



Faculty of Arts
& Social Sciences

School of the Arts and Media

ARTS 1030

Introduction to English: Literary Genres

Session 1, 2015

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Lecturing staff

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Lectures

Note: due to building work, the lectures for Weeks 1-5 will be held in Leighton Hall.

From week 6 onwards, we'll be in Mechanical Engineering G03

Thursday 2-3pm Leighton Hall/Mechanical Engineering G03

Friday 1-2pm Leighton Hall/Mechanical Engineering G03

Attendance requirements

- A student is expected to attend all three class contact hours: i.e. two lectures and one tutorial each week.
- A student who attends less than 80% of class contact hours without justification may be awarded a final grade of UF (Unsatisfactory Fail).
- A student who arrives more than 15 minutes late may be penalised for non-attendance.
- If a student experiences illness, misadventure or other occurrence that makes absence from a class/activity unavoidable, they should seek

permission from the Course Convenor. The application should be accompanied by an original or certified copy of a medical certificate or other form of appropriate evidence.

- A Course Convenor may excuse a student from classes for up to one month. A student seeking approval to be absent for more than one month must apply in writing to the Dean.
- A student who has submitted the appropriate documentation but attends less than 66% of the classes/activities will be asked by the Course Convenor to apply to discontinue the course without failure.
- For more information about the FASS attendance protocols, see the SAM policies and guidelines webpage:

<https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/>

Contacting the School

When contacting course convenors, lecturers or tutors, you **MUST** use your official UNSW email. We will **ONLY** respond to emails from official UNSW addresses. You should also check your UNSW email address regularly, as communications from the School will only use this address.

School of the Arts and Media

Room 312, level 3 Robert Webster Building

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Summary of the course

This course introduces students to the discipline of English through the study of literary form. Focusing on the major literary genres of poetry, prose and drama, the course will examine ways of writing in English from a range of periods and cultural traditions including non-British and pre-twentieth century. It will also introduce students to the specialised vocabulary of literary and textual analysis.

Aims of the course

This course aims to introduce students to the tertiary study of English through a focused study of literary form, including the theoretical background, critical concepts and vocabulary needed for literary analysis. It will provide students with the critical contexts needed to explore literary texts in a rigorous and informed way, most importantly through the essay form.

Set and recommended texts

These are the set texts for the course. You may use other editions of these texts, if you already have them.

ARTS1030 Poetry Reader – available from UNSW Bookshop

Toni Morrison, *Beloved* (Vintage, 2008)

Nam Le, *The Boat* (Penguin, 2009)

William Shakespeare, *King Lear* (RSC, Macmillan, 2009)

Samuel Beckett, *Endgame* (Faber, 2009)

These are the recommended texts, which are aimed to help you with your academic writing and knowledge of technical vocabulary:

M. H. Abrams and Geoffrey Harpham, *A Glossary of Literary Terms*, 11th ed. (Wadsworth, 2011)

Sylvan Barnett and William E. Cain, *A Short Guide to Writing About Literature*, 12th ed. (Pearson Longman, 2011)

Copies of all these texts (including the poetry reader) are available in the **High Use Collection** of the UNSW library.

How will I be expected to approach the course content?

This course will encourage you to:

- read critically
- familiarise yourself with the scope and definition of formal literary genres

- develop skills in close reading and literary analysis
- develop a range of writing and oral skills in expressing these perspectives

You will be expected to:

- attend all lectures and tutorials
- prepare for classes by carefully reading the texts in advance
- come to classes prepared to contribute to group discussion and other forms of active participation
- prepare for and complete all assessment tasks

Student learning outcomes

At the completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Recognise the defining characteristics of the major literary genres in English
2. Critically analyse literary texts in terms of questions of literary form
3. Conduct basic research on literary texts, using appropriate scholarly resources
4. Articulate and contextualise your own critical position
5. Construct and articulate a critical argument orally and in writing
6. Use appropriate formats including correct referencing to present your work

Graduate attributes

These outcomes align with the following discipline-specific attributes:

1. Skills in literary analysis through close reading of texts in English
2. Knowledge of the main periods and branches of English literature
3. Ability to relate literary texts to the contexts in which they were produced
4. Ability to reflect upon student's own practice as a literary critic within the discipline of English
5. Ability to make and justify aesthetic judgments about texts
6. Understanding of how texts are produced

Rationale for inclusion of course content

The course has been designed to provide introductory coverage of the major literary genres in English. Texts have been chosen for their literary merit and as exemplars of key features of specific genres.

The teaching strategies used

The course is taught through lectures and tutorials.

Lectures:

There will be two one-hour lectures each week. The lectures are designed to introduce students to the issues and texts of the course by providing contextual information, outlines of critical responses to the texts and some close discussion. Lectures also model for students the ways information is organized and presented in the discipline of English. Certain scheduled lectures address the specifics of analysis, argumentation and writing in both essays and exams. The lecture format is important in that it demonstrates formal modes of presenting a structured argument, and for this reason lecture attendance is compulsory. Timetable clashes must be individually approved by the course convenor, and are dependent on certain key undertakings by students. Echo 360 support and PowerPoint notes are provided via Moodle to support the lectures and for revision, not as a substitute for lecture attendance. Access Moodle via:

<http://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au>

Tutorials:

The weekly tutorial requires students to engage actively with the lecture and reading material and develop their own critical responses.

This will occur through:

- weekly preparation, including devising discussion questions for the group and/or preparing responses to set questions
- structured and informal class discussion
- collaborative work in small groups.

Attendance at and participation in tutorials is central to the development of critical thinking and analytic skills, and is thus mandatory. The University requires that students attend at least 80% of classes in each course in order to be considered for a pass in that course.

Philosophy of teaching

In our teaching, we aim to foster interactivity, student agency and the pleasure of scholarly knowledge and learning. We recognise and welcome a diverse student cohort with different needs and investments in the processes of learning. We understand, too, that these needs and investments change and develop over the duration of a course or a degree. Our aim, then, is to facilitate ways for students to engage critically and creatively with the disciplinary bases of their study. This ability to acquire and question disciplinary knowledge will be an ongoing resource in students' professional and personal lives, continuing beyond the immediate context of any one course or program.

Assessment

In order to pass this course, you must make a serious attempt at ALL assessment tasks.

Assessment task 1 – 20%

Close reading exercise – 1000-word discussion of set poem. Question is provided on p. 10 of this course guide.

Due date: Tues March 24 by 4pm (week 4).

Assessment task 2 – 40%

Major essay – 1500-word essay on *Beloved*. Question is provided on pp. 10-11 of this course guide.

Due date: Tues April 28 by 4pm (week 8).

Assessment task 3 – 40%

Formal examination

A two-hour examination will be held in the university examination period (June 12-29). You will be required to answer two questions. The exam date will be available later in the semester through myUNSW. Details of exam are on p. 11 of this course guide.

The learning outcomes and graduate attributes (listed above on p. 6) and assessment tasks are related in the following ways:

The close reading exercise assesses your ability to:

- recognise the achievement and merit of a poem
- use technical vocabulary to explain and account for achievement
- contextualise and articulate your own critical position
- construct and articulate a critical argument in writing
- use appropriate formats including correct referencing to present your work

The major essay assesses your ability to:

- recognise the defining characteristics of the novel genre
- identify and analyse the use of different genres in the novel
- conduct basic research on literary texts, using appropriate scholarly resources
- contextualise and articulate your own critical position
- construct and articulate a critical argument in writing
- use appropriate formats including correct referencing to present your work

The formal examination assesses your ability to:

- recognise the defining characteristics of the major literary genres in English
- critically analyse literary texts in terms of questions of literary form
- contextualise and articulate your own critical position
- construct and articulate a critical argument in writing in timed conditions

Formal assessment criteria

Assessment task 1	Close reading exercise	20%
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This is a 1000-word close reading exercise discussing a set poem. The criteria for assessment are:

- ability to identify poetic achievement and merit
- ability to use technical vocabulary to explain and account for achievement
- ability to support your reading with careful reference to the text
- ability to write grammatically, coherently and articulately
- ability to construct an essay that presents an argument as follows: a clear introduction with thesis statement, followed by paragraphs

focused on specific issues that develop the argument, and a conclusion summing up the argument

Assessment task 2 Major essay 40%

This is a 1500-word essay on the novel *Beloved*. The criteria for assessment are:

- ability to identify and analyse the use of different genres in the novel
- ability to support your reading with careful reference to the text
- ability to write grammatically, coherently and articulately
- ability to construct an essay that presents an argument as follows: a clear introduction with thesis statement, followed by paragraphs focused on specific issues that develop the argument, and a conclusion summing up the argument

Assessment task 3 Formal examination 40%

This is a formal two-hour examination. The criteria for assessment are:

- ability to identify and analyse features of the selected literary genres
- ability to support your reading with careful reference to the text
- ability to write grammatically, coherently and articulately
- ability to construct an essay that presents an argument that develops as follows: a clear introduction with thesis statement, followed by paragraphs focused on specific issues together with a conclusion summing up the argument

Questions for assessment tasks 1, 2 & 3

1. Close reading exercise

One of the abilities that this course aims to develop is the ability to make and justify claims about literary quality and achievement. One way in which this course tries to do this is by providing examples in lecture and tutorial of how to identify and account for literary achievement; another way is by requiring you to do it yourself, which is what this exercise does. Bearing in mind the ways in which your lecturer has been doing it so far, identify the achievement of one of the following poems, and describe the specific features of the language of the poem that account for this achievement.

Jonson, "On My First Daughter"

Wright, "Night Herrons"

McAuley, "Wet Day"

Length: 1000 words
Weight: 20% of final grade
Due: Tues March 24 by 4pm (week 4)
Referencing: **either** the Footnote/Endnote method **or** the In-text Method. See Essential information for all students (p. 13)

2. Major essay question

Maggie Sale has described *Beloved* as a "new way of conceiving of history, one that refuses and refutes master versions of history". Write an essay exploring some of the literary devices Toni Morrison uses to challenge traditional concepts of history, time and narrative authority. In answering this question, make sure that you support your claims by quoting and closely analysing a few passages from the novel that demonstrate Morrison's experimentation with multiple voices.

Length: 1500 words
Weight: 40% of final grade
Due: Tues April 28 by 4pm (week 8)
Referencing: **either** the Footnote/Endnote method **or** the In-text Method. See Essential information for all students (p. 13)

3. Formal examination

The exam paper will consist of three essay questions: one on *The Boat*, one on *King Lear* and one on *Endgame*. You will be required to answer 2 of the 3 questions. The exam will be 2 hours long. You will be given some extra reading time. The questions will be evenly weighted. You should dedicate 60 minutes to each of your answers. The exam will take place in the exam period (June 12-29). The exact date and time of the exam will be available late in the semester through myUNSW.

Weight: 40% of final grade

Table summarizing assessment tasks

Assessment task	Length	Weight	Learning outcomes assessed	Graduate attributes assessed	Due date
Close reading exercise	1000 words	20%	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	1, 5, 6	March 24
Major essay	1500 words	40%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	1, 2, 5, 6	April 28
Exam	2 hours	40%	1, 2, 4, 5	1, 2, 5, 6	Exam period

Timetable for lectures, tutorials and assessment

Wk	Beginning	THURSDAY Lecture 1 (Matthews Theatre A)	FRIDAY Lecture 2 (Physics Theatre)	Tutorial	Assessment
1	March 2	Course introduction Dr Sigi Jottkandt	Poetry as a literary genre A/Prof Bill Walker	NO TUTORIALS IN WEEK 1	
2	March 9	Poetry as a literary genre A/Prof Bill Walker	The sonnet A/Prof Bill Walker	Poetry	
3	March 16	The ode A/Prof Bill Walker	The elegy A/Prof Bill Walker	Poetry	
4	March 23	Introduction to the novel Dr Sigi Jottkandt	<i>Beloved</i> A/Prof Elizabeth McMahon	Poetry	Poetry close reading exercise due Tues March 24
5	March 30	<i>Beloved</i> A/Prof Elizabeth McMahon	<i>Beloved</i> A/Prof Elizabeth McMahon	<i>Beloved</i>	
MID-SEMESTER BREAK April 3-12					
6	April 13	Essay writing Dr Sigi Jottkandt	Essay writing Dr Sigi Jottkandt	<i>Beloved</i>	
7	April 20	Introduction to the short story A/Prof Brigitta Olubas	<i>The Boat</i> A/Prof Brigitta Olubas	Essay writing	
8	April 27	<i>The Boat</i> A/Prof Brigitta Olubas	Introduction to drama Dr Sigi Jottkandt	<i>The Boat</i>	<i>Beloved</i> essay due Tues April 28
9	May 4	<i>King Lear</i> Dr Sigi Jottkandt	<i>King Lear</i> Dr Sigi Jottkandt	<i>The Boat</i>	
10	May 11	<i>King Lear</i> Dr Sigi Jottkandt	<i>King Lear</i> Dr Sigi Jottkandt	<i>King Lear</i>	
11	May 18	<i>King Lear</i> Dr Sigi Jottkandt	<i>Endgame</i> Prof Rónán McDonald	<i>King Lear</i>	
12	May 25	<i>Endgame</i> Dr Sigi Jottkandt	Exam preparation Dr Sigi Jottkandt	<i>Endgame</i>	

13	June 1	NO LECTURES IN WEEK 13	NO LECTURES IN WEEK 13	Exam preparation	
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Resources for essays

In preparing the written assignments, you should consult the English Essay Handbook:

<http://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au/resources/assessments/>

for formal requirements in presenting and submitting written work. You will also find the following website useful in locating material particularly relevant to English in the Library:

<http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/content.php?pid=28489&sid=208065>

Responses to previous feedback about the course

Since this course was first offered in 2009, some minor changes have been made in response to requests for more feedback and a reduction in the number of texts assigned. Students will be encouraged to fill out online CATEI forms at the end of the course so that further improvements may be made.

Essential information for students

All essential information including information about student rights and responsibilities, essay submission procedures, equity and diversity, plagiarism, and attendance can be found at:

<https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/>

Please note in particular the following matters:

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- **Copying:** using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.
- **Inappropriate paraphrasing:** changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit. It also applies to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without referencing and a student's own analysis to bring the material together.
- **Collusion:** working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- **Duplication:** submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Details of what plagiarism is can be found on the Learning Centre's Website [Plagiarism & Academic Integrity website \(http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism\)](http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism), in the myUNSW student A-Z: Guide <https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/Plagiarism.html> and in Appendix A of the [Student Misconduct Procedure \(pdf-https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf\)](https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf).

The Learning Centre also provides substantial education written materials, workshops, and tutorials to aid students, for example:

- Correct referencing practices;
- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management;
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre.

Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW makes use of the similarity detection tool Turnitin. For this course you are required to submit an electronic version of your written assignments so they may be reviewed using this procedure.

Submission of work:

Students must submit a hard and soft copy of their work by 4pm on the due date. Hard copies are to be submitted into the locked assignment boxes outside the School Office, Room 311U, Level 3, Robert Webster Building. A School Assignment Coversheet must be securely attached, with your details clearly marked. Electronic versions of assignments must be submitted via Turnitin on the Moodle site for the course, as this submission provides plagiarism checking. Only hard copies will be marked; electronic versions will only be accessed as evidence during appeals and disputes. Late work will attract penalties.

Late work:

If your assignment is submitted after the due date, a penalty of 3% per day (including Saturday, Sunday and public holidays) will be imposed for up to 2 weeks. For example, if you are given a mark of 72 out of 100 for an essay, and your essay were handed in two days late, it would attract a penalty of 6% and the mark would be reduced to 66%. If the same essay were handed in seven days late (i.e. a penalty of 21%) it would receive a mark of 51%. If your assignment is not submitted within 2 weeks of its due date, it will receive a mark of 0. For more

information on submission of late work, consult the FASS assessment protocols at <https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/>.

Extension procedure:

In the case of illness and misadventure you may apply to the Course Convenor for an extension of the due date. Work or family commitments, religious holidays or work due in other courses are not acceptable reasons for extension or Special Consideration requests. Evidence of significant progress in an assessment task must be demonstrated if asking for an extension due to emergency or illness close to the submission date. The extension procedure is as follows:

- A student seeking an extension should apply through the Faculty's online extension tool available in LMS before the due time/date for the assessment task.
- The Course Convenor should respond to the request within two working days.
- The Course Convenor can only approve an extension of up to five days. A student requesting an extension of more than five days should complete an application for Special Consideration.
- The Course Convenor advises their decision through the online extension tool.
- If a student is granted an extension, failure to comply will result in a penalty. The penalty will be invoked one minute past the approved extension time.
- A student who missed an assessed activity held within class contact hours should apply for Special Consideration via myUNSW.
- This procedure does not apply to assessment tasks that take place during regular class hours or any task specifically identified by the Course Authority as not subject to extension requests.
- For more information, see the FASS extension protocols on the SAM policies and guidelines webpage:
<https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/>

Special consideration:

In the case of more serious or ongoing illness or misadventure, you will need to apply for Special Consideration. For information on Special Consideration please go to this URL: <https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/SpecialConsideration.html>

Students who are prevented from attending a substantial amount of the course may be advised to apply to withdraw without penalty. This will only be approved in the most extreme and properly documented cases.