



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA

Department of English, Film, and Theatre  
Graduate Program

Fort Garry Campus  
623 Fletcher Argue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada R3T 5V5  
Telephone (204) 474-7365  
Fax (204) 474-7669  
english@umanitoba.ca

## 2011-2012 Tentative Graduate Course List

*Please note: The following information is tentative and therefore subject to change*

### **ENGL 7030 Studies in American Literature: The Human Animal in Faulkner and Morrison**

**Prof. Dana Medoro**                      **Fall 2011**                      **R 11:30-14:25**

The aim of this course is to study the work of two Nobel-Prize winning authors, in order to explore the ways in which they bring violent elements of American history in line with the relationship between non-human and human animals. To read their books is to encounter landscapes filled with vultures, pigs, cows, horses, dogs, and fish. We will cover four novels, two by each author: *As I Lay Dying*, *Absalom, Absalom!*, *Beloved*, and *A Mercy*, as well as selected works of theory and contemporary literary criticism.

### **ENGL 7140 Studies in International Literature: Emergency Writing**

**Prof. Mark Libin**                      **Fall 2011**                      **W 11:30-14:25**

In this course we will examine a selection of international texts written during, or directly representative of, national states of emergency, civil wars, martial law or insurgencies in order to discuss how postcolonial writing manifests itself in an emergency situation. We will compare and contrast generic and thematic traits in order to consider how the representation of states of emergency allow the postcolonial writer to articulate a sense of identity, whether that identity be defined in term of nation, cultural group, or individual subjectivity.

### **ENGL 7600 (3) Bibliography**

**Prof. David Watt**                      **Fall 2011**                      **T 11:30-14:25**

This course offers the opportunity to contemplate changes in how books have been produced, circulated, preserved, and, consequently, imagined through time. We will take a bibliographic approach to our study of key texts from the Middle Ages to the present day. As we proceed, we will interpret the evidence these books provide by learning to work critically with printed material, facsimiles, on-line resources, and the remarkable Dysart Collection at the University of Manitoba's Elizabeth Dafoe Library. The course aims to prepare students to pursue bibliographic inquiry while remaining aware of the way in which such work itself has a tendency to "romance the tome."

### **ENGL 7160 Studies in Modernism: The End of Modernity and Samuel Beckett's Theatre**

**Prof. Fernando De Toro**                      **Winter 2012**                      **W 19:00-22:00**

Beckett's theatre presents a challenge to those who attempt to study it, a challenge because it is a theatre that renders almost impossible any interpretative approach. The question that the analyst faces is how to approach these very hermetic and complex texts? How to study them? Where to place them? What we propose in this course is to start by placing Beckett's theatre in the temporal field where these texts were written in the first place, that is within Modernity. Then, introduce a textual strategy of Beckett's writing, and finally, to center our attention in some texts written between 1952 and 1984.

### **ENGL 7860 Topics in Cultural Studies: Literature and Human Rights**

**Prof. Diana Brydon**                      **Winter 2012**                      **R 11:30-14:25**

This course will explore the complex relations between the humanities, humanism, and humanitarianism in relation to changing constructions of the category of the human as expressed in literature, literary theory and rights discourse. Within the contexts of our discussions, we will explore a range of rights declarations, reports, official apologies, poems, and various fictions with a view to understanding how they negotiate these questions and clarify-and often complicate-understanding of the issues involved. We will be especially attentive to what Kay Schaffer and Sidonie Smith identify as the relation between "human rights and narrated lives" and the linkages between "the world novel, narrative form, and international law" as analyzed by Joseph R. Slaughter.

### **ENGL 7920 Studies in Early Modern Literature: Shakespeare's Peers and Competitors**

**Prof. Glenn Clark**                      **Winter 2012**                      **W 11:30-14:25**

This course will offer careful readings and historical contextualizations of plays by Shakespeare's best-know peers and rivals in Tudor and Stuart drama. We will give particular consideration to the ways in which the plays seek to reveal their own innovations in terms of genre, theatricality, characterization and social or philosophical utility.

### **ENGL 7960 Studies in Romanticism: Romantic Suicide**

**Prof. Michelle Faubert**                      **Winter 2012**                      **M 11:30-14:25**

The Romantic period in literature is strongly associated with suicide: the eighteen-year old suicide Chatterton was a beloved symbol of poetic genius scorned by society, while Goethe's fictional character, Werther, inspired myriads of young men to follow his fatal steps to "self-murder" - to use the era's term - for love's sake. By examining literary works about suicide and biographical accounts and letters of several the most famous suicidal Romantic writers in the context of medical and philosophical texts, this class will explore the cultural significance of suicide in the Romantic period.