

EN 400 Modernism (3)
Winter 2004

Instructor: Rita Dirks Heath
Office Hours: 9:45 – 11:00 W/F
or by appointment
Class Times: 11:15 – 12:30 W/F

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Class Location: Room 753
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Required Texts

Beckson, Karl, intro. and ed. *Aesthetes and Decadents of the 1890s: An Anthology of British Poetry and Prose*. Revised Edition. Chicago: Academy Chicago Publishers, 1993.
Wilde, Oscar. *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1998.
Woolf, Virginia. *To the Lighthouse*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2000.
Watson, Sheila. *The Double Hook*. Toronto: New Canadian Library, 1989.

Critical Texts

Bradbury, Malcolm. *The Modern British Novel*.
Bradbury, Malcolm and James MacFarlane, eds. *Modernism: A Guide to European Literature, 1890-1930*.
Faulkner, Peter. *Modernism*.
Gilman, Richard. *Decadence: The Strange Life of an Epithet*.
Howe, Irving, ed. *The Idea of the Modern in Literature & the Arts*.
Levenson, Michael, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Modernism*.

Course Description

This course examines the European movement that took place in literature between 1890 and 1930, with the addition of a later Canadian Modernist novel (1960). Poetry, essays, and novels will be studied in the context of Modernism—a distinct and vital movement that changed the way we perceive literature and art.

Course Objectives

As one of the most complicated literary phenomenon of the twentieth century, Modernism invites the study of its definition in its many manifestations. A large part of the objective of this course is answering the question: What is Modernism? supplemented with the study of its representative authors, theories, and manifestoes.

Course Schedule

January	7	Introduction
	9	Early Modernism—Decadence

	14	Gilman, <i>Decadence</i> —Presentation (Megan S.)
	16	Symons, <i>The Decadent Movement in Literature</i> (in Beckson) and others (Beckson, Pater, Preminger)—Presentation (Stephanie)
	21	Barlas, “Terrible Love,” “My Lady’s Bath”; Beerbohm, “A Defence of Cosmetics”; Custance, “The Masquerade”; Douglas, “Apologia,” “The Dead Poet” (Leif)
	23	Decadent Art—Text and Visual Arts
	28	Dowson, “O Mors!” “Extreme Unction,” “Benedicto Domini”; Field, “The Poet”; Gray, “A Crucifix,” “The Barber” (Adriana)
	30	Johnson, “The Cultures Faun,” “In Honour of Dorian and His Creator,” “The Destroyer of a Soul,” “Nihilism”; Le Gallienne, “The Decadent to his Soul,” “Beauty Accurst,” “The Boom in Yellow” (Danielle)
February	4	Community Day
	6	Wilde, “Phrases and Philosophies for the Use of the Young”; Wratislaw, “Frangipani,” “Sonnet Macabre,” “Hothouse Flowers”; Yeats, “The Song of Wandering Aengus,” “Aedh Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven” (Megan P.)
	11	Wilde, <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> (Megan S.)
	13	PCAB (no class)
	25	Wilde, <i>De Profundis</i> (Caleb)
	27	Faulkner, <i>Modernism</i> —Presentation (Leah)
March	3	Bradbury, <i>The Modern British Novel</i> , Part One—Presentation (Adriana)
	5	Bradbury and McFarlane, “The Name and Nature of Modernism” in <i>Modernism</i> —Presentation (Leif)
	10	Woolf, <i>To the Lighthouse</i> (Leah)
	12	<i>To the Lighthouse</i>
	17	Howe, <i>The Idea of the Modern in Literature & the Arts</i> —Presentation (Tara)
	19	Trotter, “The Modernist Novel” (Levenson)—Presentation (Megan P.)
	24	D.H. Lawrence, <i>Lady Chatterley’s Lover</i> (Tara)
	26	<i>Lady Chatterley’s Lover</i>
	31	McFarlane, “The Mind of Modernism” in <i>Modernism</i> —Presentation (Danielle)
April	2	Canadian Modernism—Presentation (Caleb)
	7	Watson, <i>The Double Hook</i> (Stephanie)
	14	Review; Essay due

Course Requirements and Grading

1. Students should do all the prescribed readings before class and be prepared to participate in class discussion.
2. Assignments are due on the dates specified. Late assignments will not be accepted, unless extenuating circumstances can be shown.
3. Plagiarism in any of its forms will not be tolerated. Please read the policy regarding plagiarism in the NUC Handbook.
4. I do not take attendance. However, the student is responsible for all the information given in class, and also for any changes to the syllabus that are announced in class.
5. Grading:

Participation in class discussions	25%
Presentation (critical)	25%
Presentation (novel, poem, essay)	25%
Essay (2500 words)	25%