

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE /  
ARTS, COMMERCE, & EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE Jan 2009

**ENGLISH 3760** Canadian Literature: Contemporary and Post-modern from 1960s to present

**CREDITS:** 3 (3-0-0) 1 semester **LEVEL:** Senior English Literature

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Elroy Deimert PhD      Deimert@gprc.ab.ca  
office C426 ph. 403-539-2984 hrs. Mon. & Wed. 1 PM–2:30

**PREREQUISITE:** 6 credits of Junior UT English

**APPLICABLE PROGRAMS:** BA English, BA Can. Studies, BA General, B. ED.

**METHOD OF DELIVERY:** GPRC classroom mode--lecture & seminar.  
GPRC Bookstore supplies all texts.

**CLASS SIZE:** The maximum is 35 students.

**CLASS SCHEDULE:** Jan. 4- Apr.14      MW 2:30–3:50 p.m.

**SCOPE:** EN 3760 is a critical survey of the move from high modernism in Canadian Literature to Post-modern and contemporary Canadian Literature in several genres. It concentrates mainly on Canadian Literature in English from 1970 to the present. The course covers several genres emphasizing the ones in which Canadians have been more widely acclaimed. Students study literature from a cross-section of Canadian regions and cultures, and learn to evaluate some of the standard literary theories about Canadian themes, Canadian identity, and changing literary forms.

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** A study of contemporary and post-modern works written since the 1960's by Canadian authors like Laurence, Highway, Munro, Ondaatje, Urquhart, MacLeod, Vanderhaeghe, Crozier, Brand and Wayman.

<b>EVALUATION:</b>	2 researched essays, 2000 words each	30% & 30%
	1 oral seminars not always from researched essays	12%
	2 short in-class essay at the end of the semester	18%
	Attendance, participation, & critical response to reading	10%

Essays lose substantial marks if they are less than the minimum-word length (this does not include quoted support). All essays, except in-class assignments, must be typed. MLA standards are required for documentation and format.

**Attendance** and discussion is required as part of the participation grade. **Penalties for plagiarism (see definition in Student Handbook) are enforced.** Late essays are penalized and essays more than 3 days late **need not be** accepted without written permission from the instructor. Students that do not show up when they are to do a presentation may not receive credit for the assignment, or may lose substantial grades *if*, at the instructor's discretion, they are allowed to present at an alternative time.

**TEXTS:**

Atwood, Margaret *The New Oxford Book of Canadian Verse in English*  
Crozier, Lorna *Apocrypha of Light*  
Highway, Tomson. *Drylips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing*  
Laurence, Margaret. *The Diviners*  
MacLeod, Alistair. *Island & No Great Mischief*  
Martel, Yan *The Life of Pi*  
Munro, Alice. *Who Do You Think You Are*  
Ondaatje, Michael. *In the Skin of a Lion*  
Simmons Niven, Catherine. *A Fine Daughter*  
Vanderhaeghe, Guy *The Englishman's Boy*  
Hacker, Diane *Pocket Style Manual*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.

**BOOKS ON RESERVE CONTAINING SOME BACKGROUND READINGS**

Atwood, Margaret. *Survival*  
Daymond, D. and L. Monkman. *Literature in Canada: Volume 2*  
New, W.H. *Canadian Short Fiction*  
Frye, N. *The Bush Garden*  
Jones, D. *Butterfly on Rock*  
MacLulich, T. *Between Europe and America*  
Cooley, D. *The Vernacular Muse*

**SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS** are provided through GPRC Library and Media Services. GPRC is a member of NEOS.

**INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN & CURRICULUM:**

Students do seminars on individual works, followed by class discussion and lectures. Lectures address theme, style and structure, and background material in the culture and history that influences the work. Chronology dictates the units to some extent, although movements and developments in genres also influence the order of study. Students learn to appreciate and critique the literature through expository essays, seminar presentation, and verbal discussion at acceptable standards. Lectures, student seminars, film, group discussion, participation in literary readings, critical research and writing are employed toward these ends.

## Tentative Schedule of Seminars & Lectures

- Jan 4 Poetry: Atwood, Wayman (NOBCV) Cooley
- Jan 9, 11 MacLeod from Island "The Road to Rankin's Point," "The Closing Down of Summer," "Tuning of Perfection" & "Vision"
- Jan 16,18 MacLeod from Island "Tuning of Perfection" "Vision," and "As Birds Bring forth
- Jan 23,25, Margaret Laurence The Diviners
- Jan 30, Feb 1, Margaret Laurence The Diviners Lorna Crozier Apocrypha of Light
- Feb 6,8 Poetry: Patrick Lane Tomson Highway Dry Lips Outa Move...
- Feb 13, 15 Catherine Simmons Niven A Fine Daughter **Researched Essay due Feb. 15**
- Feb 27, Mar 1 MacLeod's No Great Mischief
- Mar 6,8 Ondaatje's In the Skin of a Lion.
- Mar 13,15 Munro Who Do You Think You Are? "Royal Beatings" "Half a Grapefruit" "Wild Swans"
- Mar. 20, 22 Alice Munro "The Beggarmaid" "Mischief" "Who Do You Think You Are" etc.
- Mar 27,29 Vanderhaeghe's The Englishman's Boy **2<sup>nd</sup> Researched Essay due Mar. 27**
- Apr 3, 5 Yan Martel The Life of Pi Poetry TBA **IN-CLASS ESSAY (Apr. 5)**
- April 10, 12 Yan Martel The Life of Pi **IN-CLASS ESSAY (Apr. 12)**
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