

ENGLISH 224: Twentieth-Century British Literature, Fall 2012
MWF 12-12:53, Javitz 111 (MW)

Professor: Celia Marshik
Office Hours: Mondays 4-5:30pm, Wednesdays 9:30-11am and by appointment
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Teaching Assistants:
Alexis Chartschlaa (alexischartschlaa@gmail.com)
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Course Description

This course provides a survey of twentieth-century British literature, taking students from the high-modernist experimentation of the first third of the century through contemporary “Black British” fiction. Along the way, we will consider how novels, poetry and plays represent what it means to be “English”; the ways in which literature responded to violence at home and abroad; and how literary style evolved over the course of the century.

224 will survey twentieth-century British literature through two different formats. On Mondays and Wednesdays the class will meet as a large group for lecture and discussion; on Fridays the class will meet in smaller groups for intensive discussion. This dual format is intended to provide students with background and approaches to these (sometimes difficult) works while also encouraging students to develop their interpretive skills. By the end of the course, students will have increased their close-reading skills, increased their familiarity with some of the major developments of twentieth-century literature, and developed an approach to studying poetry, fiction and drama.

Required Text (available at the campus bookstore)

Longman Anthology of British Literature: Volume 2C—The Twentieth Century and Beyond (4th Edition) [Note: you need this specific edition]

Bring your book with you to **every** class meeting.

COURSE ORGANIZATION AND REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance & Participation: Studies show that students who regularly attend class and participate in discussion outperform their peers. Although attendance for this course is not required, you will have a better experience and learn more if you come. Quizzes will be administered in Friday discussion sections, and you will also earn credit for participating in those sections and in lecture. If you are a shy or reserved person, you should talk to the leader of your discussion section and make an extra effort to participate in the Blackboard discussion boards (see below). Participation grades will be based on quality as well as quantity of participation.

Classroom Etiquette: As a courtesy to your instructor and fellow students, please make every effort to arrive on time and to refrain from leaving during class. To minimize distractions, cell phones should be turned off and put away during class. Unless you have informed me that you have a family emergency or other specific event that requires you remain reachable, your phone should never be visible. For the same reason, I prefer that students not use laptops in class. If you are accustomed to taking notes on a laptop, please see me during the first week of class.

Blackboard (<http://blackboard.stonybrook.edu>): The Blackboard site for this class contains both content and discussion forums. There are discussion boards for each Friday section; this is a place to post questions and comments that you would like to discuss in class. The class syllabus and all assignments will also be posted on Blackboard, as will lecture outlines and course capture video from lectures. Please note that technology can be unreliable and neither the outlines nor video are a substitute for attending class. In addition, the class site contains links to material that provides context for the class readings.

Writing Assignments: You will write two papers during the semester. In the first three-page paper, due on October 1, you will make an argument based on one work. In the second four-page paper, due on November 12, you will make an argument based on two works. You will receive detailed instructions for these papers in advance of the due dates. All papers must be typed (use a standard 12 point font), double-spaced and stapled.

Late Papers: You may take one extension (of a few days) for a paper; this extension must be arranged in advance of (not on) the due date. No extensions are available for the final.

Final Exam: The exam will be take home and will consist of short answer questions and a five-page essay. This exam will be cumulative—you will need to discuss all of the assigned readings for the course.

Quizzes and Creative Responses: In order to make sure that everyone is keeping up with the scheduled readings, during Friday sections you will periodically respond in writing to assigned readings. These responses may take the form of quizzes, freewriting or creative exercises (such as a Tweet summary of the day's reading). These exercises will not demand recall of minutiae, but they will test your knowledge of major plot developments, characters, or general style. We will drop your lowest grade when we calculate your average. Please note that we do not give make-ups for these exercises; you need to be in class to take them.

Final Grade Calculation:

15%	Class Participation	20%	Paper #2
15%	Quizzes and responses	30%	Final Exam
20%	Paper #1		

Academic Integrity:

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong.

Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/>

DSS Assistance: If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, room 128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Critical Incident Management:

Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn.

Course Calendar

Readings scheduled each day should be completed *before* class.
All page numbers refer to the *Longman*.

Monday, August 27	Introduction to the course
Wednesday, August 29	Thomas Hardy, "Hap," "Neutral Tones," "The Darkling Thrush," "The Convergence of the Twain," and "Channel Firing" (2096-2107)
Friday, August 31	Discussion of Hardy poems
Monday, September 3	No Class or Office Hours (Labor Day)
Wednesday, September 5	Joseph Conrad, <i>Heart of Darkness</i> (1954-1976)
Friday, September 7	Discussion of Conrad
Monday, September 10	Conrad, <i>Heart of Darkness</i> (1976-1993)
Wednesday, September 12	Conrad, <i>Heart of Darkness</i> (1993-2010)
Friday, September 14	Discussion of Conrad
Monday, September 17	Bernard Shaw, <i>Pygmalion</i> (Preface and Act 1, 2029-2039)
Wednesday, September 19	Shaw, <i>Pygmalion</i> (Act 2 and 3, 2040-2070)
Friday, September 21	Discussion of Shaw

Monday, September 24	Shaw, <i>Pygmalion</i> (Acts 4 and 5 and Sequel, 2070-2096)
Wednesday, September 26	Rupert Brooke, "The Soldier" (2136-7); Siegfried Sassoon, "Glory of Women," "They" (2131-2); Wilfred Owen, "Anthem for Doomed Youth," "Dulce Et Decorum Est" (2158-2161)
Friday, September 28	Discussion and paper preparation
Monday, October 1	First Paper Due Isaac Rosenberg, "Break of Day in the Trenches," "Dead Man's Dump" (2138-2141); May Wedderburn Cannan, "Lamplight" (2161-2); Teresa Hooley, "A War Film" (2137)
Wednesday, October 3	W. B. Yeats, "The Lake Isle of Innisfree," "Who Goes with Fergus?" "No Second Troy," "An Irish Airman Foresees His Death," "Easter 1916," "The Second Coming," "Sailing to Byzantium," "Among School Children," "The Circus Animals' Desertion" (2177-2201)
Friday, October 5	Discussion of WWI poems and Yeats
Monday, October 8	James Joyce, "Araby" and "Eveline" (2218-2225)
Wednesday, October 10	Joyce, "The Dead" (2229-2257)
Friday, October 12	Discussion of Joyce
Monday, October 15	T. S. Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" (2287-2291) and <i>The Waste Land</i> (2298-2310)
Wednesday, October 17	Virginia Woolf, from <i>A Room of One's Own</i> (2443-60)
Friday, October 19	Discussion of Eliot and Woolf
Monday, October 22	D. H. Lawrence, "Snake" (2497-2498) and "Odour of Chrysanthemums" (2501-2514)
Wednesday, October 24	E. M. Forster, "The Life to Come" (2204-2214)
Friday, October 26	George Orwell, "Shooting an Elephant" (2567-2571)
Monday, October 29	Evelyn Waugh, "The Man Who Liked Dickens" (2550-2559)

Wednesday, October 31	W. H. Auden, "Musée des Beaux Arts," "In Memory of W. B. Yeats," "September 1, 1939," "In Praise of Limestone" (2619-2630)
Friday, November 2	Elizabeth Bowen, "Mysterious Kôr" (2540-2549)
Monday, November 5	Samuel Beckett, <i>Endgame</i> (2579-2600; stop at Hamm's speech)
Wednesday, November 7	Beckett, <i>Endgame</i> (2600-2613)
Friday, November 9	Discussion of Beckett
Monday, November 12	Second Paper Due Dylan Thomas, "The Force That Through the Green Fuse," "Fern Hill," "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night" (2573-2577); Philip Larkin, "Church Going" and "MCMXIV" (2631-2634)
Wednesday, November 14	Seamus Heaney, "Punishment," "The Singer's House," "In Memoriam Francis Ledwidge" (2740-2746); Eavan Boland, "Mise Eire," "The Pomegranate" (2780-2782)
Friday, November 16	Discussion of postwar poetry
Monday, November 19	Derek Walcott, "A Far Cry from Africa," "Wales," "The Fortunate Traveller" (2662-2669)
November 21 and 23	No Class (Thanksgiving Recess)
Monday, November 26	Nadine Gordimer, "What Were You Dreaming?" (2655-60)
Wednesday, November 28	Ngugi wa Thiong'o, "Native African Languages" (2774-2777); Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill, "Why I Choose to Write in Irish" (2797-2805)
Friday, November 30	Discussion of Walcott, Gordimer, Thiong'o, & Dhomhnaill
Monday, December 3	Salman Rushdie, "The Courter" (2748-71)
Wednesday, December 5	Zadie Smith, "Martha, Martha" (2861-71)
Friday, December 7	Distribution of Final
Wednesday, December 12	Final Exams Due in Professor Marshik's Mailbox by noon