



**ENG 537.001 (Modern Transformations in British and Irish Literature)  
Fall, 2013  
(Mondays, 1:00-3:40 PM, Hall of Languages 325)**

**Instructor:** M. Hunter Hayes

**Office Location:** HL 140

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday, 10:00-11:00 and by appointment

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<b>COURSE INFORMATION</b>
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**Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:**

*Textbook(s) Required:*

T. S. Eliot, *The Waste Land and Other Poems* (Penguin)

ISBN 978014243715

Paul Fussell, *The Great War and Modern Memory* (Oxford)

ISBN 9780199971954

Stella Gibbons, *Cold Comfort Farm* (Penguin)

ISBN 97801400188691

James Joyce, *Ulysses* (Vintage)

ISBN 9780679722762

D. H. Lawrence, *Women in Love* (Penguin)

ISBN 9780141441542

Flann O'Brien, *Complete Novels* (Everyman)

ISBN 9780307267498

Jean Rhys, *After Leaving Mr Mackenzie* (Norton)

ISBN 9780393315479

Will Self, *Umbrella* (Grove/Atlantic)

ISBN 9780802120724

Evelyn Waugh, *A Handful of Dust* (Back Bay)

ISBN 97803169226058

Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse* (Harcourt)

ISBN 9780156907392

*Recommended:* Peter Gay, *Modernism: The Lure of Heresy* (Norton)

ISBN 9780393333961

**Course Description:**

Catalogue Description: *Individual investigation and group discussion of selected topic. May focus on major figures, critical or historical approaches, themes, or genres in British literature from 1830-1945.*

*Note May be repeated for credit when the emphasis changes.*

Description for this semester: This semester ENG 537 examines literary Modernism and England, focusing particularly on the period of “High Modernism” and afterward. We will examine a variety of important texts, including novels that might not appear at first to fit easily into a “Modernist” category. Students will complete short and longer writing assignments throughout the class, concluding with a conference-style presentation. All students will also be responsible for leading one class discussion as assigned.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Students will build upon their existing understanding of British and Irish literary Modernism.
2. Students will develop an appreciation of stylistic, aesthetic, and philosophical conventions in Modernist fiction.
3. Students will acquire a broad understanding of historical and cultural developments as they relate to Modernism in the UK and Ireland.
4. Students will improve their skills in critical evaluation through writing.
5. Students will gain experience researching a topic and presenting their findings to colleagues.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. The student will possess by the end of the semester a satisfactory level of understanding of literary Modernism in the UK and Ireland as measured by each student’s performance in class discussions.
2. The student will demonstrate her/his ability to present to her/his colleagues reliable information pertaining to a work of fiction as measured by the student attaining a satisfactory grade of at least 80% on a conference-style presentation.
3. The student will demonstrate her/his mastery of critical competence on a research topic as measured by the student attaining a satisfactory grade of at least 80% on a final writing assignment.

<b>COURSE REQUIREMENTS</b>
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**Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments**

This course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes/objectives of this course and instructional units/modules. By the end of this course the class will read and discuss ten novels and selected supplementary readings, and discussions will take in other aspects of Modernism and modernity beyond literature.

- **Readings and Discussions:** Over a period of fifteen weeks all class members will read and discuss fiction, nonfiction, and poetry pertaining to literary Modernism. Due to the pace of the course, students must attend regularly and engage actively in discussions. Students will write five short (approximately 5 pp.) critical response papers as assigned. (25% of overall course grade; 5% each)

*Student Learning Outcome #1:* The student will possess by the end of the semester a satisfactory level of understanding of literary Modernism in the UK and Ireland as measured by each student's performance in class discussions.

• **Conference Paper and Presentation:** All students must complete a conference-style paper for a 15-minute presentation on a topic relevant to the focus of this course. Ideally, this paper will develop from one of your other assignments for the class. All students will present the paper at the end of the semester. The paper and presentation will receive a single grade for both elements of the presentation. (30% of overall course grade)

*Student Learning Outcome #2:* The student will demonstrate her/his ability to present to her/his colleagues reliable information pertaining to a work of fiction as measured by the student attaining a satisfactory grade of at least 80% on a conference-style presentation.

• **Final Research Paper:** All students will complete a final research paper on a topic relevant to the focus of this course. The paper should have authoritative critical support (current books, chapters, articles, etc.) in addition to a well-honed, original argument or interpretation. The paper should be approximately 20 pp. in length. (40% of overall course grade)

*Student Learning Outcome #3:* The student will demonstrate her/his mastery of critical competence on a research topic as measured by the student attaining a satisfactory grade of at least 80% on a final writing assignment.

• **Class Presentation/Discussion:** All students will lead the class discussion on an assigned topic pertaining to our readings for a particular week. Due to enrollment, students may need to collaborate and present in teams, in which case all members of the presentation group will receive the same grade. (5% of overall course grade)

*Student Learning Outcome #3:* The student will possess by the end of the semester a satisfactory level of understanding of literary Modernism in the UK and Ireland as measured by each student's performance in class discussions.

## **Grading**

Assignment and course grades will be determined by the student's performance on the following assignments:

- Class Presentation/Discussion: 5% of total course grade
- Readings and Discussions (5 total): 25% of total course grade (5% each)
- Conference paper and Presentation: 30% of total course grade
- Final Research Paper: 40% of total course grade

The instructor will determine grades on the following scale:

- A = 90%-100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 0%-59%

*Please note that for assessment purposes, "success" is determined by the student attaining a minimum success rate of 80%. This is separate from assignment or course grades.*

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures:

#### *Academic Honesty Policy*

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of **academic dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally-accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another person and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension and expulsion (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1, 2, 3]). Cheating, including plagiarizing papers in whole or part, will result in a grade of zero (0) on the assignment for the first offense and failure of the course for any subsequent offenses.

More details regarding academic honesty: Any student who commits plagiarism or violates any other tenet of academic honesty will receive a grade of zero for the first offense; a second violation will result in automatic failure of the course. Upon any infraction of academic honesty, I will provide the student with written notice of the infraction, will require a face-to-face meeting in my office to discuss the matter, and I will also notify the dean of the student's college.

#### Attendance Policy

Because your active participation in discussions is expected, attendance is vital for success in this course. Attendance requires more than simply logging on to the course site, and you should begin engaging in discussions by Wednesday evening each week.

#### Assignment Policy

I will provide specific details during class meetings and possibly by email. Students must stay current with all readings, including the course lectures and discussions. Students must complete and submit all assignments by their respective due dates.

#### Late Work

I will not accept any assignment after its due date. Assignments submitted after the due date may receive a score of zero (0).

#### Drop a Course

A student may drop a course by logging into his/her myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled "Drop a class" from among the choices found under the myLeo section of the Web page.

#### Incompletes

Incompletes (grade of "X") are granted only under rare and extraordinary circumstances.

#### Administrative Withdrawal

I reserve the right to drop a student from the course administratively for excessive absences or violations of student conduct codes.

#### Grievance Procedure

Students who have concerns or complaints that pertain to the course must first address the issue with the instructor. If the matter remains unresolved, ordinarily the student must schedule a meeting with the department head. Since I am the department head for Literature and Languages, the student would need to schedule a meeting with dean or associate dean of the college of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts.

#### University Specific Procedures:

##### *ADA Statement*

#### **Students with Disabilities:**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**  
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**  
**Gee Library**  
**Room 132**  
**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**  
**Fax (903) 468-8148**  
[StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

##### *Student Conduct*

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

Class-Specific Notes on Student Conduct: I expect all students to treat all members of the class community with respect, including respect to differences of opinion, cultural background, and other matters. Although I encourage students to debate issues, it is important to note that there are effective and logical ways of conducting such debates.

##### *Department Contact Information:*

Dr. Hunter Hayes, Head of Literature and Languages ([hunter.hayes@tamuc.edu](mailto:hunter.hayes@tamuc.edu))  
Ms. Kim Jefferies, Administrative Secretary ([kim.jefferies@tamuc.edu](mailto:kim.jefferies@tamuc.edu))

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

The following course schedule is subject to revisions and other modifications as the instructor deems necessary for the course. Any changes to the course schedule will be announced on the course website in advance of the week in which the change will occur.

Week 1 (8/26):	Intro Fussell (chapters 1, 4, and 5)
Week 2 (9/2):	Eliot
Week 3 (9/9):	Lawrence, <i>Women in Love</i>
Week 4 (9/16):	Woolf, <i>To the Lighthouse</i>
Week 5 (9/23):	Rhys, <i>After Leaving Mr Mackenzie</i>
Week 6 (9/30):	Waugh, <i>A Handful of Dust</i>
Week 7 (10/7):	Self, <i>Umbrella</i>
Week 8 (10/14):	Self, <i>Umbrella</i>
Week 9 (10/21):	Will Self: Reading from <i>Umbrella</i> (7:30-9:00, HL 203)
Week 10 (10/28):	O'Brien, <i>At-Swim-Two-Birds</i>
Week 11 (11/4):	Workshop: Papers
Week 12 (11/11):	Gibbons, <i>Cold Comfort Farm</i>
Week 13 (11/18):	Joyce, <i>Ulysses</i>
Week 14 (11/25):	Joyce, <i>Ulysses</i>
Week 15 (12/3):	Conference-Paper Presentations