

ENGL 117 How to read stories

Trimester 1 2012

5 March to 4 July 2012

20 Points

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 5 March to 8 June 2012

Mid-trimester break: 6 to 22 April 2012

-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 (Course co-ordinator)

Office Hours TBC

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Days	Time	Room Number	
Tues	9:00 – 9:50am	Hugh Mackenzie Lecture Theatre 206	(HMLT 206)
Wed, Fri	9:00 – 9:50am	Maclaurin Lecture Theatre 101	(MCLT101)

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the ENGL 117 site on Blackboard: go to “Frequently Asked Questions” on the left, select “Tutorials” and then follow the instructions under the “Signing Up for a Tutorial” link. Please read the instructions carefully. Tutorial rooms will be listed on S-Cubed, Blackboard and on the bulletin board outside HMLT206

COURSE DELIVERY

ENGL 117 will be taught by a combination of one-hour lectures and tutorials. There will be three 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

All changes or additional information will be conveyed to students via Blackboard.

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 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

You should expect to spend, on average, about **13 hours per week** on work for this course (*apart* from time in class). **Please note that this is a rough guideline only.** Some students may have to put in more time than others. The time commitment will be greatest in the weeks immediately prior to submission dates.

READINGS

Essential texts:

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

Janice Galloway, *The trick is to keep breathing* (Vintage)

Ian McEwen, *Atonement* (Vintage)

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

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 13 February to 16 March 2012, while 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 the shop. You will be contacted when they are available.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Assessment is 100% internal, consisting of:

- three short critical exercises 15% each; 45% total;
- a class test 20%;
- a critical analysis essay 35%.

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

1. Critical Exercise 1: 15%
Due date: Friday 16 March (5 pm).
2. Critical Exercise 2: 15%
Due date: Friday 30 March (5 pm).
3. Class Test: 20%
Held in class on Friday 4 May.
4. Critical Exercise 3: 15%
Due date: Friday 11 May (5 pm).
5. Critical Analysis Essay: 35%

Due date: Friday 8 June (5 pm).

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 a minimum of 8 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. Work submitted in the class test 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>

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 ENGL117

COURSE PROGRAMME 2011

Week	Date	Lecture	Lecturer	Readings
Week 1	Tues 6 Mar	Introduction	(DM)	Chapter 1 Narrative and life
	Wed 7 Mar	What is narrative?	(DM)	Chapter 2 Defining narrative
	Fri 9 Mar	What isn't?	(DM)	Chapter 3 The borders of narrative
Week 2	Tues 13 Mar	Story and Discourse (1)	(DM)	<i>Atonement</i> ; Chapter 6 Narration
	Wed 14 Mar	Story and Discourse (2)	(DM)	
	Fri 16 Mar	Who is speaking? (1)	(DM)	
ASSIGNMENT 1 Due – 16 March 5pm				
Week 3	Tues 20 Mar	Who is speaking? (2)	(DM)	<i>Atonement</i> ; Chapter 6 Narration
	Wed 21 Mar	Focalisation	(DM)	
	Fri 23 Mar	Plot	(DM)	
Week 4	Tues 27 Mar	Time	(DM)	<i>Atonement</i> ; Chapter 5 Closure
	Wed 28 Mar	Closure	(DM)	
	Fri 30 Mar	Interpretation	(DM)	
ASSIGNMENT 2 Due – 30 Mar 5pm				
Week 5	Tues 3 Apr	Narrative and Life Writing	(DM)	Chapter 7 Interpreting Narrative
	Wed 4 Apr	Narrative and Media	(LM)	<i>The Trick is to Keep Breathing</i>
Mid-Semester Break 6 Apr – 20 Apr				
Week 6	Tues 24 Apr	Intentional Readings	(DM)	Chapter 7 Interpreting narrative
	Fri 26 Apr	Symptomatic Readings	(DM)	Chapter 8 Three ways to interpret narrative
				Chapter 4 The Rhetoric of Narrative

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Week 7	Tues 1 May	Rhetoric of Narrative (DM)	Chapter 9 Adaptation across media
	Wed 2 May	The Medium Matters (DM)	
	Fri 4 May	Class Test	
Week 8	Tues 8 May	Analysing Film Narratives (DM)	Chapter 9 Adaptation across media
	Wed 9 May	From page to (digital) screen (DM)	
	Fri 11 May	Is the world really real? (DM)	
Assignment 3 Due Friday 11 May 5pm			
Week 9	Tues 15 May	Character, self and story (DM)	Chapter 10 Character and self in narrative Chapter 11 Narrative and truth <i>The Trick is to Keep Breathing</i>
	Wed 16 May	Fiction and reality (DM)	
	Fri 18 May	Fiction and meaning (DM)	
Week 10	Tues 22 May	Space, time and narrative (DM)	Chapter 12 Narrative worlds
	Wed 23 May	Multiple worlds (DM)	
	Fri 25 May	Is truth stranger than fiction? (DM)	
Week 11	Tues 29 May	Interpretation v reading (DM)	Chapter 13 Narrative contestation Chapter 14 Narrative negotiation
	Wed 30 May	Design and intention (DM)	
	Fri 1 June	Judgement and authority (DM)	
Week 12	Tues 5 June	Literature and politics (DM)	
	Wed 6 June	The moral of the story (DM)	
	Fri 8 June	The death of the author (DM)	
CRITICAL ANALYSIS ESSAY Due Friday 8 June 5pm			