ENGL3015 - Existentialism: Literature and Philosophy
Course Outline

Course Co-ordinator: Chris Falzon
Room: MC120
Ph: 4921 5184 Fax: 4921 6933
Email: Chris.Falzon@newcastle.edu.au
Consultation hours: Tuesdays 12-1

Alistair Rolls
Room: MCG33
Ph: 4921 5559 Fax: 4921 6933
Email: Alistair.Rolls@newcastle.edu.au
Consultation hours: tba

Course Overview

Brief Course Description
Students will engage with the philosophy and fiction of Jean-Paul Sartre. The texts studied will include the following English-language translations:
Being and Nothingness (London: Routledge, 1993),
Students will learn to analyse philosophically and negotiate critically various aspects of the Sartrean account of human existence; they will also reflect on Sartre’s position within the main fictional movements of twentieth-century French literature, including Modernism, Surrealism and Postmodernism.

Contact Hours
Lecture for 2 Hours per Week for the Full Term

Learning Materials/Texts
Sartre, J.-P. Nausea
Sartre, J.-P. The Wall
Texts downloadable from Short Loans

Course Objectives
Upon successful completion of this course, students will have demonstrated an ability to:
- demonstrate an understanding of existentialist thought;
- analyse both philosophical and literary text;

Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1, Semester 1 - 2009

CTS Download Date: 7/2/09
- challenge their understanding of existence;
- reflect on the broader philosophical and literary contexts into which Sartre’s writing fits;
- perform textual criticism, challenging existing meanings and understandings of canonical texts and offering their own interpretations of primary material;
- develop research skills by engaging with secondary material;
- analyse the ways in which world-views are moulded by society’s control structures.

Course Content
The Philosophy of Existentialism, including:
- the notions of Being in the world;
- authenticity & bad faith;
- freedom & contingency.
The fictional representations of Existentialism in The Wall;
The seminal novel Nausea as creative writing and phenomenology;
Consideration of the literature of Existentialism in relation to Surrealism, Modernism & Postmodernism.

Assessment Items
| Essays / Written Assignments | 3 x 1,500-word essays (each worth a third of the marks for the course) |

Assumed Knowledge
20 units of English and/or Philosophy at 1000 level.

Callaghan Campus Timetable
ENGL3015 EXISTENTIALISM
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 1 - 2009
Lecture: Thursday 13:00 - 15:00 [V01]

Plagiarism
University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one’s own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

- copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- using another’s ideas without due acknowledgment;
- working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs. Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Student Academic Integrity Policy and may invoke a penalty. For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link - http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000608.html

The University uses an electronic text matching system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of assessing any assessment item the University may -

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a text matching service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

Written Assessment Items
Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.
Marks and Grades Released During Term

All marks and grades released during the term, are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School on the recommendation of the School Assessment body.

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:

1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or

2. whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment;

must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer following the instructions provided in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Procedure - Policy 000641.

Note: different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

Please go to the Policy at http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you.

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- **Requests for Special Consideration** must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.

- **Requests for Extensions of Time on Assessment Items** must be lodged no later than the due date of the item.

- **Requests for Rescheduling Exams** must be received no later than ten working days prior the first date of the examination period.

Your application may not be accepted if it is received after the deadline. In the first instance, students who are unable to meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

Changing your Enrolment

If students are enrolled after the census dates listed below they are liable for the full cost of their student contribution or fees for that term. For semester 1 courses: 31 March 2009

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of term. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of term will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of term, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of term must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online, please refer to myHub - Self Service for Students
https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au
Faculty Information

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia.

The four Student Hubs are located at:

**Callaghan Campus**
- Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Building
- Hunter Hub: Level 2, Student Services Centre

**City Precinct**
- City Hub and Information Common: Ground Floor, University House

**Central Coast Campus (Ourimbah)**
- Student Hub: Opposite the Main Cafeteria

Faculty websites
Faculty of Education and Arts

Contact details
Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie
Phone: 02 4921 5000
Email: [EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au)

Ourimbah
Phone: 02 4348 4030
Email: [EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au)

The Dean of Students
Resolution Precinct
Phone: 02 4921 5806
Fax: 02 4921 7151
Email: [resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au)

Deputy Dean of Students (Ourimbah)
Phone: 02 4348 4123
Fax: 02 4348 4145
Email: [resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au)

Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

Alteration of this Course Outline

No change to this course outline will be permitted after the end of the second week of the term except in exceptional circumstances and with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of any approved changes to this outline.

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS
The University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness. If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies, please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator. Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, or via email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au

As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester. For more information related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability

Online Tutorial Registration:

Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system. Refer - http://studinfo1.newcastle.edu.au/rego/stud_choose_login.cfm

NB: Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Studentmail and Blackboard: Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

Important Additional Information

Details about the following topics are available on your course Blackboard site (where relevant). Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

- Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Online copy submission to Turnitin
- Penalties for Late Assignments
- Special Circumstances
- No Assignment Re-submission
- Re-marks & Moderations
- Return of Assignments
- Preferred Referencing Style
- Student Representatives
- Student Communication
- Essential Online Information for Students

Lecture Outline

Week 1 - 5 March
Introduction

Part A: Existentialism and Philosophy (Chris Falzon)

Week 2 - 12 March
Absurdity and contingency
Reading: Sartre, Nausea (extract); Camus, The Outsider (extract)

Week 3 - 19 March
Freedom
Reading: Sartre, 'Freedom and Facticity', from Being and Nothingness
Sartre, 'Freedom and Responsibility', from Being and Nothingness

Week 4 - 26 March
Bad faith and authenticity
Reading: Sartre, 'Patterns of Bad Faith', from Being and Nothingness
Sartre: 'Childhood of a Leader', from The Wall

Week 5 - 2 April
The look, and relations with others
Reading: Sartre, 'The Look', from Being and Nothingness
Reading: Sartre, 'Intersubjectivity', from Being and Nothingness
Reading: Sartre: In Camera (No Exit)

Part B: Existentialism and Literature (Alistair Rolls)

Week 6 - 9 April
Intimacy 1
Reading: Sartre, 'Intimacy', from The Wall

MID-SEMESTER BREAK 10-17 April

Week 7 - 23 April
Intimacy 2
Reading: Sartre, 'Intimacy', from The Wall
First essay due (for Part A)

Week 8 - 30 April
Nausea 1
Reading: Sartre, Nausea

Week 9 - 7 May
Nausea 2
Reading: Sartre, Nausea

Part C: Existential Cultural Studies (Chris Falzon, Alistair Rolls)

Week 10 - 14 May (CF)
Bad faith and freedom
Jean-Luc Godard's Breathless
Second Essay due (for Part B)

Week 11 - 21 May (CF)
Freedom and murder
Woody Allen's Crimes and Misdemeanors

Week 12 - 28 May (AR)
Reading: Wilson, Love and Nausea (extract)

Week 13 – 2 June (AR)
Baz Luhrmann's Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet

Week 14 - 11 June
No lecture; Third Essay due (for Part C)