Spring 1-15-2006

ENG 3808-002: Twentieth-Century British Literature

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Course Objectives, Requirements, and Policies:

In this course, we’ll read some of the best writings produced by British authors of the twentieth century. The main topics of our conversations will be the following: WWI and WWII, the rise of modernism and postmodernism, the conflict over the ownership of the English language and culture. We’ll begin with a look at England at the dawn of the century (Howards End) and end with a glance at the British as they appear in our own times, as examined in On Beauty, a novel which “rewrites” Howards End.

Attendance:
I call roll regularly and can disregard only two unexcused absences during the semester. If you accumulate more than two absences, your grade for the course will suffer (1/2 point for each absence). Please let me know if an illness or family emergency is preventing you from attending class.

Papers and exams:
You’ll take two exams during the semester (March 2 and April 27). You’ll write two papers, one short (at least 4-6 pages, due on Feb. 16), the second longer (8-10 pages at least; due on April 27). The second paper needs to incorporate research.

Grading policy:
Exams: 40%; class participation: 10%; paper # 1: 20%; paper #2: 30%

Conferences:
Please stop by my office to discuss any problem or question related to the course. You can make an appointment if my regular office hours are inconvenient for you.

Policy on plagiarism:
The English Department policy on plagiarism states that “Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—‘the appropriation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s original work’ (Random House Dictionary of the English Language) has the right and responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.”
Disability Services:
If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Required Texts:
Barker, *Regeneration*
Forster, *Howards End*
Frayn, *Copenhagen*
Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*
Smith, *On Beauty*
Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*

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Class meetings and readings:

Jan. 10: Introduction to the course

Jan. 12: *Howards End*, Chapters 1-12


Jan. 26: Poems by Siegfried Sassoon, Wilfred Owen, and Isaac Rosenberg (pp. 2186-2195; we’ll discuss as many as we can.)

Jan. 31: Barker, *Regeneration*

Feb. 2: Barker (continued)

Feb. 7: Barker (continued)


Feb. 16: Lawrence, “Odour of Chrysanthemums”; Mansfield, “The Daughters of the Late Colonel.” **First Paper is due.**
Feb. 21: Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*

Feb. 23: *Mrs. Dalloway*

Feb. 28: *Mrs. Dalloway*

March 2: **First Exam**

March 7: Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as A Young Man*

March 9: No class (I’ll be away at a conference.)

**Spring Break**

March 21: *Portrait*

March 23: *Portrait*

March 28: Damrosch: “World War II and the End of Empire” (2298-99); Bowen, “Mysterious Kor”; Beckett, *Krapp’s Last Tape*

March 30: Auden, “In Memory of W.B. Yeats” “September 1, 1939”; Thomas, “Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night”; Smith “How Cruel is the Story of Eve”; Heaney, from “Station Island”; Boland, “Miss Eire”; Muldoon, selections from “Sleeve Notes.”

April 4: Churchill, *Cloud Nine* (in Damrosch)

April 6: *Cloud Nine*; Frayn, *Copenhagen* (we’ll watch the video)

April 11: *Copenhagen*

April 13: *On Beauty*

April 18: *On Beauty*

April 20: *On Beauty*

April 25: *On Beauty*

April 27: **Second Exam**

Second Paper is due.