

ENGL 335 Contemporary Fiction

Trimester 2 2011

11 July to 12 November 2011

20 Points

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates:	11 July to 14 October 2011
Mid-trimester break:	22 August to 4 September 2011
Study week:	17 to 21 October 2011
Examination/Assessment period:	21 October to 12 November 2011

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.

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
Charles Ferrall (convener)	charles.ferrall@vuw.ac.nz	463 6804	VZ 904
Anna Jackson	anna.jackson@vuw.ac.nz	463 6840	VZ 919

Students may make an appointment with either of the lecturers to discuss any aspect of the course at any mutually convenient time.

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Wed, Thurs 1.10 – 2.00 pm Hugh Mackenzie LT 002

Tutorials

One tutorial per week, times to be advised.

COURSE DELIVERY

This course is delivered through lectures (two per week) and tutorials (you attend one per week). Tutorials will begin in the second week of the trimester.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

This course will study seven critically acclaimed novels published in English since 2000. Issues examined will include the marketing and critical reception of these novels; their narrative strategies in a media-saturated cultural context; and the ways in which their authors work with the intersecting ideas of nation, history and cultural identity.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course students should:

- have a familiarity with all the set texts;
- have a familiarity with some of the reviews and debates about these texts;
- be able to construct their own discussion of the central issues involved.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20 point course is 200 hours spread evenly over the 12 week trimester and breaks, or 13 hours per teaching week.

READINGS

Essential texts:

Zadie Smith, *On Beauty*; Howard Jacobson, *The Finkler Question*; Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go*; Jonathan Franzen, *The Corrections*; Alan Hollinghurst, *The Line of Beauty*; Emma Donoghue, *Room*, Kiran Desai, *The Inheritance of Loss*. Reviews, interviews and other material relating to the set texts will also be available on Blackboard.

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 4 to 22 July 2011, 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 of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 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 nominated collection points at each campus. You will be contacted when they are available.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

There will be two essays set during the course worth 25% each and a final 3-hour examination worth 50%. Students will be expected to write exam questions on at least four of the writers on whom they have **not** written in-term essays. The exam is closed-book and will take place during the second trimester examination period from Friday 21 October to Saturday 12 November 2011.

It is important that your essays are considered, well-planned pieces of writing, and not drafts. You are assessed on your ability to control material, handle ideas, write concisely and directly, and relate your critical views to specific textual locations. Essays should be approximately 1500 words.

Essay topics will be available by the second week of term. Written work must be handed in by the due date to the essay boxes on the 8th floor of Von Zedlitz.

The first essay is due on **August 19** and the second on **October 14**.

Work that has been handed in on time will normally be marked within two weeks. Marked work will be handed back in tutorials. From Monday 17 October marked assignments can be collected from Reception (8th floor of VZ).

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 submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum course requirements that must be satisfied are submission of both essays, sitting the final examination and attendance at 70% or more of the lectures and tutorials.

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. Where handwritten work is required you are expected to write clearly. If this 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>

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study.

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1	13 July	Introduction	CF
	14 July	Smith	CF
Week 2	20 July	Smith	CF
	21 July	Smith	CF
Week 3	27 July	Franzen	AJ
	28 July	Franzen	AJ
Week 4	3 Aug	Franzen	AJ
	4 Aug	Franzen	AJ
Week 5	10 Aug	Desai	CF
	11 Aug	Desai	CF
Week 6	17 Aug	Desai	CF
	18 Aug	Ishiguro (NB – 1 st essay due 19 August)	CF
Mid Trimester Break:	Monday 22 August to Sunday 4 September 2011		
Week 7	7 Sept	Ishiguro	CF
	8 Sept	Ishiguro	CF

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies
ENGLISH PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE ENGL 335

Week 8	14 Sept	Hollinghurst	CF
	15 Sept	Hollinghurst	CF
Week 9	21 Sept	Hollinghurst	CF
	22 Sept	Donoghue	AJ
Week 10	28 Sept	Donoghue	AJ
	29 Sept	Donoghue	AJ
Week 11	5 Oct	Jacobson	CF
	6 Oct	Jacobson	CF
Week 12	12 Oct	Jacobson	CF
	13 Oct	Exam revision (NB – 2 nd essay due 14 October)	CF/AJ

Study Week: Monday 17 October to Friday 21 October 2011

Examination Period: Friday 21 October to Saturday 12 November 2011