English Programme

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies

Te Kura Tānga Kōrero Ingarihi, Kiriata, Whakaari, Pāpāho

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

ENGL 489 Research Project   Trimester 1 + 2 2016

29 February to 13 November 2016

30 points

ENGLISH TYPE WRITER.

IMPORTANT DATES

Teaching dates:	29 February to 5 June 2016
Easter break:	24 to 30 March 2016
Mid-trimester break 1/3:	25 April to 1 May 2016
Mid-year break:	30 June to 10 July 2016
Mid- Trimester break 2/3:	22 August to 4 September 2016
Research Project due:	14 October 2016

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

There are no classes for this course. Students are expected to meet with their supervisors six times during the course of study, at times to be arranged with the supervisor, and to have work completed in advance of these meetings as arranged. Some workshops will be offered providing some basic information and a chance for discussion about research methods and the writing process; times and room to be announced by blackboard and email.

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Honours coordinator: Jane Stafford   Jane.Stafford@vuw.ac.nz   463 6816   VZ901

Students should have regular contact with their supervisor throughout the year.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information will be posted on 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.

PRESCRIPTION

This course gives students the opportunity to pursue an individual research project, with regular guidance and support from a supervisor. ENGL 489 is usually done in the form of an extended essay of 10,000 words, although the New Zealand Electronic Text Centre Editing Nineteenth-century Fiction Project is also an option. Students wishing to enrol in ENGL 489 must consult with the Honours coordinator and should also consult with other academic staff to discuss their areas of interest; they must submit a formal outline of their intended topic (1 A4 side) at least two weeks prior to the final date for enrolment.

COURSE CONTENT

This course provides students with the opportunity to develop a detailed academic project which addresses their own research question. The research that they undertake should be presented as extended essay and/ or creative/practical presentation. The project should be approximately 10,000 words in length. Students will meet with their supervisor on a regular basis to discuss the focus of their research question, the methodology or approach they take to their research, and the progress of their project through to final submission. Students should conduct extensive research into their chosen topic. They should also draw on academic sources, such as scholarly books, book chapters, and articles from refereed journals. This will enable them to develop an informed critical response to the topic based on their research, and use these results as the basis of a coherent, well-supported argument.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CLOS)

Students who pass this course will be able to plan and carry out a sustained research project.

TEACHING FORMAT

See 'Class Times and Locations' above.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The only mandatory course requirement is to submit the research essay by the specified date, and to achieve a pass mark of 50%.

WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 30-point course is 300 hours.

ASSESSMENT

Due Date: Friday 14 October, 3pm. Length: 10,000 words

Assessment Criteria

- Identify a clearly defined research question that forms the focus of your project.
- Sustain a coherent and logical argument that incorporates a critical reading of primary and secondary sources.
- Demonstrate a proficiency at textual analysis at an advanced level.
- Demonstrate a good understanding of the theoretical concepts and methodologies that inform your research paper.
- Demonstrate a high standard of written expression.
- Include accurate and complete references for all relevant sources.

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Essay of 10,000 words	100	1	14 Oct

The essay will be assigned an examiner from within the English programme (or, in exceptional circumstances, from another programme) and may also be sent to an external examiner for moderation.

Please note: Marks for Honours level assignments and final course grades are not finalised until feedback from the external examiner has been considered. Honours grades gained in individual courses remain provisional until the overall final classification made by the Honours programme examination committee.

SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK

The Research Essay is submitted in two formats:

- Two hardcopies in the drop slot outside the Administration office: von Zedlitz Level 8.
  Attach an assignment cover sheet to your essay, found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office.
- A MS Word file emailed to english@vuw.ac.nz

Your marked assignment and examiner's comments can be picked up from the Programme Administrator at the conclusion of the examining period. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignment from the Administration office.

Work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by Turnitin the online plagiarism prevention tool.

EXTENSIONS

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances an extension may be granted. You should discuss this with your supervisor and with the honours coordinator well in advance of the due date.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progess (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz