

Department Of English and Writing Studies

This course takes you on a journey through the genres, historical periods, and critical approaches to English literature. In online lectures and online discussions, you will study major works of poetry, prose, and drama with attention to their use of literary form and the cultural contexts in which they were written. The written assignments for the course will provide you with training in literary analysis, logical and rhetorical argumentation, and strong skills in grammar and composition.

This course is recommended to students who may be considering either a Major or Minor in English Language and Literature, and who are interested in reading poetry, prose, and drama.

Prerequisite: Grade 12U English or permission of the Department.

Successful students who complete the course will be able to:

- Identify and analyze basic elements of literature, such as plot, character, point of view, theme, setting, imagery, diction, tone, figures of speech, syntax, and rhythm
- Recognize connections between course texts
- Write an essay about a work (or works) of literature, containing a clear and effective thesis supported by adequate evidence from the original text(s)
- Research critical commentary on literary works
- Evaluate the relevance, reliability, and usefulness of research sources, especially those obtained through the Internet
- Integrate outside research materials and references to the original text(s) into an essay through the use of quotations and paraphrases
- Organize and present ideas clearly and effectively in writing
- Document essays using MLA format

1. Austen, Jane. *Northanger Abbey*. Ed. Claire Grogan. Peterborough: Broadview, 2002.
2. *Elements of Literature*. Canadian Edition. Ed. David Staines et al. Toronto: Oxford UP, 2010.
3. Larsen, Nella. *Passing*. New York: Modern Library-Random House, 2002.

Due to the nature of an online course and assignment turnaround times, students should make every effort to hand all assignments in on time. Essays and other assignments are to be submitted via the Owl drop box by the due dates listed above (and on the Course Schedule). Assignments sent as email attachments will not be accepted unless previously arranged with the instructor. Papers handed in late without prior permission will be deducted 5% per day late, including weekends. Essays submitted more than one week after the due date has passed will not be accepted. Late essays will forfeit instructor commentary. Please note that instructors cannot grant accommodation on medical grounds: see the Academic Accommodation section below for details.

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth (either alone or in combination) 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

EN 1020E (650): Understanding Literature Today
Course Schedule: Summer 2015
(Note that *Elements of Literature* is abbreviated to EL)

May 4-6.: Unit 1.1: Creation Stories: Margaret Laurence, "Where the World Began" (course pack); *Elements of Literature* (EL) 3-4; Discussion 1.1

May, 6-8 Unit 1.2 Milton, *Paradise Lost*, from Book 4 (course pack); EL 399-400; Discussion 1.2

May 11-13: Unit 2.1: The Natural World: Frost, "Design" and "Birches" (EL), Page, "Planet Earth" (course pack), EL 388-99; Discussion 2.1

June 17-19: Unit 7.2: Love and Loss: Shakespeare, "Sonnet 18," "Sonnet 73" and "Sonnet 130" (EL); Edna St. Vincent Millay, "I Being Born a Woman and Distressed" (course pack); Discussion 7.2

June 22-24: Unit 8.1: Love and Loss: Burns, "My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose" (course pack); Atwood, "Variations on the Word Love" (EL); Faulkner, "A Rose for Emily" (EL); Discussion 8.1

June 24-26: Unit 8.2: Love and Loss: Thomas, "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night" (EL); Yeats, "When You Are Old" (course pack); Auden, "Funeral Blues" (course pack); Discussion 8.2

June 29-July 1: Unit 9.1: Public and Private Selves: Nella Larsen, *Passing*; Discussion 9.1

July 1-3: Unit 9.2: Public and Private Selves: Nella Larsen, *Passing*; Discussion 9.2 7

July 6-8: Unit 10.1: Public and Private Selves: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper" (EL); EL 11-14; Discussion 10.1

July 8-10