



Course Outline

UNIVERSITY STUDIES

**ENGLISH 121E
LITERATURE IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE**

**3 CREDITS
3 HOURS PER WEEK**



**INSTRUCTOR: Jane Jacques
Winter 2014**

INSTRUCTOR: Jane Jacques
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OFFICE NUMBER: S211-D

OFFICE HOURS:

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Monday | 10:00 – 10:50 AM |
| Tuesday | 9:00 – 9:50 AM |
| Wednesday | 1:00 – 1:50 PM |
| Thursday | 2:00 – 2:50 PM |
| Friday | 9:00-9:50 AM |

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION:

Wednesday 6:30 – 9:30 PM Room S112

PRE-REQUISITE(S):

English 30-1 or equivalent

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to post-secondary studies in English by exploring developments in language, literature, and culture in and over time. Students will have opportunities to study particular themes and compare different genres in and across a broad array of texts, placed in their historical contexts, which may range from medieval to contemporary times. The course will examine the conditions under which texts were originally produced and may consider the reception and reshaping of texts in history to the present.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

The student will be able to:

1. write clear, coherent, University-level prose
2. analyze texts by applying basic principles of literary interrogation
3. cite references by using standard MLA style

TEXT(S)/MATERIALS REQUIRED:

The Longman Anthology of British Literature, 4th ed. Vol 1 A: The Middle Ages
John Gardner, *Grendel*
Course pack (available at Bookstore)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

The following timetable will give students an idea of the sequence of works studied and the amount of class time to be devoted to each. Students are expected to have read the material for each day BEFORE attending class. The schedule may be modified according to class progress; attend class and check Moodle to keep informed about alterations.

| DATE | TOPIC | READINGS | ASSIGNMENTS | OTHER |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|---------------------------------|
| January 8 | Introduction to course | | Informal in-class writing 1: <i>What do you read and why?</i> Essay 1 assigned (due January 29) | |
| January 15 | Acquiring Language: Reading and Writing Essays about Language | Keller, “The Day Language Came into My Life” Douglass, “Learning to Read and Write” Malcolm X, “From <i>The Autobiography</i> ” (Course pack) | Online forum assigned Informal in-class writing 2: <i>What can block the acquisition of language skills?</i> | |
| January 22 | | Alexie, “The Joy of Reading and Writing”; Sedaris, “Me Talk Pretty One Day” (Course pack) | NOTE: Informal writing will continue unannounced. | |
| January 29 | Anglo-Saxon Language and Literature | <i>Beowulf</i> selections (Longman) | | ESSAY ONE DUE JANUARY 29 |
| February 5 | | <i>Beowulf</i> selections (Longman) | Essay 2 assigned (due March 19) | |
| February 12 | | “The Dream of the Rood” (Longman) and “Anglo-Saxon Riddles” | | |
| February 19 | | | MIDTERM (50 minutes, in class) | |
| February 24-March 2 | | | | READING WEEK: NO CLASSES |
| March 5 | | <i>Grendel</i> by John Gardner | | |
| March 12 | Middle English Language and Literature | “Sir Gawain and the Green Knight” (Longman) Malory, “The Poisoned Apple” (Longman) | Oral presentations assigned (due April 9) | |

| | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| | | Scene from <i>Monty Python and the Holy Grail</i> (Longman) | | |
| March 19 | | Chaucer, “General Prologue” to <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> (Longman) | | ESSAY 2 DUE MARCH 19 |
| March 26 | | Chaucer, “The Miller’s Tale” (Longman) | | |
| April 2 | The Changing English Language | Readings TBA | | |
| April 9 | | | Oral Presentations | |
| April 16 | The Future of English | Readings TBA; last class and review | | |
| April 22-30 | | | FINAL EXAMS: DATE TBA (<i>Do not make travel or work plans before the exam schedule is released!</i>) | |
| | | | | |

EVALUATION:

| Assignment | Percentage | Due Date |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Essay One | 10% | January 29 |
| Essay Two | 15% | March 19 |
| In-class assignments | 10% | Ongoing |
| Oral Presentation | 10% | April 9 |
| Forum | 10% | Ongoing |
| Midterm | 15% | February 19 |
| Final Examination | 30% | TBA |

Both essays must be submitted before a student will be allowed to write the final exam. Students who do not complete all the required work will not pass the course.

GRADING SYSTEM:

| Letter Grade | Description | Grade Points |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| A+ | | 4 |
| A | Excellent | 4 |
| A- | | 3.7 |
| B+ | | 3.3 |
| B | Good | 3 |
| B- | | 2.7 |
| C+ | | 2.3 |
| C | Satisfactory | 2 |
| C- | | 1.7 |
| D+ | | 1.3 |
| D | Minimal Pass | 1 |
| F | Failure | 0 |

Students intending to transfer to other institutions require a ‘C-’ as a minimum grade.

Transfer information on each course is available at the [Alberta Council on Admission and Transfers](#).

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

Throughout the course, you will complete a total of twelve informal writing assignments. Informal writing may involve responding to questions in paragraph form in class; researching and writing responses to questions outside class; or writing a personal or creative response to an assigned reading. I will grade the informal writing on a scale of 5, and at the end of the term, I will drop your two lowest grades. If you contact me in advance of an absence, you may be allowed to submit the informal writing.

Essays must be submitted on the due date, which is always a Wednesday. Essays handed in on Thursday will not be penalized, but I will grade them without additional comments. Essays handed in on Friday likewise will be graded without additional comments, but they will also lose 10% up to 3 p.m., when they will be REFUSED. NO essays will be accepted after 3 p.m. on Friday. Extensions will NOT be granted except under circumstances of bereavement or documented illness. Computer or printer failure is seldom an acceptable reason for granting an extension, and a conflict of deadlines is NEVER an acceptable reason. Essays must be typed in 12-pt Times New Roman, double spaced, and submitted with proper MLA documentation. Do NOT submit essays to me by e-mail or through Moodle. It is always preferable to hand an essay to me directly. Be sure to keep a copy of any essay that you hand in.

Students should consult:

http://www.keyano.ca/current_students/examinations/index.htm

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Students are expected to attend all lectures, to arrive on time and to remain for the duration of the class. You owe it to yourself, to the other students and to me as your instructor to attend regularly and punctually. If you are unable to attend, it is courteous to contact me in advance.

Once you’ve decided to stay in this course, follow through on your commitment and **be** here: physically, mentally, and emotionally. Don’t review other notes, reorganize your binder, carry on private conversations, text, check messages, or otherwise disengage from lectures, discussions,

or small group or individual work during English class. Your cell phone must be turned OFF and put away during class.

IMPORTANT DATES:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| January 17, 2014 | Courses dropped after this date will be designated “W”. (A withdrawal (W) is not reflected in your GPA) |
| February 19, 2014 | Mid-term examination (tentative) |
| March 7, 2014 | Courses dropped after this date will be designated “WF”. (A withdrawal failure (WF) counts as a 0 in your GPA) |
| April 17, 2014 | Last day of classes |
| April 22-30, 2014 | Final Exams (<i>Do not make travel or work plans before the exam schedule is released!</i>) |

COLLEGE POLICIES:

Equality, Equity and Respect

The Keyano College is committed to providing an environment of equality, equity and respect for all people within the College community. All members of this community are considered partners in developing teaching and learning contexts that are welcoming to all. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to use inclusive language to create a classroom atmosphere in which students' experiences and views are treated with equal respect and valued in relation to their gender, ethnic and cultural background, and sexual orientation.

Students should consult:

http://www.keyano.ca/Committees/IRA/Individual_Rights_Policy.asp

Plagiarism and Cheating

Every student expects to be treated and evaluated fairly in a course. Plagiarism and cheating robs everyone of this right.

No student may submit words, ideas or data of another student or person as his or her own in any writing, project, assignment, quiz, electronic presentation, exam etc. Any work used that is not the student's own must be clearly cited as belonging to someone else. There are penalties for using other's work and not citing it. The Student's Rights & Responsibilities document clearly outlines these penalties and the appeal process.

- No learner can obtain information from another student during an exam.
- No learner can bring unauthorized information (paper or electronic) into an exam or quiz.
- No student can submit work done in another course for grading in this course without the written prior approval of the course instructor.
- No student can submit copyright protected or commercially produced materials as part or all of an assignment without proper citation & permission.

Student Rights & Responsibilities

Students should consult the Keyano College Credit Calendar or online at:

<http://www.keyano.ca/Media/Collections/Calendars/Keyano.Calendar1112-10-full.pdf>

Specialized Supports and Duty to Accommodate

Disability Support Services: Learner Assistance Program

If you have a documented disability or you think that you would benefit from some assistance from a Disabilities Counsellor, please call or visit the Disability Supports Office 780-792-5608 to book an appointment (across from the library). Services and accommodations are intended to assist you in your program of study, while maintaining the academic standards of Keyano College. We can be of assistance to you in disclosing your disability to your instructor, providing accommodations, and supporting your overall success at Keyano College.

Specialized Supports and Duty to Accommodate

Specialized Support and Duty to Accommodate are aligned with the office of Disability Support Services: Learner Assistance Program (LAP) guided by federal and provincial human rights legislation, and defined by a number of Keyano College policies. Keyano College is obligated by legislation to provide disability-related accommodations to students with identified disabilities to the point of undue hardship.



DID I MISS ANYTHING?

*Question frequently asked by
students after missing a class*

Nothing. When we realized you weren't here
we sat with our hands folded on our desks
in silence, for the full two hours

Everything. I gave an exam worth
40 per cent of the grade for this term
and assigned some reading due today
on which I'm about to hand out a quiz
worth 50 per cent.

Nothing. None of the content of this course
has value or meaning
Take as many days off as you like:
any activities we undertake as a class
I assure you will not matter either to you or me
and are without purpose

Everything. A few minutes after we began last time
a shaft of light descended and an angel
or other heavenly being appeared
and revealed to us what each woman or man must do
to attain divine wisdom in this life and
the hereafter
This is the last time the class will meet
before we disperse to bring this good news to all people
on earth

Nothing. When you are not present
how could something significant occur?

Everything. Contained in this classroom
is a microcosm of human existence
assembled for you to query and examine and ponder
This is not the only place such an opportunity has been
gathered

but it was one place

And you weren't here

- Tom Wayman (b. 1945)
From The Astonishing Weight of the Dead (Vancouver: Polestar, 1994)