



**EN 115-1**  
**Introduction to Language and Literature**  
**Fall 2013**

**Course Description**

**Number of Credits: 3**

This course introduces students to post-secondary studies in English by examining developments in literature and language in and over time. Students will study particular themes and compare different genres in and across a broad array of texts, placed in their historical contexts, which may range from the Renaissance to contemporary times. This course aims at developing sensitivity to genre, cultivating writing skills, and providing students with a set of literary terms and critical techniques as a foundation for further literary study.

A minimum of 30% of class time will be devoted to writing instruction. Because the course integrates writing instruction with the study of literature—writing through literature—the stated minimum will normally be exceeded. Graded written assignments, informal writing exercises, writing workshops, free-writing exercises, stylistic analysis, research skills, peer editing, multiple drafts, and ungraded writing will be undertaken. Students will be required to write at least two essays that will be marked and formally graded. During the course, students will write at least 3000 words.

**Course Objectives**

- To introduce students to major literary genres, concepts, and terms
- To teach students literary analytical techniques with which to understand literature for their profit and delight
- To build competence in writing through the study of literature, giving close attention to mechanics, structure, argument, editing, and research techniques

**Class Schedules**

T Th 8:15-9:30am

Room L2100

Office Hours: T Th 4:15-5:15pm

**Instructor Information**

Dr J. Goossen

Office: L2062

[JGoossen@ambrose.edu](mailto:JGoossen@ambrose.edu)

403-410-2000 x5960

**Textbooks**

Hacker, Diana. *A Canadian Writer's Reference*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Bedford St. Martin's, 2012.

Kennedy, X. J. and Dana Gioia. *Backpack Literature*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: Pearson, 2012.

Lewis, Janet. *The Wife of Martin Guerre*. Athens, Ga.: Swallow, 1967, 2013.

Shakespeare, William. *Much Ado About Nothing*. Ed. Peter Holland. The Pelican Shakespeare. London: Penguin, 1999.

*Dictionary*: Students should own a good desk dictionary to support their writing and their entire course of studies. The mother of all dictionaries, the full *Oxford English Dictionary*, is available online via the Ambrose Library website and our course Moodle site.

**Attendance**

Attendance will be taken for every class and counts toward your participation grade.

Course Outline

| Tuesday   | Thursday   |
|---|--|
|   | <b>September 5 - Course Introduction</b>   |
| <b>September 10</b><br>The Perils of Plagiarism<br>Description of “Literalization” assignments<br>Reading and Writing Diagnostic Test   | <b>September 12 - Elements of Poetry I</b><br><i>Read</i> Kennedy & Gioia: “Reading a Poem,” pp. 377-89<br>“Listening to a Voice,” pp. 393-411<br>“Words,” pp. 418-28<br>“Saying & Suggesting,” pp. 437-40 |
| <b>September 17 - Elements of Poetry II</b><br><i>Read</i> Kennedy & Gioia: “Imagery,” pp. 448-50<br>“Figures of Speech,” pp. 462-74<br>“Symbol,” pp. 548-56<br>“Closed Form,” pp. 512-17; 521-25<br><b>Assignment:</b> Literalization 1 – William Shakespeare, Sonnet 65   | <b>September 19</b><br>Discussion, Sonnet 65<br><b>Literalization 1 due by beginning of class</b> (digital copy to Moodle; hard copy in class)   |
| <b>September 24 - Essay Writing I</b><br>Description of Essay 1<br><i>Read</i> Kennedy & Gioia: “Writing,” 1083-88; 1107-1115<br><b>Assignment:</b> Literalization 2 – George Herbert, “Avarice”  | <b>September 26 - Class Cancelled: Spiritual Emphasis Day</b><br><b>Literalization 2 due</b> (hard copy to prof’s mailbox)   |
| Tuesday   | Thursday   |
| <b>October 1 - Essay Writing II</b><br>Discussion, “Avarice”<br><b>Assignment:</b> Literalization 3 – John Donne, Holy Sonnet 14<br><b>Essay 1 Thesis Statement Due</b> (submit only to Moodle)   | <b>October 3</b><br>Discussion, Holy Sonnet 14<br><i>Read</i> George Herbert, “Love (III)” (Moodle)<br>Kennedy & Gioia: “Rhythm,” pp.496-506<br><b>Literalization 3 due</b>                                |
| <b>October 8 - Other poetic forms</b><br><i>Read</i> Robert Browning, “My Last Duchess” (Kennedy p. 387)<br>Al Purdy, “Man Without a Country” (Moodle)<br>Dorothy Livesay, “Bartok and the Geranium” (Moodle)<br><b>Assignment:</b> Lit. 4 – Sir Phillip Sidney, <i>Astrophil &amp; Stella</i> 52<br><b>Essay 1 Due</b> | <b>October 10</b><br>Discussion, <i>Astrophil &amp; Stella</i> 52<br><b>Literalization 4 due</b>   |
| <b>October 15 - Elements of Fiction</b><br><i>Read</i> Kennedy & Gioia: “Reading a Story,” pp. 5-6; 14-18<br>“Point of View,” pp. 28-33<br>“Character,” pp. 54-56<br>“Setting,” pp. 93-95; “Theme,” 174-77<br><b>Assignment:</b> Literalization 5 – G. M. Hopkins, “As Kingfishers”                                     | <b>October 17</b><br>Discussion, “As Kingfishers”<br><b>Literalization 5 due</b>   |

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|---|--|
| <p><b>October 22</b><br/>         Essay 1 Analysis<br/>         Description of Essay 2<br/>         Introduction to Flannery O'Connor</p>   | <p><b>October 24 – The Short Story</b><br/> <i>Read</i> Flannery O'Connor, "Good Country People" (Moodle)</p>  |
| <p><b>October 29 - The Novel</b><br/> <i>Read</i> Janet Lewis, <i>The Wife of Martin Guerre</i> (Chapters 1-2)</p>  | <p><b>October 31</b><br/> <i>Read</i> <i>The Wife of Martin Guerre</i> (Chapter 3)</p>   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | <b>Thursday</b>  |
| <p><b>November 5</b><br/> <i>The Wife of Martin Guerre</i></p>  | <p><b>November 7 - The Literary Essay</b><br/> <i>Read</i> Jonathan Swift, "A Modest Proposal" (Moodle)<br/> <b>Essay 2 due</b></p>                              |
| <p><b>November 12</b><br/> <b>Drama: Tragedy &amp; Comedy</b><br/> <i>Read</i> Kennedy &amp; Gioia: "Reading a Play," pp. 657-59<br/>         "Modes," pp. 679-81; 688-90<br/>         "Theatre of Shakespeare," pp. 756-59</p> | <p><b>November 14</b><br/> <i>Read</i> William Shakespeare, <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>, Acts 1-3</p>  |
| <p><b>November 19</b><br/> <b>Research Techniques</b><br/> <i>Read</i> Kennedy &amp; Gioia: "Research Paper," pp. 1137-49<br/>         Essay 2 Analysis; Essay 3 Description</p>  | <p><b>November 21</b><br/> <i>Read</i> <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>, Acts 4-5</p>   |
| <p><b>November 26</b><br/> <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i></p>  | <p><b>November 28</b><br/>         Essay Peer Review Workshop<br/> <b>Essay 3 full draft due</b></p>   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | <b>Thursday</b>  |
| <p><b>December 3</b><br/>         Essay questions<br/>         Course evaluations<br/>         Exit writing diagnostic test</p>   | <p><b>December 5</b><br/> <b>Last Class</b><br/>         Exam Review<br/> <b>Essay 3 final version due</b><br/> <b>Literalization rewrite due (optional)</b></p> |
| <b>Final Examination: Wednesday, December 11 1:00pm</b>   |  |

### Course Requirements

- All assignments are due by the beginning of class on the date specified. For each, a digital file must be uploaded to Moodle *and* a paper copy submitted in class.
- All assignments must be submitted to receive a passing final grade.
- Extensions may be granted on essay assignments in exceptional circumstances, but must be arranged in advance (or vouched for by medical, etc. documentation). Late papers will be marked down one refined letter grade per class day (Tues-Fri) late. marked late too
- Readings must be completed before the class for which they are assigned.
- You are responsible not only for assignments and readings, but for everything discussed in class.
- The most current version of this syllabus and any supplementary handouts will always be available on Moodle. Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class and noted in the online version. A revised hard copy will not be distributed.

### Participation – 5%

Participation is your visible engagement with the class and the readings: look alert, ask questions, share your thoughts, and visit my office when you need help. It goes without saying that this requires regular attendance: skip classes and your grade will suffer.

### Literalization Exercises – 4 x 5% ea. = 20%

To understand a poem, one must first identify its plain, literal meaning. You will write five sonnet literalizations; your best four will count toward your grade. Moreover, you may rewrite any one literalization and resubmit it. Due as indicated on course calendar; optional rewrite due December 5.

### Essays – 10%, 20%, 25%

Essays will allow you to develop your writing ability by practicing three different aspects of textual analysis: explication (1000 words; 10%), comparison (1500 words; 20%), and research (1500 words; 25%). Due October 8, November 7, and December 5 respectively.

### Final examination – 20%

The exam will be comprehensive of the entire course. December 11.

*Further directions for these assignments will be given well before they are due.*

### Classroom Etiquette

In order for each of us to get the most out of this class, please observe the following points:

- Arrive on time. Attendance will be taken. If you arrive after a quiz begins, you may not write it.
- Do not talk compulsively. Be self-aware and leave space for others' voices.
- Do not be silent. Speaking is a crucial aid to formulating your thoughts on a topic.
- No eating in class. Unslurped beverages are fine.
- Students may not use any device more technologically complex than a pen in our classroom. Beeping mobile phones will be confiscated.

### Grading

| <u>Letter Grade</u> | <u>Percentage</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| A+                  | 96-100            | Excellent          |
| A                   | 91-95             | Excellent          |
| A-                  | 86-90             | Excellent          |
| B+                  | 82-85             | Good               |
| B                   | 75-81             | Good               |
| B-                  | 72-74             | Good               |
| C+                  | 68-71             | Satisfactory       |
| C                   | 63-67             | Satisfactory       |
| C-                  | 60-62             | Satisfactory       |
| D+                  | 56-59             | Poor               |
| D                   | 50-55             | Minimum Pass       |
| F                   | 0-49              | Failure            |

**Academic Policies**

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

**Extensions**

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "Course Extension" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by Monday, November 25, 2013 (Fall semester) or Monday, March 31, 2014 (Winter semester). Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

**Academic Integrity**

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record. In order to discourage plagiarism, papers submitted for this course will be subjected to an originality analysis by *Turnitin* software. For more information, see [http://turnitin.com/en\\_us/features/originalitycheck](http://turnitin.com/en_us/features/originalitycheck).

Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.