

ENGL238 Literature and New Media

Trimester 2 2010

Monday 12 July to Saturday 13 November 2010

20 Points

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: Monday 12 July 2010 to Friday 15 October 2010

Mid-trimester break: Monday 23 August to Sunday 5 September 2010

Study week: Monday 18 October to Friday 22 October 2010

Examination/Assessment period: Friday 22 October to Saturday 13 November 2010

- **Note:** Students who enrol in courses with examinations are expected to be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.
- **Public holidays this trimester:** Labour Day: Monday 25 October 2010

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Staff	Email	Phone	Room	
Brian Opie	brian.opie@vuw.ac.nz	463-6812	VZ 804	(Course coordinator)

Office hours: Thursday 12-2pm, (or contact me to arrange an appointment).

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Days	Time	Room Number
Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday	4.10-5.00pm,	Hugh Mackenzie, LT 002.

Tutorials

One tutorial per week, beginning in the second week of the trimester.

COURSE DELIVERY

Lecture topics and texts are set out in the Course Programme. Class members are expected to keep ahead in their reading. Questions during lectures are welcome. Tutorial topics will be notified in advance and class members are expected to have worked on them before the tutorial.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Tutorial lists and other information about this course (including the time and place of the final examination) will be posted on the English noticeboard adjacent to Hugh Mackenzie 206. Course information will also be made available on Blackboard.

COURSE CONTENT

This course will explore the relations between literature and other media of communication and representation, with particular emphasis upon fictionality and upon the print book and the computer as information and communications technologies (ICTs).

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, you should:

- employ key concepts effectively in the discussion of literary and other texts, including representation, the real, and fictionality
- understand key similarities and differences between literary texts and texts in other media
- be able to compare and contrast the print book and the computer as information and communications technologies; and
- have reflected upon and advanced your capabilities in the medium of writing.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

You should expect to spend, on average, **at least 15 hours per week** on work for this course, including the lectures and tutorials. Note that this is a rough guideline only, which will vary from student to student and from week to week.

READINGS

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from vicbooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building. You can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email

an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to you or they can be picked up from the shop. You will be contacted when they are available.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays).
Phone: 463 5515.

Essential texts: Bradbury, *Fahrenheit 451*; Delany, *Babel-17* (Vintage); Pynchon, *The Crying of Lot 49* (Vintage); Gibson, *Burning Chrome* (Harper Collins); Dick, *Bladerunner* (Random); Stephenson, *Snow Crash*; (Penguin); ENGL 238 *Literature and New Media Readings* (Student Notes).

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Final examination (50%) and in-term work (50%). In-term work (compulsory) consists of two essays (25% each).

Term work (50%):

(1) A **critical analysis**, of 1500-1700 words (25%), due by 9.00am on **Monday 9 August**. This exercise will ask you to write an analysis of one extract from a selection of extracts chosen from the fictional texts discussed in lectures before this date.

(2) An **essay**, of 1500-1700 words (25%), due by 9.00am on **Monday 4 October**. This exercise will ask you to write an essay on a major theme or issue in the course, supported by evidence from at least two of the fictional texts by Pynchon, Gibson (each short story is a text), and Dick and critical material from Literature and New Media Readings.

Examination (3 hours, 50%):

Texts set for the course may be taken into the examination.

The final examination will consist of 2 sections:

A: a critical analysis of an extract from Stephenson's *Snow Crash* (50%);

B: an essay on a major theme or issue in the course, supported by evidence from at least two of the set texts and critical material from Literature and New Media Readings (50%).

Examination/Assessment period: Friday 22 October to Saturday 13 November 2010.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Tutors cannot grant extensions. Work that is submitted late without an extension is subject to penalties.

If work is handed in late, then one grade is subtracted and minimal comments are offered.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In order to satisfy the minimum requirements to gain a Pass in this course, you must:

- complete the two pieces of internally assessed work by Friday 15 October;
- attend 70% of tutorials (i.e. eight out of eleven); and
- sit the final examination.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i.e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Work submitted in the final examination will obviously be handwritten. You are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

TURNITIN

Work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

You should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC (Academic) website also provides information in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic/Publications.aspx

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies
ENGLISH PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE: ENGL238

COURSE PROGRAMME

Week	Date	Text	Student Notes Readings
Week 1	12 July	Introduction	O'Donnell, Bolter
	14	Bradbury, <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	Seed
	15	Bradbury, <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	
Week 2	19 July	Bradbury, <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	
	20	Bradbury, <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	
	21	Bradbury, <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	
Week 3	26 July	Borges	"The Library of Babel", Martin
	27	Delany, <i>Babel-17</i>	
	28	Delany, <i>Babel-17</i>	Hardesty, Malmgren
Week 4	2 August	Delany, <i>Babel-17</i>	
	4	Delany, <i>Babel-17</i>	
	5	Delany, <i>Babel-17</i>	
Week 5	9 August	First Assignment due	
	9 August	Borges	"The Garden of Forking Paths", Tomlinson, Gaggi Gleason, Decker
	11	Pynchon, <i>Crying of Lot 49</i>	
	12	Pynchon, <i>Crying of Lot 49</i>	
Week 6	16 August	Pynchon, <i>Crying of Lot 49</i>	
	18	Pynchon, <i>Crying of Lot 49</i>	
	19	Pynchon, <i>Crying of Lot 49</i>	
Mid Trimester Break: Monday 23 August to Sunday 5 September 2010			
Week 7	6 September	Pynchon, <i>Crying of Lot 49</i>	
	8	Media, Language, Communication	Tomlinson, Gaggi
	9	Gibson, <i>Burning Chrome</i>	Jordan, Burrows, Punday
Week 8	13 September	Gibson, <i>Burning Chrome</i>	
	15	Gibson, <i>Burning Chrome</i>	
	16	Gibson, <i>Burning Chrome</i>	

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Week 9	20 September	<i>Gibson, Burning Chrome</i>	
	22	<i>Dick, Bladerunner</i>	
	23	<i>Dick, Bladerunner</i>	
Week 10	27 September	<i>Dick, Bladerunner</i>	
	29	<i>Dick, Bladerunner</i>	
	30	<i>Stephenson, Snow Crash</i>	Porush
Week 11	4 October	Second Assignment due	
	4 October	<i>Stephenson, Snow Crash</i>	
	6	<i>Stephenson, Snow Crash</i>	
	7	<i>Stephenson, Snow Crash</i>	
Week 12	11 October	<i>Stephenson, Snow Crash</i>	
	13 June	<i>Stephenson, Snow Crash</i>	
	14	<i>Stephenson, Snow Crash</i>	

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