

Course ID:	Course Title:	Winter 2021
EN 245	C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and the Inklings	Prerequisite: EN 115
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Delivery:	In Class	Instructor:	Darren Dyck (PhD)	First Day of Classes:	13 Jan 2021
Days:	W/F	Email:	darren.dyck@ambrose.edu	Last Day to Add/Drop, or Change to Audit:	24 Jan 2021
Time:	11:45 am-1:00 pm	Phone:	Ext. 6931	Last Day to Request Revised Final Exam:	8 Mar 2021
Room:	A1085-1	Office:	L2069	Last Day to Withdraw From Course:	19 Mar 2021
Lab/Tutorial:	n/a	Office Hours:	By appointment	Last Day To Apply For Coursework Extension:	29 Mar 2021
Final Exam:	TBD			Last day of classes:	14 Apr 2021

Course Description

A study of the major literary works, themes, and ideas of C.S Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and their friends, the group known as the Inklings. This course examines themes such as the use of myth to explore problems of modernity, the relationship between Christian faith and art, as well as the debates over literary versus popular fiction.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Diligent students completing this course will:

- gain a broad knowledge of the Inklings, their work, and the social, historical, and intellectual context in which they produced that work.
- consider the relationship between literature and myth, especially as it was understood by the various members of the Inklings.
- be able to write and speak to the dominant themes in the Inklings' work, namely, Christianity, fantasy and the imagination, love, and friendship.
- develop further the skill of literary analysis and research (where applicable) by practicing close reading and composing explications and papers.
- develop further the skill of oral communication through various classroom opportunities.

Textbooks

- Lewis, C.S. *Perelandra*. HarperCollins, 2005.
 ---. *Till We Have Faces*. Mariner, 2012.
 Tolkien, J.R.R. *The Fellowship of the Ring*. HarperCollins, 2007.
 Williams, Charles. *Descent into Hell*. Eerdmans, 1937.
 Readings on Moodle (to be **printed**)

Course Schedule

Date	Topic (s)	Reading	Assignment
Jan			
13	Introductions: Managing Expectations	No Readings	
15	The 'Inklings'	M: Carpenter, "Thursday Evenings" (1979)	
20	Concerning Hobbits, a Ring, and Tom Bombadil	Tolkien, <i>The Fellowship of the Ring</i> (1954): Prologue-Bk. 1, Ch. 7	
22	Of Men, Dwarves, and Elves	<i>The Fellowship of the Ring:</i> Bk. 1, Ch. 8-Bk. 2, Ch. 2	
24		Last day to add/drop with tuition refund	
27	<i>Faerie: An Interlude</i>	M: Tolkien, "On Fairy-Stories" (1947): Start at p. 57 ("And with that ...")	
29	More Elves	<i>The Fellowship of the Ring:</i> Bk. 2, Ch. 3-end of Bk. 2	15-Min Test 1
Feb			
3	Words and Worlds	Lewis, <i>Perelandra</i> (1943): Chs. 1-5	
5	Temptation in Paradise: "I will speak greater words than these"	<i>Perelandra:</i> Chs. 6-11	Tolkien (1) Explication Due Date
10	The Great Dance	<i>Perelandra:</i> Chs. 12-17	15-Min Test 2
12	A 'Metaphysical' Thriller	Williams, <i>Descent into Hell</i> (1937): Chs. 1-4	Tolkien (1) Short Essay Due Date
17	Reading Week	No Classes	
19	Reading Week	No Classes	
24	The Doctrine of Substituted Love	<i>Descent into Hell:</i> Chs. 5-8	Lewis Explication Due Date
26	Ultimate Things	<i>Descent into Hell:</i> Chs. 9-12	

Mar			
3	"Incipit vita nova"	<i>Descent into Hell</i>	15-Min Test 3 Lewis Short Essay Due Date
5	Beren's Background	M: Tolkien, from <i>The Silmarillion</i> (pub. 1977): "Ainulindalë: The Music of the Ainur"	
8		Last day to request revised time for final exam	
10	"a fair tale, though it is sad"	M: Tolkien, from <i>The Silmarillion</i> (pub. 1977): "Of Beren and Luthien"	Williams Explication Due Date
12	"there are none, now [...] that remember it aright as it was told of old"	M: "Of Beren and Luthien"	15-Min Test 4
17	Orpheus: A Primer	M: Barfield, <i>Orpheus: A Poetic Drama</i> (1937): Act I	Williams Short Essay Due Date
19	"What I or me / Is not the heart?"	M: <i>Orpheus: A Poetic Drama:</i> Acts II & III	Tolkien (2) Explication Due Date
19		Last day to withdraw from courses without academic penalty	
24	"Can Eros become Agape?"	M: <i>Orpheus: A Poetic Drama:</i> Act IV	15-Min Test 5
26	Apuleius and Lewis	Lewis, <i>Till We Have Faces</i> (1956): Part One, Chs. 1-7	Tolkien (2) Short Essay Due
29		Last day to apply for coursework extension	
31	Ambrose Research Conference	No Classes	
Apr			
2	Good Friday	No Classes	
7	Loss and Disbelief	<i>Till We Have Faces:</i> Part One, Chs. 8-15	Barfield Explication Due Date
9	The Queen of Glome	<i>Till We Have Faces:</i> Part One, Chs. 16-21	
14	An Assumption	<i>Till We Have Faces:</i> Part Two, Chs. 1-4	15-Min Test 6 Barfield Short Essay Due Date

Requirements:

- 10% Participation:** Students will *visibly* engage with the class and the texts. In other words, look alert, bring *physical* copies of your texts to class, *write* in those physical copies, ask questions, share your thoughts, say “I don’t understand” when you don’t understand, and (Zoom) visit me from time to time during my office hours.
- 25% 15-Minute Tests:** Students will write six 15-minute tests over the course of the term, and the best five will count, worth 5% each. For the dates of the tests, see the course schedule.
- 15% Explication:** Students will write one explication of roughly 500 words. Students are not permitted to write an explication and a short essay on the same text or author (i.e. Tolkien). For the due dates of the explication, see the course schedule.
- 25% Short Essay:** Students will write one short essay of roughly 1500 words on one of the course texts. Students are not permitted to write a short essay and an explication on the same text or author (i.e. Tolkien). Nor may students who plan to write a second essay in EN 245 (and who receive the prerequisite B- or higher on this short essay) write on the same author twice. For the due dates of the short essay, see the course schedule.
- 25% Final Exam OR Longer Essay OR Creative Project:** Students who receive a grade of B- or higher on their short essay have the option of writing a long essay or completing a creative project instead of writing a final exam.

There will be no prompts for this longer essay; students must come up with a research question, get that question approved by me, and then write roughly 2000 words on a text or author of their choice (just not the one they wrote on for their short essay).

There are no specific criteria for the creative project, other than it must exhibit roughly the same intellectual engagement as the longer essay: students may write a dialogue, create a role-playing game, make a video, paint a picture, etc. Assessment of the creative assignment may take place orally—in other words, after you’ve submitted your work, I’ll arrange a Zoom meeting during which I’ll ask you questions about what you’ve done and why.

The longer essay or creative project is due at midnight on the date of the final exam.

Attendance:

- The classroom is a professional setting. For this reason, I request that you call me “Professor” or “Dr.”; I will, in turn, address you by the name you prefer. Professionalism is also required in emails. When you email me, please begin with “Dear Professor . . .” and use proper grammar and syntax.
- You are responsible for everything we read and discuss in class (whether you are present or not), including any announced changes to our schedule.
- **If you are unable to attend class for COVID-related reasons**, please email me (at least one hour before class), and I will send you the Zoom link for that session.
- Explications and short essays should be submitted to Moodle by midnight on the specified due date. Both explication and short essay must be submitted to receive a passing grade in the course.
- Late papers will be marked down one refined letter grade per class day late. Extensions may be granted on assignments in exceptional circumstances but must be arranged for in advance (or vouched for by appropriate medical, etc. documentation).
- Any student who misses more than ten class sessions will automatically fail the course.
- The most current version of this syllabus will always be available on Moodle.
- Students are required to check their Ambrose email accounts regularly.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

Grade	Interpretation	Grade Points
A+	Excellent	4.00
A		4.00
A-		3.70
B+	Good	3.30
B		3.00
B-		2.70
C+	Satisfactory	2.30
C		2.00
C-		1.70
D+	Poor	1.30
D		1.0
F	Failure	0.00
AU	Audit	No Grade Points
P	Pass	No Grade Points
W	Withdrawal	No Grade Points

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions.

Registration

During the Registration Revision Period students may add, drop or change a course from credit to audit through the Student Portal with no academic or financial penalty. Please consult the Academic Calendar for the Registration Revision Period deadline. After this point, students cannot add classes or change their registration type (audit or credit), but may withdraw from courses with financial penalty (no refund of tuition). A grade of 'W' will be recorded on the transcript, with no grade points awarded. To withdraw, students must submit the Course Withdrawal form found on the Ambrose website by the deadline indicated in the Academic Calendar.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the Academic Calendar. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar.

Privacy

Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required 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.

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 via the official form by the deadline date; please consult Academic Calendar. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within five business days of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within fifteen days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

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 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 acknowledge 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. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar 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.

Mental Health Support

All of us need a support system. We encourage students to build mental health supports and to reach out when help is needed.

On Campus:

- Counselling Services: ambrose.edu/counselling
- Peer Supportive Listening: One-to-one support in Student Life office. Hours posted at ambrose.edu/wellness.
- For immediate crisis support, there are staff on campus who are trained in Suicide Intervention and Mental Health First Aid. See ambrose.edu/crisissupport for a list of staff members.

Off Campus:

- Distress Centre - 403-266-4357
- Sheldon Chumir Health Care Centre - 403-955-6200
- Emergency - 911

Sexual Violence Support

All staff, faculty, and Residence student leaders have received *Sexual Violence Response to Disclosure* training. We will support you and help you find the resources you need. There is a website with on and off campus supports – ambrose.edu/sexual-violence-response-and-awareness.

Off Campus:

- Clinic: Sheldon Chumir Health Centre - 403-955-6200
- Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse - 403-237-5888

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