



SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS
ENGL 205z
WINTER, 2011
CREDIT COURSE

LITERARY REPRESENTATIONS OF THE NATURAL WORLD

INSTRUCTOR: Andrew Richardson, Ph.D. (Dalhousie)
OFFICE HOURS: TBA
OFFICE LOCATION: A2003
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DAYS & TIMES: Mondays & Wednesdays, 1:00 to 2:30 pm.
ROOM: TBD

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students taking this course will discuss literary representations of the natural world and analyze the political and philosophical implications of those representations. Featured writers are from the British Isles, the United States, and Canada. The core texts cover a range of historical periods, literary styles, and genres—short stories, essays, poetry, and novels. Throughout the course, a host of questions will be raised by the literature: How is Nature defined by different cultures and to what effect? How and why have subject peoples been associated with states of nature by their oppressors? What does it mean to ‘commune’ with natural spaces, and what benefits does such a practice bring? Is it possible to strike a balance between industrial development and environment conservation? The class will also consider texts about the relationship between First Nations peoples and the natural world: Does this connection still have merit? Has it become a detrimental cliché? Can common ground between First Nations peoples and the descendants of European colonizers be found in their respective understanding and appreciation of the natural world? These and related questions will be considered in terms of texts by both Native and non-Native writers.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, which includes timely submission of *all* assignments, students will be able to:

- understand how the natural world has been represented in a wide range of English-language literature
- comprehend prominent themes related to the subject of the natural world
- perform postsecondary-level literary analysis, criticism, and research, with particular attention to issues related to gender, class, ethnicity, and sexuality
- understand the formal characteristics of poetry, short fiction, and the novel
- understand a vocabulary of standard literary terminology
- present ideas in well-organized, thoughtful, and polished essays.

EQUIVALENCY / TRANSFERABILITY

UBC	ENGL 2nd (3)	UR	ENGL 3xx (3)
SFU	ENGL 2xx (3)	UAF	ENGL F2S
UVIC	ENGL 200 Level (1.5)		

For further information about transferability please contact the School of Liberal Arts.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

6 credits of first-year English composition and/or literature (e.g., ENGL 100 & 101) or permission of the instructor

DELIVERY METHODS / FORMAT

The course will be delivered through a combination of lecture, discussion, and group work. The course is available through distance education technology (video conference with companion course website).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. As per Academic Regulation 4.01 a student may be dismissed from a course or program if more than 10% of the scheduled contact hours are missed in any one course. Dismissal from a course may result in loss of full-time status and loss of sponsorship funding.

Participation

Students are expected to participate in class discussions. Participation marks are based on evidence of active listening skills and orally demonstrated comprehension of the required readings. Students are expected to read the syllabus prospectively so as to participate more fully in class discussions and make sense of lectures.

Assignments & Exams

The writing assignments for this course consist of: two short essays (min. 4-5 pages) and a research paper (min. 8 pages) in which students make use of published literary criticism. All writing assignments must be completed and submitted by the final exam date as a basic prerequisite for a passing grade. In addition, there will be a midterm and a final exam.

Evaluation Percentages

Participation	10
Essay 1	15
Essay 2	15
Essay 3 (Research)	25
Midterm Test	10
Final Exam	25
TOTAL	100

Please note:

- Electronic versions of assignments are due, via email, by 4:30 pm. of the assigned due date.
- Assignments will be graded with an electronic evaluation sheet and margin notes in MS TrackChanges.
- Late assignments will be assessed a penalty of 5% per day, including weekend days.

Examination Policy

Final exams are held at the end of the semester in the designated examination period. Once the final exam date and time have been published, they cannot be changed. Students are expected to write their exams as scheduled unless there are extenuating circumstances such as serious illness, accident, or other legitimate circumstances beyond their control.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Lorraine Anderson et al., eds. *Literature and the Environment: A Reader in Nature and Culture*.
Pearson/Longman

Marian Engel. *Bear*. New Canadian Library

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

College-level dictionary

College-level grammar handbook / style manual
For further information about transferability please contact the School of Liberal Arts.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the college.

Plagiarism involves presenting the words of someone else as your own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person's writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and to document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research, or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to standard procedures (APA).

Re-submitting a paper for which you have previously received credit is also an academic offence.

STUDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Students have the responsibility as members of the academic community to act in an acceptable manner as defined by all relevant College Policies and Procedures.

Students should be fully aware of information regarding their rights and responsibilities. Be sure to thoroughly read your copy of the Student Information Handbook.

WRITING CENTRE

All students are encouraged to make the Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. Located in Room C2211 (in the College Library), the Writing Centre offers writing coaching sessions to students of all writing abilities. For further information or to book an appointment, visit the Centre's website: dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/writingcentre

At the instructor's discretion, students may be required to attend Writing Centre coaching sessions during the composition process of their paper(s) as a condition of assignment completion. The number of sessions required per assignment will be specified on the assignment sheet, and the Writing Centre will issue written confirmation of attendance, which should be attached to the written work being submitted for evaluation.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES OR CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability or chronic condition. It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student has a disability or chronic condition and may need accommodation to fully participate in this class, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Students who face academic or personal challenges during the term can obtain assistance through the following:

	Room	Phone/Web Address/Email	Room
Counselling Centre	C1220	668-8720	
Learning Assistance Centre	C1520	668-8785	
Writing Centre	C2211	dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/writingcentre writingcentre@yukoncollege.yk.ca	
Drop-In Centre	A2309 & A2311	668-8850	