



**ENG 451.001 (Twentieth-Century British Literature)**

**COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall, 2014**

**TR, 9:30-10:45 (HL 325)**

**Instructor:** M. Hunter Hayes, Associate Professor

**Office Location:** HL 140

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday, 11:00-12:00 and by appointment

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**University Email Address:** Hunter.Hayes@tamuc.edu

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

**Textbook(s) Required**

Macinnes, Colin. *Absolute Beginners*.

[ISBN 9780749009984]

McEwan, Ian. *Atonement*.

[ISBN 9780307388841]

Kureishi, Hanif. *The Buddha of Suburbia*.

[ISBN 9780140131680]

Amis, Kingsley. *Lucky Jim*.

[ISBN 9781590175750]

Woolf, Virginia. *To the Lighthouse*.

[ISBN 9780156907392]

Joyce, James. *Ulysses*.

[ISBN 9780679722762]

Smith, Zadie. *White Teeth*.

[ISBN 9780375703867]

Greenblatt, Stephen, et al., eds. *The Norton Anthology of English Literature, Volume F: The Twentieth Century and After*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2012.

[ISBN 978-0-393-91248-7]

## Course Description

Catalogue Description: *Twentieth-Century British Literature. Three semester hours. A study of British poetry, fiction, and drama in the twentieth century, including works of such authors as Yeats, Joyce, Shaw, Eliot, and selected contemporary writers. Prerequisite: Eng 1302.*

ENG 451 explores key works, writers, cultural developments, and influential trends and movements within the literature and culture of Britain and Ireland during the twentieth century and beyond. This semester the class will focus especially on the novel and its changes from the early years of Modernism to its use as a means of interrogating social developments and forms of identity. Students will also read and examine important works of poetry.

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate a broad understanding of British and Irish literature during the twentieth century.
2. Students will demonstrate their ability to synthesize ideas pertaining to the course as measured by a matrix-based assessment of each student's final paper.
3. Students will demonstrate their understanding of literary forms and rhetorical techniques by writing original explications on assigned works

Global SLO: Students will be able to view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### 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.

● **Weekly Readings and Discussions & Class Participation:** Over a period of fifteen weeks this class will read and discuss poetry, fiction, and selected shorter readings. Due to the pace of the course, students must attend regularly and engage in discussions. Performance in weekly discussions and acceptable demonstration of keeping current with all assignments will determine the student's class participation grade.

● **Exams:** This course will have two exams: a midterm and a final. Students must supply their own bluebooks for the exams unless informed otherwise in advance of the exam.

*(40% of total course grade; 20% each)*

Midterm: The first exam (at midterm) will cover material from the first half of the class, including information from lectures as well as readings. The exam may include a combination of multiple-choice, short-answer and essay questions.

Final exam: The second exam will cover material from the second half of the class, including information from lectures as well as readings. It will not include any readings from the first half of the course. The exam may include a combination of multiple-choice, short-answer and essay questions.

*Student Learning Outcome #1: Students will demonstrate a broad understanding of British and Irish literature during the twentieth century.*

● **Papers (7-10 pp. each)**: There are two original, analytical papers required for this course. Because close-reading skills, involving careful selection as well as interpretation and argument, are important to effective critical writing, students should concentrate primarily on one to two texts relevant to this course by attending closely to specific elements of each text. The papers should have a strong and effective thesis as well as a clearly-defined critical approach, consistently supported in a logical fashion throughout the paper. Students should support their papers through sound secondary sources. I will provide details of each assignment in class.

*(50% of total course grade; 25% each)*

*Student Learning Outcome #2: Students will demonstrate their ability to synthesize ideas pertaining to the course as measured by a matrix-based assessment of each student's final paper.*

● **Explications (2-3 pp. each)**: There are two original, analytical explication or "close reading" papers due on assigned works. For these assignments students must pay close attention to the formal structures and rhetorical techniques the works demonstrate, discussing these works in a well-focused and coherent brief essay.

*(10% of total course grade; 5% each)*

*Student Learning Outcome #2: Students will demonstrate their literary forms and rhetorical techniques by writing original explications on assigned works.*

## GRADING

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

**Short Essays** (50% of total course grade; each essay equals 25% of course grade)

**1<sup>st</sup> Exam** (20% of total course grade)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Exam** (20% of total course grade)

**Explications** (10% of total course grade; 5% each)

Grades	
Paper #1	25%
Paper #2	25%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Explications	10% (5% each)

Grading Scale	
90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
Below 60	F

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

All students should have reliable access to a computer with a word-processing program and printer and internet access.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

### **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

Because email is the primary method of communication on campus I will communicate with students via email sent to their university email account. Be sure to check your university email frequently. I will also make announcements during class. Although students are welcome to meet with me during and outside of my posted office hours, I recommend scheduling an appointment to ensure my availability.

## 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.

#### *Attendance Policy*

Because your active participation in discussions is expected, attendance is vital for success in this course. Attendance requires more than simply being physically present in class: You must engage regularly and productively in course discussions. I expect all students to arrive to each class prepared fully to engage in discussions, including having read and considered assigned works. *Please silence cell phones and other potentially-disruptive devices prior to class.*

Although I welcome and encourage differing views and friendly debates among class members, I expect all students to treat other class members with respect and courtesy. I will not tolerate rudeness and insulting remarks.

#### *Assignment Policy*

I will provide specific details regarding assignments 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. Students should review the university's academic calendar for drop and withdrawal deadlines.

### *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.

## **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*).

## 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.*

August 26 <sup>th</sup> :	Course Introduction
August 28 <sup>th</sup> :	Introduction to the Great War
September 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	WWI Poetry: Brooke and Sassoon (NAEL: 2018-19, 2023-2026)
September 4 <sup>th</sup> :	WWI Poetry: Rosenberg and Owen (NAEL: 2029-2042)
September 9 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> :	Woolf, <i>To the Lighthouse</i>
September 16 <sup>th</sup> :	Yeats, "The Lake Isle of Innisfree" (NAEL 2087), "A Coat" (2092)
September 18 <sup>th</sup> :	Yeats, "September 1913," "Easter, 1916," "In Memory of Major Robert Gregory" (2096-2099); Explication on one poem due
September 23 <sup>rd</sup> :	Discussion: Joyce & <i>Ulysses</i>
September 25 <sup>th</sup> :	Joyce, <i>Ulysses</i> (1-51)
Sep.r 30 <sup>th</sup> -Oct. 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	<i>Ulysses</i> (54-609)
October 7 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> :	<i>Ulysses</i> (612-783)
October 14 <sup>th</sup> :	Review
October 16 <sup>th</sup> :	Exam #1
October 21 <sup>st</sup> :	Larkin, all poems (2781-2788)
October 23 <sup>rd</sup> :	Amis, <i>Lucky Jim</i>
October 28 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup> :	MacInnes, <i>Absolute Beginners</i>
November 4 <sup>th</sup> :	Rushdie (2746-2751) 2 <sup>nd</sup> explication due
November 6 <sup>th</sup> :	Kureishi, <i>The Buddha of Suburbia</i>
November 11 <sup>th</sup> :	TBA
November 13 <sup>th</sup> :	Smith, <i>White Teeth</i>
November 18 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> :	McEwan, <i>Atonement</i>

November 25<sup>th</sup>: Discussion on 20<sup>th</sup>-C. British Culture and Identities  
November 27<sup>th</sup>: No Class (Thanksgiving)

December 2<sup>nd</sup>: Smith, *White Teeth*  
December 4<sup>th</sup>: Review

FINAL EXAM: Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 8:00-10:00 AM

<b>Important Dates for Scheduled Assignments</b>	
September 18 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> explication due
October 14 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> paper due
October 16 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Exam
November 4 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> assigned explication due
December 4 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> paper due
December 11 <sup>th</sup>	Final Exam (8:00-10:00)