confusing expression

D (50 - 59%) Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted - worth reworking.

limited or misleading content with inadequate or inappropriate support
incomplete or confusing organization
frequent errors in expression that confuse sense

F (Below 50%) Minimum level not achieved - worth discarding.

inadequate or inaccurate content
incoherent organization
many errors in expression
basically, no apparent effort made in the paper at all

Course Policy

- Attendance:
 - This course requires participation by class members, so it is important that you attend in order to peer edit and contribute to class discussions. Regular attendance is required. You are responsible for material you miss if you are absent. I do not respond to “what did I miss” queries via email.
- Assignments:
 - Assignments are mandatory and due according to the dates & times specified. Late work will not be accepted (except under extraordinary circumstances) and will receive a grade of 0 (zero).
 - Do not e-mail assignments.
 - Please keep a copy of all work - including material you hand in.
- Email Policy:

-While I make every effort to check email regularly, I would appreciate at least 24 hours to respond to questions/problems.

- Student Disabilities:

-I would like to hear from students who have a disability that may require some modification in my teaching so that arrangements may be made to make them feel more at ease in class.

- Reading Others' Work:

-Regularly in this class you can expect others to read your writing and you to read theirs. Doing so will enrich the course and help us learn from each other. I expect everyone to be respectful of their classmate's writing, to take it seriously, to offer suggestions for revision in a constructive manner.

- Academic Honesty:

-I develop a sense for the style and syntax of your writing, and it is relatively clear when a written submission is not representative of your work. I also routinely use www.plagiarism.org to upload essays and check any suspected instances of plagiarism against sources on the Internet. Please note the various forms of plagiarism: (1) Plagiarism includes the literal repetition without acknowledgment of the writings of another author. All significant words, phrases, clauses, or passages in a student's paper that have been taken directly from source material must be acknowledged. (2) Plagiarism includes borrowing without acknowledgment another writer's general plan, outline, or structure of argument in the creation of one's own organization. (3) To paraphrase the thoughts of another writer - even if not taken literally word for word - without acknowledgment of the source is plagiarism. Plagiarism includes borrowing another's ideas and representing them as one's own. (4) Plagiarism includes allowing any other person or organization to prepare the paper and submitting it as one's own work.

Plagiarism is a serious offence. All offences will be reported and will result in a failing grade for the course. If you have any questions about source materials you are using, talk with me *before* turning in the assignment in question. **Students are assumed to be familiar with the "Academic Policies and Procedures" in the Camosun 2008-09 Calendar.**