



## DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

### COURSE OUTLINE – ENGLISH 1210 (A2): LITERATURE IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE/TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS, 10:00AM-11:20 AM IN ROOM B201

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Sean Palmer      **PHONE:** 780 539 2987  
**OFFICE:** C306, GP Campus      **E-MAIL:** spalmer@gprc.ab.ca

**OFFICE HOURS:** Friday, 2:20-5:20

#### **PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:**

General College Admission. May not be taken by students with 6 credits in approved junior English.

#### **REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Beverly Lawn's *40 Short Stories: A Portable Anthology 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.* Bedford St. Martin's, 2009.

Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.* Broadview Press, 2003.

Charles Dickens's *Hard Times.* Broadview Press, 2003.

Robert Louis Stevenson's *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.* Norton, 2003.

#### **CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course will introduce post-secondary students to English studies and the historical contexts that shape literature. Generally, a specific historical period will be covered and the development of various genres will be examined. Instruction will include essay writing skills. Because the course content will vary among instructors, it is strongly recommended that students consult an academic advisor or the Department of Arts and Education for more specific descriptions regarding the course focus.

**CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 (3-0-0) UT 45 Hours**

**DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture/Groupwork/Discussion**

This class will consist of lectures which will introduce the analytical approaches, historical and literary contexts that we will use in groups to engage a variety of literary texts. Groupwork and class discussion are aimed at preparing you for in-class assignments and the final take-home exam/assignment. Transparency is vital here in this regard. You will not be tested on anything that we have not covered in class. You will receive templates during the course that will outline specifically the grading criteria for each assignment. You will have a clear understanding of how you are being graded and which errors to avoid.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

This course will strive to acquaint students with several genres associated with fiction (realism, post-structuralism/post-modernism, the gothic, crime fiction, social protest fiction etc.). Texts will be analyzed within their respective historical, cultural and literary contexts. The early stages of the course will acquaint students with several analytical approaches to studying short fiction, while the second section of the course will focus on the nineteenth-century novella and novel. By the end of the course, students will be acquainted with how literary texts engage social, cultural and political issues (gender and class-based conflict; imperialism and race) from the 19<sup>th</sup> century to contemporary times and how such texts contribute to bringing about social change. Equally important, the course will strive to strengthen analytical, written and critical thinking skills.

### **To be successful in this class:**

- 1. Be sure to prepare for class, which means complete readings in advance of class discussion.**
- 2. Be sure to take notes during class discussion. Underline or mark passages that you find provocative in your assigned readings.**
- 3. Attend class regularly.**
- 4. Listen carefully during lectures, and during group discussion.**

### **TRANSFERABILITY: UA, UC, UL, AU, CUC, GMU, KUC**

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**GRADING CRITERIA: GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE****GRADING CONVERSION CHART**

<b>Alpha Grade</b>	<b>4-point Equivalent</b>	<b>Percentage Guidelines</b>	<b>Designation</b>
<b>A<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>90 – 100</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>85 – 89</b>	
<b>A<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>80 – 84</b>	<b>FIRST CLASS STANDING</b>
<b>B<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>77 – 79</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>73 – 76</b>	<b>GOOD</b>
<b>B<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>70 – 72</b>	
<b>C<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>67 – 69</b>	<b>SATISFACTORY</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>63 – 66</b>	
<b>C<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>60 – 62</b>	
<b>D<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>55 – 59</b>	<b>MINIMAL PASS</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>50 – 54</b>	
<b>F</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0 – 49</b>	<b>FAIL</b>
<b>WF</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline</b>

**EVALUATIONS:**

Groupwork: 25%

In-class, close-reading assignments (2): 20%--October 4<sup>th</sup> and November 8<sup>th</sup>

In-class, paragraph-answer response/Midterm: 25%--October 18<sup>th</sup>

Final take-home Exam (essay and paragraph-answer response): 30%--Assigned: November 15<sup>th</sup>

Due: December 11<sup>th</sup> (in-class)

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

As this class is structured primarily around class participation and interactive, class discussion, students are expected to come to class prepared. This means having read the material in advance of the class in which texts are to be discussed. Groupwork constitutes ¼ of your participation and provides you with the opportunity to develop your interpretive voice and contribute substantially to

analyzing literary texts interactively with your peers, so be sure to attend class on-time and regularly. Those who miss class routinely and miss more than 5 classes will incur substantial evaluative penalty, especially with respect to groupwork assessment. Those who leave class early or during a groupwork session will be assigned an absence designation for that class and will not receive groupwork credit. To help create a positive learning environment respectful both of your peers and your instructor, please turn off your cellphones, Blackberry's etc. and refrain from surfing the internet during class. Please listen carefully (without speaking) while others speak during class discussion and while your instructor addresses questions, provides summaries of class discussion and lectures.

### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

"Plagiarism" is the use of any material, words, sentences, phrases, ideas, etc. of an author without giving due credit. Those who plagiarize may be forced to withdraw from the course with a failing grade or may be forced to withdraw from the college. Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at [www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/\\*\\*](http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**)

### **COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

#### **Week 1: Course Introduction/Writing Assessment/ Introduction to Literature**

##### **Analysis**

Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>

#### **Week 2: Diction, Character, Plot and Theme**

Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>--Close Reading/Diction/ John Updike's "A&P"

Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>--Willa Cather's "Paul's Case"

#### **Week 3: Subjectivity/Class/Narration and Time/Modernism**

Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> --F. Scott Fitzgerald's "Winter Dreams"

Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> --Ambrose Bierce's "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge"

#### **Week 4: The Literature of the South/Social Protest Fiction/Honour; Class; Race**

Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> --William Faulkner's "Barn Burning"

Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> --Ralph Ellison's "Battle Royal"

#### **Week 5: Setting, Irony, Symbolism/Self vs Family/Community**

Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> --Cynthia Ozick's "The Shawl"

Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> --Shirley Jackson's "The Lottery"/Close Reading assignment

#### **Week 6: Theme/Genre—Crime Fiction**

Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> --Edgar Allen Poe's "The Cask of Amontillado"

Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> --Joyce Carol Oates's "Where are You Going, Where Have you Been?"

**Week 7: Crime Fiction/Gender**

Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> --John Steinbeck's "The Chrysanthemums"/Midterm Preparation

**Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> --Midterm**

**Week 8: Charles Dickens's *Hard Times***

Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>

Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>

**Week 9: Charles Dickens's *Hard Times***

Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>

**Week 10: Charles Dickens's *Hard Times***

Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>:

Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>: Close Reading Assignment

**Week 11: Robert Louis Stevenson's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*/Final Take-home Exam**

**Assigned**

Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>

**Week 12: Robert Louis Stevenson's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde***

Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>--Robert Louis Stevenson's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>--Robert Louis Stevenson's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

**Week 13: Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness***

Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup>

**Week 14: Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness***

Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

**Week 15:**

***Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>: Submit Final Exam***