



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2016

EN 1220 (C3) TEXTS AND CONTEXTS: HUMOUR - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Stephen Guy **PHONE:** 780.539.2977
OFFICE: C418 **E-MAIL:** sguy@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 4-5pm, or by appointment.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE EN 30/1030 or a passing grade in an equivalent course (Completion of the senior High School English requirement is mandatory).

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

Austen, Jane. *Northanger Abbey*.

Saunders, George. *CivilWarLand in Bad Decline*.

Shakespeare, William. *Henry IV pt i*.

(Additional readings posted on Moodle)

RECOMMENDED TEXT:

Messenger et al. *The Oxford Canadian Writer's Handbook (Essentials Edition)*.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course will explore a specific issue (to be determined by the instructor) using a variety of genres and media. Instruction will include essay writing skills.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3 credits / 3 hours per week

DELIVERY MODES: Lecture, discussion.

OBJECTIVES: The course is designed to introduce students a variety of types of humour in literature across genres and time periods. It is also designed to help students develop and strengthen close reading, critical thinking, and effective writing skills.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: After taking EN1220, students will be able to:

- Read critically for style and content.
- Engage in literary analysis that combines formal rigor with attention to social, political, cultural, and historical context.
- Plan, research and write effective critical essays.

TRANSFERABILITY:

AU ENGL 2xx (3)

UA ENGL 122 (3)

UC Jr. ENGL (3)

UL ENGL 1xxx (3)

King's UC ENGL 2xx (3) [Student must take one of ENGL 204 or 205 at King's]

MacEwan ENGL 103 (3)

****Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

GRADING CRITERIA:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS:

Participation 5%

Attendance 5%

2 Essays @25%=50%

Final Exam 40%

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Please come to class and pass your papers in on time. Papers must be submitted as hard copies, double-spaced and stapled, and are due the minute before class begins on the day of the deadline. The deadlines are STRICT. For every day that your paper is late, you will lose 5% from your grade.

Extensions will be granted for EXTRAORDINARY circumstances only. Please pause before submitting a request for an extension and ask yourself: are these circumstances really, truly EXTRAORDINARY? Better to begin planning your essay early, or to accept the penalty like a responsible adult. If you are genuinely ill, you may provide a note from a doctor to have the penalty waived.

2. Read all of the assigned material and come prepared to discuss it during class.

3. The reading schedule is subject to change according to time constraints and other considerations. All changes will be posted to Moodle.

5. Please keep a copy of all written work. In the event of theft or loss, the student is required to submit a duplicate copy.

6. Cell phones must be turned off during class, and I strongly encourage you to avoid taking notes with a laptop. Pen and paper have worked very well for this purpose for generations. Surfing the internet during class is disrespectful and very distracting to other students. Please come prepared to engage with the material, with the other students in the class, and with me.

7. Students are expected to check the Moodle site for this course before each class to stay informed. In the event of a class cancellation, the announcement will be posted to Moodle.

8. Students are advised to read the GPRC Admissions Guide for the rules regarding Registration, Withdrawals, Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/>

Or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week 1:

1/6 – Introductions.

1/8 – “Laughter” and the history of literary humour

Week 2:

1/13 – Geoffrey Chaucer – “The General Prologue” from *The Canterbury Tales*

1/15 – Geoffrey Chaucer – “The Miller’s Tale” from *The Canterbury Tales*

Week 3:

1/20 – William Shakespeare – *Henry IV pt i*

1/22 – William Shakespeare – *Henry IV pt i*

Week 4:

1/27 – William Shakespeare – *Henry IV pt i*

1/29 – William Shakespeare – *Henry IV pt i*

Week 5:

2/3 – Jonathan Swift – “A Modest Proposal”

2/5 – Mark Twain

Week 6:

2/10 – Oscar Wilde

2/12 – Jane Austen – *Northanger Abbey* (**first paper due**)

Week 7:

2/17 – Reading week, no class.

2/19 – Reading Week, no class

Week 8:

2/24 – Jane Austen – *Northanger Abbey*

2/26 – Jane Austen – *Northanger Abbey*

Week 9:

3/2 –Dorothy Parker / S.J. Perelman

3/4 – Grace Paley / Donald Barthelme

Week 10:

3/9 – Ishmael Reed

3/11 – Paul Beatty

Week 11:

3/16 – George Saunders – *CivilWarLand in Bad Decline*

3/18 – George Saunders – *CivilWarLand in Bad Decline*

Week 12:

3/23 – George Saunders – *CivilWarLand in Bad Decline* (**second paper due**)

3/25 – Good Friday, no class.

Week 13:

3/30 – Patricia Lockwood and Michael Robbins

4/1 – Kate Beaton

Week 14:

4/6 – Elif Batuman

4/8 – Mallory Ortberg and literary humour online

Week 15:

4/13 – Review and exam preparation

Additional Information

EMAIL AND MEETING POLICY: I will respond to an email within 48 hours of receiving it. I strongly encourage students to speak with me during my office hours or to set up an appointment.