

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY SHORT PHASE 3 REPORT

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE
The Department of
ARTS, EDUCATION, & COMMERCE

COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH 4101b: STUDIES IN MAJOR AUTHORS: W.O. MITCHELL

CREDITS: 3 (3-0) (EN 4101 can be taken for credit more than once if it is a different author each time)

LEVEL: 4th year English Literature

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Elroy Deimert, PhD (AU category A)
Office C426 Telephone 539-2984

PREREQUISITE: EN 1010, EN 1000, or equivalent

APPLICABLE PROGRAMS: BA English, BA Canadian Studies, Native Studies, B.ED English major or minor

METHOD OF DELIVERY: GPRC, Classroom modes--lecture & seminar.
GPRC Bookstore supplies all texts

CLASS SIZE: The maximum is 35

CLASS SCHEDULE: FALL, Sept. to Dec. Wednesday 13:00-15:50

SCOPE: EN 4101b Studies in Major Authors: W.O. Mitchell
examines the "best" of the Mitchell canon in three genres: his novels, his dramatic works, and his short fiction. His major novels are emphasized, along with two of his more critically acclaimed plays, and a sample of his short stories emphasizing his development in this genre over the years. Students will study a substantial sample of each genre, ranging from works influenced by the regional idyll through works of comic realism, tragic realism, and tragicomic realism.

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN & CURRICULUM: Classes consist of the instructor's lectures and students' seminars on individual works, followed by discussion and the instructor's summary. The instructor provides background materials such as regional traditions in the various genres, the history of Mitchell's critical reception and debates surrounding various works, as well as a context for the culture and the genres. Chronology and genre usually dictate the units.

EVALUATION: Two RESEARCHED term essays: each--25% 2500 w/min.
Two seminars: each--15% 50 MIN. incl. discussion
Final in-class essays 20%

EN 4101b Studies in Major Authors: W.O. Mitchell

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: As part of the EN 4101 Major Authors series, students in EN 4101b study most of the critically acclaimed novels of W.O. Mitchell, along with two of his better known plays, and a representative sample of his short stories.

TEXTS:

- Mitchell, W.O. The Dramatic W.O. Mitchell. Macmillan, 1982.
---. How I Spent My Summer Holidays. M&S, 1982.
---. Jake and the Kid. 1961. M&S, 1982
---. The Kite. Macmillan, 1962.
---. Since Daisy Creek. Macmillan, 1984.
---. The Vanishing Point. Macmillan, 1973.
---. Who Has Seen the Wind. 1947. M&S, 1982.

BOOKS ON RESERVE: SOME CONTAIN REQUIRED READING

- Deimert, E. Voices From the Regions: Mitchell, Buckler, MacLeod, & Vanderhaeghe. U. of Alta., 1994
Harrison, Dick. Unnamed Country. U of Alta. P, 1977.
---. Intimations of Mortality: W.O. Mitchell's Who... ECW, 1993.
Mitchell, W.O. According to Jake and the Kid. M&S, 1989.
---. For Arts Sake. M&S, 1992.
---. Ladybug, Ladybug. M&S, 1988
---. Roses are Difficult Here. M&S, 1990.
---. Who Has Seen the Wind. Macmillan, 1947, 1st (longer) ed.
---. (at least one of each required texts will be on reserve).

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS: provided through GPRC Library and Media Services. GPRC is a member of NORALINK.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

- Jan. 6, 8 ... Introduction: Critical issues; Genre issues; A sample of his early idyllic short stories for broadcast to more recent rewrites with post-modern elements.
Jan. 13,15 ... Who Has Seen the Wind: original text versus the shorter present version. Changes in critical reception.
Jan. 20,22 Who Has Seen the Wind.
Jan. 27,29 Concluding Who Has Seen the Wind. The Kite.
Feb. 3,5...Critical issues: The Kite & Roses are Difficult Here
Feb. 10,12, & 17,19 ... The Vanishing Point **FIRST ESSAY--FEB. 19**
Mar. 3,5 ... Moving beyond Comic Romance in drama: "The Black Bonspiel of Wullie McCrimmon" vs. "Back to Beulah"
Mar. 10,12 ...More drama, How I Spent My Summer Holidays
Mar. 17,19 ... How I Spent My Summer Holidays. Since Daisy Creek
Mar. 24,26 ... Since Daisy Creek.
Mar. 31 Ladybug, Ladybug, For Arts Sake **SECOND ESSAY DUE**
Apr. 3 According to Jake and the Kid.
Apr. 7,9 ... Final student seminars. In-class Essays (Apr. 9)