

ENGLISH 0120
Course Outline

Instructor: Margaret Coe

Office: C406

Office Hours: M, W, F. 9 to 10 a.m. T. and R. 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

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The course is designed for adults who require a standing in Grade XI (Academic) English.

Objectives: Students successfully completing English 0120 will be able to

- express themselves in clear, error-free written sentences
- organize, proof-read, and present competent short essays
- understand the basic literary structures and techniques of fiction
- gain biographic information and understanding of selected Canadian authors
- discuss social issues arising from their reading
- be able to use the language of basic literary criticism
- gain appreciation of the special worlds of poetry and drama
- recognize and use devices of compression and figurative language
- be comfortable expressing themselves orally in a group situation
- think, speak, and write with clarity, economy, and purpose

Course Contents: The course consists of the following units:

1) **The Writing Process:** This is not a separate unit, but an integral part of the course which continues throughout the term. The emphasis is on the process of idea generation, organization, drafting and editing, so that the material you write is the best possible expression of your ideas and purpose.
No text is required.

2) **The Essay.** We will look at models by published writers which illustrate the principles of good non-fiction writing, but the emphasis will be on mastering the basic student essay in the forms usually required in college situations. This is another unit which forms a central part of the course.

TEXT: HORIZONS Ken Roy

3) **Short Fiction:** This unit explores the writing of well-known international and Canadian fiction writers. In the process students focus on effective writing techniques -- and some ineffective techniques-- as employed by these writers. There are a fair number of "literary terms" to master as we investigate the elements of plot, character, theme, point of view, symbolism, and setting.

TEXT: HORIZONS Ken Roy

4) **The Novel:** Skills introduced in the short fiction unit are explored further in the study of a longer work. The social issues raised by the novel will form the basis for class discussion, and a short research project.

TEXT: OF MICE AND MEN John Steinbeck

5) **Poetry:** The intent of this unit is to expose students to as wide a variety of poetic expression as time allows, and to recognize some of the common tools of the poet's trade.

TEXT: HORIZONS Ken Roy

6) **Modern Drama:** Students will gain insight in a brief history of drama as an art form, and examine the factors that make Death of a Salesman one of the landmark dramas of modern times.

TEXT: DEATH OF A SALESMAN Arthur Miller

In addition to the texts mentioned above, students should have a good pocket dictionary, and possibly a thesaurus, if it is in dictionary form.

THE LITTLE BROWN ESSENTIAL HANDBOOK (or a similar reference) is strongly recommended as a very useful reference tool. Copies of current handbooks can be signed out from the Learning Centre. (room A208)

Assignments: Each unit will involve an evaluation exercise--either a test, essay, worksheet, presentation, or project. These will vary according to the needs of the class, but you can expect to write several short essays (500--700 words), a short research assignment, and some assignments where students are given a choice of tasks. Early in the term a specific time line will be given to you with a schedule of assignments. These will vary from year to year and class to class depending in part on the size of the class, among other factors.

Term Marks: Your final standing in the course will be decided on the following basis:

- Day-to-day assignments and exercises-----65% of total
- Final exam-----25% of total
- Participation-----10% of total

According to college policy, your percentage standing will be converted to the 9-point stanine system used by GPRC.

90 – 100%	Stanine	9
80 – 90	"	8
72 – 79	"	7
65 – 71	"	6
57 – 64	"	5
50 – 56	"	4
45 – 49	"	3
26 – 44	"	2
0 – 25	"	1

Additional Information:

The "participation" portion of your mark is made up of several factors: half of this portion depends on regular attendance. You are allowed three unexcused absences during the term-- after that, each unexcused absence will cost a half point; ten such absences will penalize you for 5% of your term mark. The rest of the participation mark depends on various exercises which will be marked specifically for participation. Most of these exercises cannot be made up if they are missed.

Students with more than 10 unexcused absences may be asked to withdraw from class.

Assignments must be on time. In case of medical or family emergency, get in touch with me as soon as possible regarding arrangements for make-up assignments. Do not assume that you will automatically be able to take a missed test, etc.

In this class, as in any other, see the instructor early if trouble seems to be creeping up on you. Friendly, open discussion will often prevent small problems from becoming overwhelming.