



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2015

EN1240 (A3): LITERARY ANALYSIS – 3 (3-0-0) 45 HOURS

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Anna Lapointe **PHONE:** 780-539-2992
OFFICE: C420 **E-MAIL:** alapointe@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 3-4:30pm and Thursdays 11:30-12:50pm

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: General College Admission. May not be taken by students with 6 credits in approved junior English.

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

- Kushner, Tony. *Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes: Part One: Millennium Approaches Part Two: Perestroika*. New York: Theatre Communications Group, 1995.
- Morrison, Toni. *A Mercy*. Toronto: Vintage, 2009.
- *The Broadview Introduction to Literature: Poetry*. Broadview Press, 2013.

Additional readings may be posted on Moodle in .pdf and hyperlink form. Students are responsible for ensuring that they can access these files.

RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED:

William E. Messenger et al. *The Canadian Writer's Handbook: Essentials Edition*. Don Mills, ON: Oxford UP, 2014.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: An introduction to the discipline of English and to the ways in which those in that discipline think about and analyze literary and everyday language practices. Various samples of literature will be examined in order to learn about the vocabulary used in literary studies. Instruction in essay writing will also be included.

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

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture/Discussion

OBJECTIVES: This course will strengthen students' analytical, critical, and writing skills in the context of studying literature and culture. We will read widely, write well, and develop critical perspectives that will provide foundations for a wide range of academic and extra-academic endeavors!

TRANSFERABILITY:

- Athabasca University: ENGL 2xx (3)
- Canadian University College: ENGL 1xx (3)
- Grant MacEwan University: ENGL 103/1xx (6)
- Grant MacEwan University: ENGL 103 (3)
- King's University College: ENGL 2xx (3)
- University of Alberta: ENGL 124 (3)
- University of Calgary: Jr. ENGL (3)
- University of Lethbridge: ENGL 1xxx (3)

**** 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**

STUDENT PRINTING POLICY:

It is the responsibility of each academic department to ensure that their students are not required to print more than the amount provided by this policy. If the requirements of the program are such that additional printing cannot be avoided, it is the responsibility of the department to ensure that their students are aware of this policy, and that additional charges for printing should be expected.

Students who print out all readings posted on Moodle may exceed their printing amount for this class. However, printing these documents is not required. Students may prefer to read the files from a computer or portable electronic device.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Grading will assess students' critical grasp of the course material and compositional skills in approximately equal measure. Be aware that extreme deficits in composition may hinder the instructor's assessment of student's critical grasp of the material.

(Translation: if the paper is badly written to the point of incoherence, with the result that I can't figure out what you mean, I can't give you content credit!)

All assessments will be given as letter grades.

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:

Response papers	10% (2 x 5%)
Critical essay #1	15%
Quizzes	10%
Critical essay #2	25%
Attendance and participation	10%
Final exam	30%

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Requirements for Essays:

All essay-assignments in this course must be written in academic essay format, which we will study throughout the course. Spelling and grammar, structure, and comprehension and analysis of the course material are key grading elements. Expectations for the quality of writing will rise in the course of the term.

Formatting expectations are posted on Moodle, and will be distributed as a handout. All essays must be typed, double-spaced, and stapled together. Assignments not meeting these criteria will not be accepted.

2. Attendance and Participation

Attendance and participation are crucial to this course. Each unexcused absence results in a deduction of about 3% from your attendance and participation grade. Significant numbers of excused absences will result in students needing to complete a small project to “make up” the grades.

If your absence is for a legitimate reason (illness, family crisis, hit by a bus), let the instructor know **by e-mail**. I appreciate it when you tell me verbally, but I need the e-mail so that I can check my records at the end of the term. In your e-mail, please indicate your course number and section (EN1240 A3).

That said, simply showing up is not sufficient. You are expected to comment, respond to questions, interact with classmates, and otherwise contribute to the class dialogue. Questions are welcomed and encouraged. If you're wondering about something, most likely several classmates are as well, only they're afraid to speak up. So ask!

Students are responsible for all missed material, including material missed due to legitimate/excused absences. Missed material should be obtained from classmates rather than from the instructor, who needed 80 minutes to deliver it the first time. Take a moment early in the course to find a “note buddy” who is willing to share notes with you in the event of your absence.

3. Late Assignments

Assignments are due in class and on paper. No paper may be submitted by e-mail. Late papers may be left in the mailbox on my office door (C420). It is the student's responsibility to confirm I have received assignments left on my door.

Late papers are penalized at the rate of 1% per day, to a maximum deduction of 10% (one letter grade). Weekends count as one day.

I grant extensions for the following reasons: computer failure (may be used only once), sick children/family crisis, illness or injury of student (with doctor's note), alien abduction (documentation required). Extensions are not open-ended; rather, we will agree on a new deadline, after which late penalties apply.

4. Moodle

Students are responsible for checking Moodle regularly for updates, announcements, and handouts. Ensure you check Moodle each morning before coming to class.

All handouts distributed in class are also posted on Moodle. If you miss a class or lose a handout, go online to access it. In addition, you are responsible for the contents of all posted handouts, whether or not they have been taken up in class. Take time at the beginning of the course to explore our Moodle page and discover the resources being shared there!

Some readings for this course are posted on Moodle. Please ensure that you can access these files well in advance of the classes in which we take them up.

If you have trouble accessing Moodle, contact the technical support office immediately.

5. Electronics in Class

I permit the use of electronic devices (laptop computers, tablets, and phones) in the classroom for note-taking and document-access purposes. Please turn off all sound-generating functions.

I cannot reliably determine whether students are using their devices for class-related purposes. If you choose to use your device for non-class purposes (such as texting and Facebook), please be aware that those activities actually damage the learning experience of those around you. Thus, if you absolutely *must* text in class, please sit in the back so as to distract as few of your classmates as possible.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

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/>

Academic dishonesty devalues your education and the education of your classmates. It is disrespectful of the institution and (particularly) of your instructor. I take this issue very seriously.

Never fear: you will be specifically instructed on how to avoid “accidental” dishonesty. And when in doubt, cite!

Tentative Course Timeline:

Week 1 – Introduction

Weeks 2-6 – poetry (order of readings is included on a separate handout)

Weeks 7-9 – *A Mercy*

Week 10 – short fiction

Weeks 11-13 – *Angels in America*

Exam date TBA. Ensure you are available for the entire exam period.