



School of Arts & Science
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

ENGL 290- 01
Special Topics in Literature 1: Greek Tragedy
Fall 2009

COURSE OUTLINE

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:	Kristine Kerins
(b)	Office Hours:	Tues / Thurs 11:30 – 1 pm , Wed 2:30- 3:30 pm
(c)	Location:	Paul 330
(d)	Phone:	(250) 370 - 3357
(e)	Email:	kerins@camosun.bc.ca NOTE: An email will likely receive a quicker response than a phone message, but hotmail accounts can be unreliable. If I do not respond within 48 hours, assume I did not receive your message. Likewise, I will expect you to acknowledge receipt of my messages.
(f)	Website:	kerins.disted.camosun.bc.ca

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

When reading literature, students will be encouraged to make connections and evaluate works that clearly represent an overview of the topic under discussion. Works will normally represent a variety of genres such as short stories, poetry, drama and the novel. In cases where the topic focuses on one genre, works will represent varied aspects of that genre and/or illustrate the development of a particular author or literary movement(s).

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Analyze literature or other media such as film for elements such as theme, structure and rhetorical devices according to established critical criteria.
2. Evaluate works for component elements that clearly represent a literary movement, author, medium or style.

When discussing literature, students 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 the spectrum of works evaluated in the course.
3. Compare and contrast the stylistic elements of various works by one or more authors within the context of the topic discussed.
4. Where applicable, evaluate the importance of literary theory in both the creation and interpretation of texts. (continued ...)

When writing about 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 exam. 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

Aeschylus' *Orestia* - translated by Ted Hughes
 Sophocles' *Oedipus Cycle* - translated by Dudley Fitts and Robert Fitzgerald
 English 290 Course Pack (Kerins)

Recommended Materials

Dictionary of Classical Mythology – by John Edward Zimmerman

4. Course Content and Schedule – see attached

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Midterm	October 7	15%
Group Presentation	Sometime btwn Oct 19-Nov 4	15%
1st Essay	November 9	20%
2nd Essay	December 7	20%
Final Exam	Cumulative/ During Exam period (Dec 14-22)	30%

* all dates are tentative and therefore subject to change

6. Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+	Outstanding	9
85-89	A	Excellent	8
80-84	A-	Very Good	7
77-79	B+	Very Good	6
73-76	B	Good	5
70-72	B-	Good	4
65-69	C+	Satisfactory	3
60-64	C	Sufficient	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.

Missed Exams:

- Unless you can prove a medical issue (with a doctor's note), the midterm, presentation, and final must be completed in the intended class. Failure to do so will result in a grade of zero for that assignment.
- Failure to notify me of your medical issue within two days of the intended class will disqualify you for a make-up assignment and also result in a grade of zero.
- If you already know that you are going to be unable to attend on the date an assignment is scheduled, please come and see me ASAP. If your absence is justifiable, we will schedule a re-write as close to the set date as possible.

Late Essays:

- Essays are due at the start of class unless otherwise specified.
- Requests for extensions will be considered under special circumstances, but only if the request is made in advance of the due date.
- 10% per day (including weekends days) will be deducted for lateness.
- If you must hand something in late, you must hand it to me personally or have it signed and dated by any English instructor and slip it under my office door (Paul 330).
- I do NOT grade unsigned/unstamped essays found under my door.
- I do NOT accept electronic submissions of; I must have printed assignments.
- I do NOT allow re-writes of any kind.

Readings:

As with any course, it is vitally important that you have completed all assigned readings before coming to each class. Since our class time will consist mainly of group discussion, you must also have read the assigned works thoroughly enough to be able to intelligently participate in that discussion. Read the entire play on the first day it is discussed.

Participation and Attendance:

To do well in this course, you must regularly attend. Class time is your opportunity to clarify your ideas, responses and understanding of the works. Coming to class and participating in discussion will also help you anticipate the test questions and gather material for you essays. However, if you find it necessary to miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed and complete the homework BEFORE the next class. I would also suggest you make a trustworthy friend in the class from whom you can borrow thorough, reliable notes. Finally, although you may decide not to come to class occasionally, repeated absences will result in my request that you drop the course.

About electronics:

- NO electronics of any kind are allowed during tests or exams.
- Cell phones and MP3 players must be turned OFF and kept out of sight for every class
- Laptops are allowed for note-taking only; if they are being used for any other purpose or if they prove distracting to the instructor or any other student, they must be put away.