ENGL3101 - Modern World Literature
Course Outline

Semester 2 - 2009
Unit Weighting 10
Teaching Methods Seminar

Brief Course Description
The course introduces students to a number of modern texts of international significance, thus familiarising them with major aspects of current world literature. Texts written by foreign-language authors are examined in English translation. Internal mode of delivery.

Contact Hours
Seminar for 2 Hours per Week for the Full Term
Seminar combines lecture material and group discussion.
Texts

Rainer Maria Rilke, selected poems (in Reader)
Franz Kafka, “Before the Law” (in Reader)
Franz Kafka, “In the Penal Colony” (in Reader)
Franz Kafka, “A Hunger Artist” (in Reader)
Samuel Beckett, Waiting for Godot (in Reader)
Samuel Beckett, Company (in Reader)
Aimée Césaire, selected poems (in Reader)
Naguib Mahfouz, “Zaabalawi” (in Reader)
Naguib Mahfouz, “The Conjuror Made Off With the Dish” (in Reader)
Clarice Lispector, The Hour of the Star (Manchester: Carcanet Press, 1992)
Haruki Murakami, “Sleep” (in Reader)
Haruki Murakami, “A ‘Poor Aunt’ Story” (in Reader)

Course Objectives
1. Comprehension of texts in English and in English translation.
2. Critical analysis of texts.
3. Understanding of literary, historical, social and cultural movements associated with these texts.
4. Language development through discussion and writing about texts and theories related to them.
5. Independent research using secondary literature related to the prescribed texts.

Course Content
The course aims to provide an insight into major modern writers. Students will
* Engage in close reading of prose, verse and dramatic texts.
* Engage in practical criticism of literary technique
* Express opinions about and give personal responses to texts

Assessment Items

| Essays / Written Assignments | 2 x Essays worth 50% each (2000 words) |

Assumed Knowledge
20 units of English at 1000 level

Callaghan Campus Timetable
ENGL3101
MODERN WORLD LITERATURE
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 2 - 2009
Seminar Thursday 16:00 - 18:00 [MC132]
or Friday 9:00 - 11:00 [RW230]

Ourimbah Timetable
ENGL3101
MODERN WORLD LITERATURE
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 2 - 2009
Seminar Friday 13:00 - 15:00 [O_CN1104]
IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity, honesty, and a respect for knowledge, truth and ethical practices are fundamental to the business of the University. These principles are at the core of all academic endeavour in teaching, learning and research. Dishonest practices contravene academic values, compromise the integrity of research and devalue the quality of learning. To preserve the quality of learning for the individual and others, the University may impose severe sanctions on activities that undermine academic integrity. There are two major categories of academic dishonesty:

**Academic fraud** is a form of academic dishonesty that involves making a false representation to gain an unjust advantage. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it can include:

- falsification of data;
- using a substitute person to undertake, in full or part, an examination or other assessment item;
- reusing one's own work, or part thereof, that has been submitted previously and counted towards another course (without permission);
- making contact or colluding with another person, contrary to instructions, during an examination or other assessment item;
- bringing material or device(s) into an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item; and
- making use of computer software or other material and device(s) during an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item.
- contract cheating or having another writer compete for tender to produce an essay or assignment and then submitting the work as one's own.

**Plagiarism** is the presentation of the thoughts or works of another as one's own. University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

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

**Turnitin** is an electronic text matching system. During 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

**RE-MARKS AND MODERATIONS**

Students can access the University's policy at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html)

**MARKS AND GRADES RELEASED DURING TERM**

All marks and grades released during term are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School.

**SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING ASSESSMENT ITEMS**
Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations items must be submitted by the due date in the Course Outline unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension. Unapproved late submissions will be penalised in line with the University policy.

Requests for Extensions of Time must be lodged no later than the due date of the item. This applies to students:

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

Students must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, as outlined in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html

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

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- Special Consideration Requests must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.
- Rescheduling Exam requests must be received no later than 10 working days prior the first date of the examination period.

Late applications may not be accepted. Students who cannot meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak firstly to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

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 contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, 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 on confidentiality and documentation visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability.

CHANGING YOUR ENROLMENT

Students enrolled after the census dates listed in the link below are liable for the full cost of their student contribution or fees for that term.

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/fees/censusdates.html

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 go to myHub: https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au
STUDENT INFORMATION & CONTACTS

Various services are offered by the Student Support Unit:  
www.newcastle.edu.au/service/studentsupport/

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. Student Hubs are located at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Callaghan Campus</th>
<th>Port Macquarie students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Building</td>
<td>contact your program officer or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Hub: Level 2, Student Services Centre</td>
<td><a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Precinct</td>
<td>Phone 4921 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Hub &amp; Information Common, University House</td>
<td>Singapore students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>contact your PSB Program Executive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Coast Campus (Ourimbah)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Hub: Opposite the Main Cafeteria</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Websites</th>
<th>General enquiries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/</a></td>
<td>Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/</a></td>
<td>Phone: 02 4921 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/</a></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/">www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards</td>
<td>Ourimbah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000311.html">www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000311.html</a></td>
<td>Phone: 02 4348 4030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules Governing Professional Doctorate Awards</td>
<td>The Dean of Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000580.html">www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000580.html</a></td>
<td>Deputy Dean of Students (Ourimbah)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phone: 02 4921 5806;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fax: 02 4921 7151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au">resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This course outline will not be altered after the second week of the term except under extenuating circumstances with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of the change.

Attendance

Attendance in this course is expected. Failure to attend classes will hamper your ability to perform assessment items and may result in failure of the course.

Participation in discussion is a major mode of learning the practice of literary criticism. Courses taught by seminar involve a mixture of lecture material and class discussion. Even when students are not themselves contributing to the discussion, they need to be aware of the kinds of questions raised by the material being taught, and of the strengths and weaknesses of possible approaches to dealing with the issues raised.

Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date. Late assignments will be subject to the penalties described below.
Hard copy submission:

- **Type your assignments:** All work must be typewritten in 11 or 12 point black font. Leave a wide margin for marker’s comments, use 1.5 or double spacing, and include page numbers.
- **Word length:** The word limit of all assessment items should be strictly followed – 10% above or below is acceptable, otherwise penalties may apply.
- **Proof read your work** because spelling, grammatical and referencing mistakes will be penalised.
- **Staple the pages** of your assignment together (do not use pins or paper clips).
- **University Assessment Item Coversheet:** All assignments must be submitted with the University coversheet available at: [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/)
- **By arrangement with the relevant lecturer, assignments may be submitted at any Student Hub located at:**
  - Level 3, Shortland Union, Callaghan
  - Level 2, Student Services Centre, Callaghan
  - Ground Floor, University House, City
  - Opposite Café Central, Ourimbah
- **Date-stamping assignments:** All students must date-stamp their own assignments using the machine provided at each Student Hub. If mailing an assignment, this should be address to the relevant School. Mailed assignments are accepted from the date posted, confirmed by a Post Office date-stamp; they are also date-stamped upon receipt by Schools.

*NB: Not all of these services may apply to the Port Macquarie Campus.*

- **Do not fax or email assignments:** Only hard copies of assignments will be considered for assessment. Inability to physically submit a hard copy of an assignment by the deadline due to other commitments or distance from campus is an unacceptable excuse.
- **Keep a copy of all assignments:** It is the student’s responsibility to produce a copy of their work if the assignment goes astray after submission. Students are advised to keep updated back-ups in electronic and hard copy formats.

**Online copy submission to Turnitin**

In addition to hard copy submission, students are required to submit an electronic version of each of the assignments to Turnitin via the course Blackboard website available @ [www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/](http://www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/)

Prior to final submission, all students have the opportunity to submit one draft of their assignment to Turnitin to self-check their referencing. Assignments will not be marked until both hard copy and online versions have been submitted. Marks may be deducted for late submission of either version.

**Penalties for Late Assignments**

Assignments submitted after the due date, without an approved extension of time will be penalised by the **reduction of 5% of the possible maximum mark** for the assessment item for each day or part day that the item is late. Weekends count as one day in determining the penalty. Assessment items submitted **more than ten days** after the due date will be awarded **zero marks**.


**Special Circumstances**

Students wishing to apply for Special Circumstances or Extension of Time should apply online. Refer - ‘Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items - Procedure 000641’ available @ [http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html)

**Assignment Re-submission**

In this course students are **NOT** able to resubmit an assignment that has been graded. In consultation with the course co-ordinator the SACO may direct a student to repeat an assignment.
Re-marks & Moderations

A student may only request a re-mark of an assessment item before the final result - in the course to which the assessment item contributes - has been posted. If a final result in the course has been posted, the student must apply under ‘Procedures for Appeal Against a Final Result’ (Refer - http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/forms/).

Students concerned at the mark given for an assessment item should first discuss the matter with the Course Coordinator. If subsequently requesting a re-mark, students should be aware that as a result of a re-mark the original mark may be increased or reduced. The case for a re-mark should be outlined in writing and submitted to the Course Coordinator, who determines whether a re-mark should be granted, taking into consideration all of the following:

1. whether the student had discussed the matter with the Course Coordinator
2. the case put forward by the student for a re-mark
3. the weighting of the assessment item and its potential impact on the student’s final mark or grade
4. the time required to undertake the re-mark
5. the number of original markers, that is,  
   a) whether there was a single marker, or  
   b) if there was more than one marker whether there was agreement or disagreement on the marks awarded.

A re-mark may also be initiated at the request of the Course Coordinator, the Head of School, the School Assessment Committee, the Faculty Progress and Appeals Committee or the Pro Vice-Chancellor. Re-marks may be undertaken by:

1. the original marker; or  
2. an alternate internal marker; or  
3. an alternate external marker (usually as a consequence of a grievance procedure).

Moderation may be applied when there is a major discrepancy (or perceived discrepancy) between:

1. the content of the course as against the content or nature of the assessment item(s)  
2. the content or nature of the assessment item(s) as against those set out in the Course Outline  
3. the marks given by a particular examiner and those given by another in the same course  
4. the results in a particular course and the results in other courses undertaken by the same students.

For further detail on this University policy refer - ‘Re-marks and Moderations - Procedure 000769’ available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html

Return of Assignments

Students can collect assignments from a nominated Student Hub during office hours. Students will be informed during class which Hub to go to and the earliest date that assignments will be available for collection. Students must present their student identification card to collect their assignment.


Preferred Referencing Style

In this course, it is recommended that you use the use the MLA in-text referencing system for referencing sources of information used in assignments. Inadequate or incorrect reference to the work of others may be viewed as plagiarism and result in reduced marks or failure.

An in-text citation names the author of the source, and for a direct quote includes a page number, in parentheses. At the end of the paper, a list of references provides publication information about the source; the list is alphabetised by authors’ last names (or by titles for works without authors). For further information on referencing and general study skills refer - ‘Infoskills’ available @ www.newcastle.edu.au/services/library/tutorialsinfoskills/index.html
Student Representatives

Student Representatives are a major channel of communication between students and the School. Contact details of Student Representatives can be found on School websites.

Refer - 'Information for Student Representatives on Committees' available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/committees/student_reps/index.html

Student Communication

Students should discuss any course related matters with their Tutor, Lecturer, or Course Coordinator in the first instance and then the relevant Discipline or Program Convenor. If this proves unsatisfactory, they should then contact the Head of School if required. Contact details can be found on the School website.

Essential Online Information for Students

Information on Class and Exam Timetables, Tutorial Online Registration, Learning Support, Campus Maps, Careers information, Counselling, the Health Service and a range of free Student Support Services is available @ http://www.newcastle.edu.au/currentstudents/index.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading guide</th>
<th>49% or less</th>
<th>50% to 64%</th>
<th>65% to 74%</th>
<th>75% to 84%</th>
<th>85% upwards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fail (FF)</td>
<td>Pass (P)</td>
<td>Credit (C)</td>
<td>Distinction (D)</td>
<td>High Distinction (HD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>An unacceptable effort, including non-completion. The student has not understood the basic principles of the subject matter and/or has been unable to express their understanding in a comprehensible way. Deficient in terms of answering the question, research, referencing and correct presentation (spelling, grammar etc). May include extensive plagiarism.</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a reasonable attempt to answer the question, shows some grasp of the basic principles of the subject matter and a basic knowledge of the required readings, is comprehensible, accurate and adequately referenced.</td>
<td>The work demonstrates a clear understanding of the question, a capacity to integrate research into the discussion, and a critical appreciation of a range of different theoretical perspectives. A deficiency in any of the above may be compensated by evidence of independent thought. The work is coherent and accurate.</td>
<td>Evidence of substantial additional reading and/or research, and evidence of the ability to generalise from the theoretical content to develop an argument in an informed and original manner. The work is well organised, clearly expressed and shows a capacity for critical analysis.</td>
<td>All of the above, plus a thorough understanding of the subject matter based on substantial additional reading and/or research. The work shows a high level of independent thought, presents informed and insightful discussion of the topic, particularly the theoretical issues involved, and demonstrates a well-developed capacity for critical analysis.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ESSAY QUESTIONS

Essay One
2,000 words
Due September 16, at 5 pm

Note: Do not write more than once at length on any one author in your essays.

1. Compare the presentation of the writer or artist in the texts of two of: Rilke, Kafka, or Beckett.
2. Discuss the presentation of the ‘religious’ in two authors from any part of the course.
3. Discuss the use of mythic images and themes in the texts of two of: Rilke, Kafka, or Beckett.
4. Discuss the problem of interpretation in relation to the texts of two of: Rilke, Kafka, or Beckett.
5. Modernity has been described as causing the “gradual alienation of the individual from society.” Discuss the ways that individual alienation is presented in two authors from any part of the course.
6. Compare the use of humour or “strangeness” in the texts of two of: Rilke, Kafka, or Beckett.
7. Discuss the tension between “act” and “understanding” as presented in two authors from any part of the course.

Essay Two
2,000 words
Due November 11, at 5 pm

Note: Do not write more than once at length on any one author in your essays.

1. Compare the presentations of gender in the texts of two authors from any part of the course.
2. Discuss the presentation—and significance—of violence in the texts of two authors from any part of the course.
3. Discuss the relationship between the presentation of cultural identity and the dynamics of modernity in the texts of two authors from any part of the course.
4. Compare the relationship between the past and the present in the texts of two authors from any part of the course.
5. “Stories are told by storytellers.” Discuss the construction of the narrator (and how this affects the narrative) in the text of two authors from any part of the course.
6. Many of the texts we have looked at in the course could be described as “difficult.” Discuss the question of difficulty in relation to the texts of two authors from any part of the course.
7. Discuss the presentation of dreams or the ‘uncanny’ in the texts of two of: Beckett, Lispector, Oe, Cesaire, or Mahfouz.
8. Discuss the idea of the limit or the extreme in the texts of two authors from any part of the course.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week beginning</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 July</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 August</td>
<td>Rilke, selected poems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 August</td>
<td>Rilke, selected poems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 August</td>
<td>Franz Kafka, “Before the Law”, “In the Penal Colony”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 August</td>
<td>Franz Kafka, “A Hunger Artist” (in Reader)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 August</td>
<td>Samuel Beckett, <em>Waiting for Godot</em> (in Reader)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 September</td>
<td>Samuel Beckett, <em>Company</em> (in Reader)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 September</td>
<td>Aimée Césaire, selected poems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 September</td>
<td>Aimée Césaire, selected poems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 September</td>
<td>SEMESTER BREAK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 October</td>
<td>SEMESTER BREAK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 October</td>
<td>Naguib Mahfouz, “Zaabalawi”, “The Conjuror Made Off With the Dish”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 October</td>
<td>Clarice Lispector, <em>The Hour of the Star</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 October</td>
<td>Haruki Murakami, “Sleep” and “A ‘Poor Aunt’ Story”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 November</td>
<td>Conclusion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16 September   First Essay due, 5 pm
11 November    Second Essay due, 5pm