

ENGL 117 How to Read Stories

Trimester 3 2011

14 November to 20 December 2011

20 Points

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 14 November to 19 December 2011

Last piece of assessment due: 20 December 2011

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
Dougal McNeill	dougal.mcneill@vuw.ac.nz	463 6807	VZ 903

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Monday and Wednesday 9 – 11am Room 306, 77 Fairlie Terrace

Tutorials

Thursday and Friday 9 – 10.30am Room 808, von Zedlitz Building

11 – 12.30pm Room 808, von Zedlitz Building

1.30 – 3.00pm Room 808, von Zedlitz Building

To enrol in a tutorial go to <https://signups.victoria.ac.nz/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2findex.aspx>

COURSE DELIVERY

ENGL 117 will be taught by a combination of two-hour lectures and tutorials. There will be two lectures and one tutorial per week. Students should prepare for both lectures and tutorials by reading set texts prior to the classes in which they are discussed. Preparatory reading is noted in the lecture programme below.

Further reading will be specified in class.

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.

All changes or additional information will be announced in class and on Blackboard.

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

This course aims to provide students with some essential tools for the study of narrative. The primary focus is literary fiction, but examples will be drawn from a variety of genres and media for comparative purposes. Students will be introduced to distinctive aspects of narrative form and provided with a basic critical vocabulary for the accurate analysis of narrative texts.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, students should:

- a) have gained an understanding of narrative form through a range of critical and narrative texts;
- b) be familiar with important narratological terms and concepts;
- c) have developed the skills of critically focussed reading through close analysis;
- d) understand the relationship between narrative form and content;
- e) understand what is distinctive about the ways different media produce narratives;
- f) be able to explicate the relationship between the formal features and content of selected narratives;
- g) be able to accurately analyse narratives in a range of media and genres.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

This is a 20 point course, so the University expects you to devote 200 hours to it. In addition to attending lectures, screenings and tutorials (83 hours), you should spend about ten hours per week during the teaching period on reading, preparing for tutorials, working on assignments, and reflecting on lectures and screenings (117 hours).

READINGS

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from Vicbooks in 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.

Essential texts:

H. Porter Abbott, *The Cambridge Introduction to Narrative*, 2nd edition (Cambridge UP)

Janice Galloway, *The Trick is to Keep Breathing* (Random House)

Ian McEwen, *Atonement* (Vintage)

Further readings will be posted on Blackboard in the Course Documents folder.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Assessment is 100% internal, consisting of:

- Three short critical analysis exercises 10% each; 30% total;
- A class test 20%;
- A critical analysis essay 35%.
- Tutorial participation 15%

All assignment topics will be posted on Blackboard in the Assignments folder well in advance of the due dates.

1. Critical analysis exercise 1: 10% [500 words]
Due date: Monday 21st November
2. Critical analysis exercise 2: 10% [500 words]
Due date: Monday 28th November
3. Critical analysis exercise 3: 10% [500 words]
Due date: Friday 9th December
4. Class Test: 20%
Held in class on Wednesday 14th December
5. Critical Analysis Essay: 35% [1500 words]
Due date: Tuesday 20th December

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

To gain a pass in this course you must:

- Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- Attend at least 80% of 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.

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies
ENGLISH PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE ENGL 117

COURSE PROGRAMME 2011

Week	Date	Lecture	Lecturer	Readings
Week 1	Mon 14 Nov Wed 16 Nov	What is narrative? What isn't? Story and Discourse		Chapter 1 Narrative and life Chapter 2 Defining narrative Chapter 3 The borders of narrative
Week 2	Mon 21 Nov Wed 23 Nov	Who is speaking? /Focalisation Plot, Time, and Closure		<i>Atonement</i> ; Chapter 6 Narration
ASSIGNMENT 1 Due – 21st November				
Week 3	Mon 28 Nov Wed 30 Nov	Interpretation Rhetoric and Medium of Narrative		<i>Atonement</i> ; Chapter 6 Narration Chapter 5 Closure
ASSIGNMENT 2 Due – 28th November				
Week 4	Mon 05 Dec Wed 07 Dec	The Medium Matters / Film Narrative Fiction, Reality, Meaning		<i>Atonement</i> ; Chapter 5 Closure; Chapter 7 Interpreting Narrative; Chapter 8 Three Ways to Interpret Narrative
ASSIGNMENT 3 Due – Friday 9th December				
Week 5	Mon 12 Dec Wed 14 Dec	Character, Self, and Story IN CLASS TEST / Design and Intention		Chapter 7 Interpreting Narrative; Chapter 4 The Rhetoric of Narrative' Chapter 9 Adaptation Across Media; <i>The Trick is to Keep Breathing</i>
Week 6	Mon 19 Dec	The Moral of the Story		Chapter 7 Interpreting narrative Chapter 8 Three ways to interpret narrative Chapter 4 The Rhetoric of Narrative
ESSAY Due – Tuesday 20th December				