

SEP 1995

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE /  
DEPT. OF ARTS, EDUCATION, & COMMERCE  
ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY / DEPT. OF ENGLISH  
SHORT PHASE THREE REPORT

COURSE DESCRIPTION

ENGLISH 4101 MAJOR AUTHORS: MARGARET LAURENCE

CREDITS: 3 (3-0) LEVEL: senior English Literature

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Elroy Deimert PhD, MA, BA (category A at AU)  
office C208 ph. 403-539-2984

PREREQUISITE: EN 1010 or equivalent

APPLICABLE PROGRAMS: BA English, BA Can. Studies, Women's Studies

METHOD OF DELIVERY:

The classes will be a combination of student seminars, the instructor's lectures, and critical debate in classroom mode only at GPRC. All texts and materials are supplied through the GPRC Bookstore.

CLASS SIZE: The maximum is 35

CLASS SCHEDULE: Fall semester, Sept.-Dec. 1995 WED. 1300-1550

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

Students study the major works of one of Canada's foremost, and most widely read fiction writers. Reading and analysis concentrates on Laurence's development as a spokesperson for regional culture, for national culture, and for women's issues on an international level. We will also examine her changing aesthetic appreciation of creative fiction from her early modern novels to the postmodern aspects of *The Diviners*. Her increasing social and political engagement will be traced both in her fiction and in her autobiography.

EVALUATION:

Two researched term essays . 25% each  
Two oral seminars . . . . . 10% & 15%  
One final comprehensive essay 25%

All of these are graded by the instructor only.

SHORT PHASE THREE: page 2

TEXTS INCLUDE:

Stone Angel, 1964  
A Jest of God, 1966  
The Fire-Dwellers, 1969  
A Bird in the House, 1970  
The Diviners, 1974  
The Tomorrow-Tamer, 1963  
This Side Jordan, 1960  
Dance on the Earth: a Memoir (autobiography)

BACKGROUND READINGS ON RESERVE:

A Tree for Poverty. Trans. M. Laurence, (1954)  
The Prophet's Camel Bell. M. Laurence, (1963)  
Selected critical readings by M. Laurence and her critics.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:

These are provided through the GPRC Library and Media Services. GPRC is a member of NORALINK.

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN AND CURRICULUM:

Students lead seminars on individual works, followed by class discussion and lectures. More than two weeks will be spent on each major novel (Stone Angel and The Diviners). Two film adaptations of her novels are considered for their thematic depth and their comparative artistic integrity. The chronology of publication dictates the weekly units to a large extent, since students study developments in Laurence's ideologies, socio-political consciousness, and writing style. Possible movements in style from modernism to postmodernism will be debated and discussed. If they are available, established critics of Laurence shall be invited to address the class.