English 1406, Sections B0 and C0

Fall - Winter, 2017-18

Prof: Dr. Richard Cunningham

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Office Hours: Wed. 1:30 - 4:30, or by appointment

TA: TBA, maybe

Office: ///

Office Hours: ///

To print a copy of this syllabus, click here.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory:

We are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and friendship" which Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) and Mi'kmaq peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

Course Description:

Generic Description:

In this course students will be introduced to novels, plays, and poems from the twentieth century and earlier. This course will develop creative and analytical skills and will provide students with strategies for writing clearly and persuasively.

Specific Description:

In Sections .B0 and .C0 of English 1406 students will be encouraged to develop their reading, writing, and thinking. Toward that end, class members will read and engage with poetry, drama, and novels that they might not ordinarily otherwise encounter. Matthew Arnold wrote that acquainting oneself with letters, by which he meant reading literature, gives one the opportunity to read "the best that has been thought and said" (*Literature and Dogma*). F. R. Leavis felt that

reading great literature could help a person restore her or his moral and spiritual bearings, a restoration necessitated by the overwhelmingly utilitarian culture in which he lived (and, I would argue, we still live). More recently, many who studied literature through a theoretical or philosophical prism saw a variety of social revelations as the primary value to be gained from the study of literature: for example, a feminist reader can unveil a history of misogyny through the study of literature, while a Marxist reader can reveal a history of class struggle, a Foucauldian reader can use literature to show a variety of obscured power realtionships within our culture, etc. (Nb. Each such reader can also use literature for more or other purposes, and the better of them can also "use" it for personal pleasure.) Although the primary practices of theoretical readers seem utilitarian, while for Leavis escaping utilitarianism was exactly the reason for reading literature, most can also appreciate literature for its aesthetic qualities and can, in reading it, allow themselves simply to rise above diurnal experience to live the adventure offered by the literary work. Anything really worthy of study at the university level will present such, or similar, inconsistencies, and contradictory polemics. The study of literature is hard, and it is worthwhile in part because it is hard. To make sense of what you read, just as much as to make sense of life, demands paying close attention, moving deliberately--and often slowly--and always repeatedly, again and again, over texts that render unfamiliar that which you thought you knew, that introduce new ideas and new ways of seeing the world, and that make familiar and normal that which might otherwise be exotic, strange, and novel. At every step of the way, you will learn new things, consolidate useful practices, and be forced to take positions that sometimes might seem extraordinary to the "you" you were before you got to university.

During the year we will develop an understanding of the vocabulary specific to literary study -- e.g. metaphor, image, allusion, reference, irony, etc. -- so that we can speak and write in at least an approximation of a register appropriate to the *discourse community* of literary scholarship.

Nb. All papers are due, in print on paper, at the *beginning* of class on the day they are due. In some or all cases you may also be required to submit an electronic copy through Acorn.

The grade on a paper submitted any time within one week of when it is due will be reduced by one letter (e.g. from B to C, from B- to C-).

Any paper submitted more than a week late will not be graded.

The professor has the right to fail any student who does not submit for grade *all* assignments. I.e. if you do not submit any *one* assignment, you very well might fail the entire year-long course.

Disability Statement:

Students with disabilities that affect learning:

If you are a student with a documented disability who anticipates needing supports or accommodations, please contact Dr. Abu Kamara, Coordinator, Accessible Learning Services at 902-585-1291, abu.kamara@acadiau.ca or Kathy O'Rourke, Disability Resource Facilitator at 902-585-1823, disability.access@acadiau.ca. Accessible Learning Services is located in the Fountain Commons, Lower Level.

The Writing Center:

The Writing Centre offers free help to all students wishing to improve their writing skills. You can sign up online today:

writingcentre.acadiau.ca/writing-tutorials.html

To see which helpful presentations and workshops you can attend this year, click here:

writingcentre.acadiau.ca/workshops-and-presentations.html

Course Texts:

Broadview Introduction to Literature, Concise Edition. Eds. Chalykoff, Lisa, Neta Gordon, and Paul Lumsden. Broadview, 2015. Print.

Fotheringham, Scott. The Rest is Silence. Goose Lane, 2012.

Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. Toronto: Penguin, 1984. 2006 edition.

Grading:

Attendance and Participation	10%
Grammar Quizzes	10%
First Paper	10%

Second Paper	10%
Xmas Exam	10%
Third Paper	15%
Fourth Paper	15%
Final Exam	20%

Class Schedule:

Legend: The Concise Edition of the *Broadview Introduction to Literature, Concise Edition* will be referred to as BIL in the following table.

	September	
	7: Introductions	
12: Persuasive Writing	14: Intro to metaphor:	
	G. Herbert's "The Collar"	
19: <u>The Wanderer</u> and <u>The</u>	21: The Dream of the Rood	
Seafarer		
26: Sentence and paragraph structure.	28: Chaucer, The Miller's	
	Prologue and Tale	
October		
3: Paraphrasing	5: Read "Poetry," pp. 461 - 84, <i>BIL</i> . <u>Poetry</u>	
	<u>Notes</u>	
10: Marlowe and Ralegh's companion poems.	12: Grammar Quiz (or two).	
Pp. 489, 488, BIL.	Before submitting a paper.	
17: Shakespeare sonnets, pp. 491 - 3, BIL.	19: There will be an open book test on	
	Shakespeare play, TBD today.	
24: Shakespeare play, TBD.	26: Shakespeare play.	
31: Shakespeare play.		
	November	
	2: Metaphysical poetry: Donne's "The Flea,"	
	pp. 494-5; Donne's sonnets 10 and 14, pp.	
	495, 496,	
	BIL	
7: Irony: Joyce's "Araby," pp. 53 - 8, <i>BIL</i>	9: Irony: Chopin's "Story of an	
	Hour," pp. 25 - 27, <i>BIL</i>	
14: Fall Break, no class	16: Symbolism: Oedipus Rex, BIL	
21: Oedipus Rex, BIL	23: Herbert's "The Altar," and	
	"Easter Wings," pp. 503 & 504;	

	Herrick's "To the Virgins," p. 501, BIL	
28: Gilman's "Yellow Wallpaper,"	30: Review	
pp. 28 - 42, <i>BIL</i>		
December		
5: Exam preview		
	January	
9: Exam Review	11: Enemy	
16: Enemy and "Commentary on Enemy"	18: Literary analysis: <i>The Curious Incident</i>	
	of the Dog in the Night-time.	
23: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the	25: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the	
Night-time.	Night-time.	
30: Paragraphing outline		
February		
6: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the	8: Ibsen's <i>A Doll's House</i> , <i>BIL</i>	
Night-time.		
Ibsen's A Doll's House, BIL		
13: Ibsen's A Doll's House, BIL	15: Proofreading	
20: Reading Week; no class	24: Reading Week: no class	
27: The Rest is Silence		
	March	
	1: The Rest is Silence	
6: The Rest is Silence	8: The Rest is Silence	
9: The Rest is Silence; Shelley,	11: Coleridge, "Rime of the Ancient	
"Ozymandias." (550-1)	Mariner."	
13: Tennyson, "Lady of Shalott"	15: Bradstreet "The Author "; Wheatley	
	"On Being Brought from Africa"; Barrett	
	Browning, all; Dickinson, all: BIL	
20: Rossetti, "The Goblin Market"; Moore,	22: Wordsworth, "Lines Abbey," BIL	
"Poetry" (both), BIL		
27: Yeats, "Easter 1916" and	29: Modernism; Williams "Red	
"The Second Coming," BIL	Wheelbarrow,"; Pound "In a Station of the Metro," BIL	
April		
3: Eliot, The Wasteland, and "Prufrock," BIL	5: Exam Preview	
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