



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS & EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2015

EN1220 (B3): Texts and Contexts – Literary Heroism – 3 (3-0-0) 45 HOURS

INSTRUCTOR: Craig Smith

PHONE: 780-539-2894

OFFICE: C-308

E-MAIL: CrSmith@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Monday/Wednesday 1:00-2:00 p.m. or by appointment

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: none

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Homer. *The Iliad*. Trans. Robert Fagles

Cervantes, Miguel. *Don Quixote*. Trans. Edith Grossman

Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*.

Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o. *A Grain of Wheat*.

Miller, Frank and Klaus Jansen. *Batman: The Dark Knight Returns*.

Other class readings will be posted to Moodle; it is your responsibility to ensure that you are able to access and read these documents well in advance of the class in which they will be discussed.

I strongly advise students to purchase the particular edition of the text available at the college bookstore. Because we will begin by reading works in translation, students will find it easier to follow class discussion if we are all working from the same translation.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course will explore a specific issue (to be determined by the instructor) using a variety of genres and media. Instruction will include essay writing skills.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 credits/ 3 hours per week

DELIVERY MODE(S): The course work includes lecture, class discussion, in-class quizzes, writing instruction and assignments.

OBJECTIVES (OPTIONAL): This course will focus on one of the oldest and most popular of literary themes: heroism. Our goals will be to come to an understanding of the nature of heroic action, to explore how the central heroic figure transforms over time and across geographical and cultural boundaries, and to consider how changing contexts result in and contribute to the development of varying conceptions of heroism. In considering the meaning and the nature of heroism in a range of literary texts, we will also seek to come to terms with the inextricable connection between concepts of heroism and their representation in cultural and literary productions.

TRANSFERABILITY: University of Alberta

University of Calgary

University of Lethbridge

Athabasca University

Grant MacEwan University

King's University College *

Other (transfers in combination with other courses or to other institutions)

* An asterisk (*) beside any transfer institution indicates important transfer information. Consult the Alberta Transfer Guide.

** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability

GRADING CRITERIA:

Mid-term test (**Date: February 11**): 15%

In-class quizzes: 10%

Essay 1: 10%

Essay 2: 25%

Participation: 10%

Final Exam: 30%

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS: There will be **3** scheduled quizzes during the semester, of which only the top **2** will count toward your final grade. These quizzes will include material from lectures and/or assigned readings. A final examination will be scheduled in April by the registrar; students should avoid making travel plans before this exam date is available.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Written assignments are to be submitted directly to me as a hard copy. I will not accept electronic copies. It is the student's responsibility to retain a copy of ALL assignments submitted for grading; in the unlikely event of theft or loss, a

duplicate copy must be available upon request.

2. Written assignments are to be submitted *on time*. This means that they are due *before the beginning of class*. Late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% per day, with weekends counting as one day. Assignments more than one week late forfeit the right to full commentary.

3. Extensions will not be granted for written assignments except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required.

4. Students are expected to attend *all* classes. Unexcused absences will negatively affect the participation component of a student's grade.

5. Participation is not a mere formality but a vital part of the college learning experience. By responding to and posing questions, students become active participants in their own educational development. That said, I am aware that not all students will feel equally comfortable speaking in front of their peers; this difference in temperament need not result in any student receiving a lower grade for participation as there are multiple ways in which students should feel free to participate beyond the classroom. These include, but are not limited to, email conversations with me regarding the readings, lectures, or discussions, or coming to office hours to continue an in-class discussion. Students are also *highly* encouraged to make use of Moodle as a forum for continuing the discussion beyond the classroom.

6. Students are required to check the Moodle site for this course before each class to stay informed concerning course updates and announcements.

7. Cellphones are to be turned off and kept out of sight during class time. Students who text while the instructor and/or other students are speaking will lose marks for participation.

8. The date for the mid-term test has been set for February 11. If for some reason you are unable to make it to class on this date, it is your responsibility to contact me *before* class. In order to be able to write the mid-term at a later date, any student who misses it will also need to provide documentation excusing his or her absence.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Please note that plagiarism constitutes a serious form of student misconduct, and I take it very seriously. Refer to the College Policy and feel free to consult me at any time during the semester if you have any questions or concerns.

Refer to the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at https://www.gprc.ab.ca/files/forms_documents/Student_Misconduct.pdf

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Please consult Moodle regularly to keep up-to-date on the reading schedule for the semester. The schedule of reading will likely vary slightly across the sections of the course.