

∞ PAST MASTERS ∞



COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE ORGANISATION

Course co-ordinators

Professor Robert Easting	Robert.Easting@vuw.ac.nz	VZ 901, Ext. 6803
Associate Professor Peter Whiteford	Peter.Whiteford@vuw.ac.nz	VZ 801, Ext. 6820

Tutorials, Assignments, Blackboard

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Class times and places

Lecture theatre:	HMLT206
Lecture times:	Mon, Wed, Fri 10.00-10.50.
Tutorials:	to be arranged

In addition to the three lectures, you will attend one tutorial each week. Tutorial lists will be compiled as soon as possible in the first week of term and posted on the English noticeboard in the foyer outside HM 206. Tutorials will begin in the second week of the term. The tutorials are a very important part of your development in the subject, and you should always prepare for them, take the appropriate text with you, and contribute to the discussion.

Tutorial allocation

You will be asked to fill out the relevant tutorial allocation form at the first lecture. If you miss this lecture, you must obtain the proper form from Dr. Schaefer. If your name does not appear on the list, see Dr. Schaefer. **Do not make your own additions or alterations to the list.**

Note: Filling out a form and being allocated a tutorial is **not** equivalent to enrolment in the course; it is your own responsibility to confirm your official enrolment.

PASS

The Student Learning Support Service run an optional PASS (Peer Assisted Study Support) class for this course, led by a student who has successfully passed the course last year. It is a great opportunity to meet other students on the course, discuss the texts, and develop your skills further. Session times and a sign-up sheet for this class will be made available in one of the lectures in week one.

Further information

Additional information or notification of changes relating to the course will be provided in lectures and tutorials and posted on Blackboard as well as on the English noticeboard (outside HM 206). Essential information about general University policies, about student support, and about plagiarism is also on the Blackboard site, under "Course Information".

COURSE CONTENT

Aims

This course provides an introduction to the study of literature through careful readings of a small number of texts by some great authors of the past. In addition to the close study of these individual texts, the course will:

1. introduce concepts and skills of close analysis which are essential for all literary study;
2. examine basic features of language as part of literary comprehension;
3. take account of historical contexts, including some attention to language change;
4. provide instruction in skills of academic writing.

Objectives

By the end of the course, you should:

1. be familiar with all of the texts studied and responsive to the detail of individual works;
2. know the basic historical contexts of the authors studied;
3. be able to identify various rhetorical and linguistic features and describe their effects;
4. be able to discuss a major text in a formal academic essay.

Set texts (in the order in which they will be studied):

Wild Civility: an anthology of love poetry (Student Notes); Chaucer, *The Miller's Tale* (contained in *Wild Civility*); Thomas Malory, *Le Morte Darthur Tales Seven and Eight*, ed. Waite (Otago); William Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet* (Oxford World Classics); Alexander Pope, *The Rape of the Lock*, (Student Notes). Some copies are available on Closed Reserve.

In addition to these texts, all first-year students of English are expected to make use of the *Handbook for Students of English Literature*, which can be found on the SEFTMS website (www.vuw.ac.nz/seft/english/about/resources.aspx).

The following are useful for students intending to major in English: Fox (ed.), *How to Study Literature in English* (Otago); M. H. Abrams, *A Glossary of Literary Terms*, 5th edition (Holt Rinehart). You should also have access to a good dictionary – *The Concise Oxford Dictionary* is recommended.

RECOMMENDED WORKLOAD

For an 18 point course at 100-level, it is recommended that you spend on average **12** hours per week **including class contact hours**. Therefore, you should spend about **8** hours of your own time in reading and preparation.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Requirements: Preparation and Written Work

You are required to study all the set texts; this involves close and attentive familiarity with each text. It is essential that you read each text in advance of the lectures and tutorials in which it is to be discussed; if you do this you will gain a good deal more from classes. There are three items of assessed written work (see below). Satisfactory completion of **all three** is a mandatory requirement for the course.

Course Requirements: Attendance and Worksheets

Tutorial attendance is an important aspect of the teaching and learning programme for this course, and you are strongly advised (and, indeed, expected) to plan to attend all tutorials. However, from time to time there may be unusual circumstances, such as illness, which prevent your attendance. In ENGL 111, we regard the mandatory requirement of only 70% attendance (i.e. 8 of the 11 tutorials) as making provision for such circumstances. **Note:** In the weeks when a worksheet is due, tutorial attendance will be measured by completed worksheet only. Attendance without completed worksheet will not count as attendance for that week, and it cannot be made up by handing in the worksheet at a later date.

ASSESSMENT

This course combines internal assessment (50% of final mark) and a 3-hour final examination (50% of final mark). Students whose examination grade is better than their combined result will receive the exam grade as their assessment for the course. The exam will take place in the examination period (specific date t.b.a.). Further information will be provided later in the course, but the exam is likely to focus on Chaucer, Shakespeare and Pope.

The **internal requirement** assesses two kinds of academic writing – critical analysis and essay writing.

- 1 poem for analysis from *Wild Civility*
length: 600-700 words; value: 10%; due date: 19 March
This assessment relates to objectives one and three above.
- 2 an essay on *Le Morte Darthur*
length: 1250-1500 words; value: 25%; due date: 28 April
This assessment relates to objective four above.
- 3 passage for analysis from *Romeo and Juliet*
length: 600-700 words; value: 15%; due date: 16 May
This assessment relates to objectives one and three above.

N. B. You should pay attention to the word lengths set here. You may be penalised for being significantly under or over length. Quotations from the 'primary' text (i. e. the text being discussed) do **not** count as part of your word count.

Due dates and extensions

(i) Extensions

If you need an extension beyond the due date for any piece of work, you should apply on the appropriate form (included in assignment file) to Dr Schaefer, by noon on the Friday prior to the due date. Work submitted when an extension has been granted will be graded in the normal way.

(ii) Late work without extensions

Work submitted late without an extension will be counted, as long as it is received **within two weeks** of the due date. You will however be penalized by a lowering of the grade by one step for each week late and comments will be minimal. **N.B.** If you fail to hand in work before this two week deadline, you may be considered as having failed to meet a mandatory requirement, and therefore fail the course.

(iii) Absolute deadlines

Extensions will not be granted beyond the final day of lectures (1 June) without the permission of the Head of School (Associate Professor Whiteford). The Head of School may in exceptional circumstances grant extensions up to the end of the examination period. The University does not permit us to accept work after this date.

N.B. In a large course such as this, it is sometimes possible that written work can go astray (although this rarely happens). You should make it a habit to keep a copy of any work submitted. This is your responsibility.

Return of written work

Work that has been handed in on time will normally be marked within two weeks. Your tutor will generally return your work in a tutorial. Uncollected work may be claimed until the end of examination marking.

SECONDARY READINGS

Although the major focus of your attention will be the authors and works you are studying, you will also want to give some attention to secondary material. We encourage you to do this—anything that helps you to think and increases your understanding is valuable. On the other hand, the secondary material must never become a substitute for your own thinking. Moreover, while much of the secondary material is excellent, some is very uneven in quality (indeed, at times it is frankly poor), and other material may not offer a useful model for undergraduate writing. A small selection of printed secondary material will be placed on Closed Reserve and/or 3-day Loan. You can find the titles by using the on-line catalogue in the library. From the main menu of search options, choose Course Reserve. You will then see a drop down menu with a list of course codes. Choose ENGL 111, and a list of the books will be displayed.

You need to exercise particular care with material derived from the Internet. A free "teach yourself" tutorial on Internet information skills for students of English is available at the following site: <http://www.humbul.ac.uk/vts/english/>. Although it is written primarily with the needs and resources of students at Oxford in mind, it is valuable for all students of English literature.

ENGL 111: PAST MASTERS – CLASS SCHEDULE 2007

Week / Date				Lecture Topic	Tutorials / Assignments
1	Feb	Mon	25	Introduction and organisation	No tutorials this week
		Wed	27	Lyric poetry: love and conventions (RE)	
		Fri	29	Lyric poetry: love and time (PW)	
2	March	Mon	3	Lyric poetry: close reading 1 (PW)	<i>Wild Civility</i> – lyric poetry
		Wed	5	Lyric poetry: close reading 2 (PW/RE)	
		Fri	7	Lyric poetry: comparative reading (TS)	
3		Mon	10	Academic writing 1 (PW)	<i>The Miller's Tale</i> Worksheet 1
		Wed	12	Chaucer: <i>The Miller's Tale</i> (PW)	
		Fri	14	Chaucer: <i>The Miller's Tale</i> (PW)	
4		Mon	17	Chaucer: <i>The Miller's Tale</i> (PW)	<i>The Miller's Tale</i> Assignment 1 due
		Wed	19	Chaucer: <i>The Miller's Tale</i> (PW)	
		Fri	21	Good Friday: no class	
5		Mon	24	Easter Monday: no class	
		Wed	26	Malory: <i>Le Morte Darthur</i> (PW)	
		Fri	29	Malory: <i>Le Morte Darthur</i> (PW)	
6	April	Mon	31	Malory: <i>Le Morte Darthur</i> (PW)	Worksheet 4
		Wed	2	Malory: <i>Le Morte Darthur</i> (PW)	
		Fri	4	Malory: <i>Le Morte Darthur</i> (PW)	
7		Mon	7	Shakespeare: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> (RE)	Worksheet 5
		Wed	9	Shakespeare: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> (RE)	
		Fri	11	Shakespeare: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> (RE)	
MID-TERM VACATION					
8	April	Mon	28	Shakespeare: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> (RE)	Assignment 2 due
		Wed	30	Shakespeare: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> (RE)	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
	May	Fri	2	Academic writing 2 (PW)	
9		Mon	5	Shakespeare: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> (RE)	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
		Wed	7	Shakespeare: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> (RE)	'Essay writing'
		Fri	9	Shakespeare: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> (RE)	
10		Mon	12	Chaucer to Pope: Historical background (RE)	<i>The Rape of the Lock</i>
		Wed	14	Pope: <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> (RE)	Worksheet 6
		Fri	16	Pope: <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> (RE)	Assignment 3 due
11		Mon	19	Pope: <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> (RE)	<i>The Rape of the Lock</i>
		Wed	21	Pope: <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> (RE)	
		Fri	23	Pope: <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> (RE)	
12		Mon	26	Pope: <i>The Rape of the Lock</i> (RE)	Revision
		Wed	28	Revision; exam preparation	
		Fri	30	Reading of <i>The Miller's Tale</i>	