DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2015

EN 1220 (A2&B2) TEXTS AND CONTEXTS: Detective Fiction - 3(3-0-0) 45 Hours

INSTRUCTOR:	Sally Jones	**PHONE:**	(780) 539-2235
OFFICE:	C426	**E-MAIL:**	sjones@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS:	Monday and Wednesday 11:30—1:00 and by appointment		

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:
Successful completion of English 30 (or equivalent of Grade 12 English)

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:
The Murder of Roger Ackroyd by Agatha Christie
Strong Poison by Dorothy Sayers
(Other readings will be made available on Moodle or as handouts)

Note: Please use the editions on sale at the Bookstore. If, however, you use other editions, please make certain that they are all unabridged.

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. Because the course content will vary among instructors, it is strongly recommended that students consult an academic advisor or the Department of Arts and Education for more specific descriptions regarding the course focus.

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

DELIVERY MODE(S):
Course work includes lectures, class discussions, group work, in-class quizzes, online assignments, film, and individual student work, both written and oral.

OBJECTIVES:
This course will explore the early period of Detective Fiction, focusing on its beginnings as an elegant art of detection involving locked doors and complex puzzles. We will examine the formation of the formal genre, including the literary "rules" agreed upon by the early Detection Club, whose members notably included Dorothy Sayers, G.K. Chesterton, and Agatha Christie. From there, questions surrounding the modern

fascination with crime as entertainment will be considered, investigating society's obsession with the darkest side of humanity and the corresponding impulse to discover, reveal, and punish.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students who complete this course successfully should be able to

- use their writing to analyze thoughts and to express ideas effectively
- use their writing to respond critically to another piece of writing or external prompt
- plan, outline, and draft a piece of writing that develops a specific thesis
- revise a text, adjusting style and content for specific purposes and audiences
- proofread writing for surface errors and correct the majority of these errors

TRANSFERABILITY:

University of Alberta, University of Calgary, University of Lethbridge
Athabasca University, Grant MacEwan University, King's University College*
* An asterisk (*) beside any transfer institution indicates important transfer information. Consult the Alberta Transfer Guide.

Note: 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:

A+ 95-100	B+ 77-79	C+ 67-69	D+ 55-59
A 87-94	B 74-76	C 64-66	D 50-54
A- 80-86	B- 70-73	C- 60-63	F 0-49

EVALUATIONS:

There will be several unscheduled reading quizzes during this course, and in terms of preparation, these will only require careful reading of the day's assigned text. A final examination will be scheduled in December by the registrar, and students **must not** make travel plans before this exam date is available.

Reading Quizzes	20%
Writing Exercises	10%
1st Essay	15%
2nd Essay	25%
Final Examination	30%

*All assignments will be discussed thoroughly in class, and guideline handouts will be distributed in class and made available on Moodle.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Essays will **not** be accepted after the due date unless prior arrangements have been approved by the Professor. Penalties of 10% per day late may be applicable in these cases. All essays must be typed, double-spaced, and stapled together. **Assignments not meeting these criteria will not be accepted. No essay may be submitted by e-mail.**

2. Quizzes cannot be made up, but in the case of a *verifiable medical emergency*, with official doctor's note, may be excused.

3. The reading outline is subject to change according to time constraints and other considerations; therefore, **students are responsible** for any changes that are announced in class whether they are in attendance or not.

4. Please keep a copy of all written work. In the event of theft or loss, the student is required to submit a duplicate copy.

5. Cell phones must be turned off during classes. This also means **NO TEXTING** or **INTERNET SURFING** during class time. Students who cannot adhere to this policy will be penalized.

6. Students are expected to check the Moodle site for this course before each class to stay informed; in the event of a class cancellation, the announcement will be posted to Moodle.

7. Students are advised to read the College Calendar for the rules regarding Registration, Withdrawals, Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:
Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/ or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**
**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE: (a separate detailed daily reading schedule with sources and page numbers will also be distributed in class)

Weeks 1-5:   ORIGINS: Edgar Allan Poe, Arthur Conan Doyle
ONLY ONE AMONG YOU: G. K. Chesterton, Dorothy Sayers

Weeks 6-8:   First novel study: Dorothy Sayers, *Strong Poison*

Weeks 9-12: THE LOCKED ROOM: John Dickson Carr, Edmund Crispin
THE ARMCHAIR DETECTIVE: Emmuska Orczy, Ellery Queen

Weeks 13-16: Second novel study: Agatha Christie, *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*
HARDBOILED: Dashiell Hammett, Rex Stout, Raymond Chandler

Final Exam (date TBA)