

**Introduction to Literature and Language**  
3 credits

Class Information		Instructor Information		First day of classes:	Wed, Jan 6, 2016
Days	Wed/Fri	Instructor:	Celine Ibsen, MA	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Jan 17, 2016
Time:	1:00 – 2:15	Email:	celine.ibsen@ambrose.edu	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Feb 29, 2016
Room:	Airhart (1085-1)	Office:	L2078	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri, March 18, 2016
<b>Final Exam day</b>				Last day to apply for time extension for coursework:	Tue, Mar 29, 2016
Monday, April 18 9-12 AM – Airhart		Office Hrs:	Wed/Fri 2:15 – 3:15	Last day of classes:	Wed, Apr 13, 2016

**Required Texts:**

Backpack Literature – Fifth edition, edited by X. J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia

The Concise Canadian Writer’s Handbook – Second edition, edited by William E. Messenger et al.

The Oxford English Dictionary – Full version available online through the Ambrose Library website

**Course Description:** This course introduces students to post-secondary studies in English by exploring developments in literature and language in and over time. Students will have opportunities to study particular themes and compare different genres.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

After taking this course you will be equipped to:

**1. Examine language with care.**

The literalization assignments in this class are designed to help you look closely at how language works and learn how to interpret it. Looking closely at language will aid you in reading and discussing literature perceptively and it will also prepare you to examine and revise your own writing.

**2. Write clear and persuasive academic essays.**

Whatever your writing ability when you enter this class, one of your main goals is to improve your writing significantly over the course of the semester. We will focus on how to write for an academic audience because that is what you will be doing in every paper you write at university, but the skills you gain will improve your ability to communicate in other contexts as well.

**3. Understand major literary genres, concepts, and terms.**

This class focuses on poetry, short fiction, and drama. We will explore these genres using a range of concepts and terms.

**4. Consider the purpose of literature in society, as an art form and as a topic of study.**

What is literature for? Why create it? Why study it? These are questions we will be returning to throughout the class.

**Course Schedule:**

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<p><b>January 6 – Class Introduction</b></p> <p>Review syllabus</p> <p>Discuss uses of literature</p>	<p><b>January 8 – Poetry 1</b></p> <p>Literalization 1 (L1) assigned – Shakespeare: “Sonnet 65”</p> <p>Read Kennedy and Gioia (K&amp;G):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Reading a Poem” 363-67</li> <li>• “Thinking About Paraphrasing” 376-77</li> <li>• “Words” 402-420</li> <li>• “Saying and Suggesting” 421-424</li> </ul>
<p><b>January 13 – Poetry 2</b></p> <p>Workshop – L1, Shakespeare: “Sonnet 65”</p> <p>Read K&amp;G:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Figures of Speech” 447-463</li> <li>• “Closed Form” 493-497</li> <li>• “The Sonnet” 501-504</li> </ul>	<p><b>January 15 – Poetry 3</b></p> <p>L1 due</p> <p>Literalization 2 (L2) assigned – Millay: “Still Will I Harvest Beauty”</p> <p>Essay 1 assigned</p> <p>Read K&amp;G: “Imagery” 432-445</p>
<p><b>January 20 – Poetry 4</b></p> <p>L1 returned</p> <p>Workshop – L2, Millay: “Still Will I Harvest Beauty”</p> <p>Read K&amp;G: “Listening to a Voice” 379-401</p>	<p><b>January 22 – Poetry 5</b></p> <p>L2 due</p> <p>Literalization 3 (L3) assigned – Milton: “Sonnet 19”</p> <p>Read K&amp;G:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Types of Poetry” 367-375</li> <li>• “Thinking about Connotation and Denotation” 424-431</li> </ul>
<p><b>January 27 – Poetry 6</b></p> <p>L2 returned</p> <p>Read K&amp;G: “Sound” 464-477</p>	<p><b>January 29 – Poetry 7</b></p> <p>L3 due</p> <p>Literalization 4 (L4) assigned – Hopkins: “As Kingfishers Catch Fire”</p> <p>Discussion of L3, Milton: “Sonnet 19”</p> <p>Read K&amp;G:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Other Forms” 505-507</li> <li>• “What is Poetry” 558-559</li> </ul>
<p><b>February 3 – Poetry 8</b></p> <p>Essay 1 thesis statement due</p> <p>Read K&amp;G: “Rhythm” 478-92</p>	<p><b>February 5 – Poetry 9</b></p> <p>L3 returned</p> <p>Rhythm Workshop</p>
<p><b>February 10 – Poetry 10</b></p> <p>L4 due</p> <p>Discussion of L4, Hopkins: “As Kingfishers Catch Fire”</p> <p>Read K&amp;G: “Open Form” 512-25</p>	<p><b>February 12 – Visual Essay</b></p> <p>Essay 1 due</p> <p>Essay 2 assigned</p> <p>Read: <i>In Attawapiskat - Real life on the rez</i> by Louise Bernice Half <a href="https://thewalrus.ca/in-attawapiskat/">https://thewalrus.ca/in-attawapiskat/</a></p>

<b>February 17 – Reading break, no class</b>	<b>February 19 – Reading break, no class</b>
<b>February 24 – Fiction 1</b> L4 returned Read K&G: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Symbol” 203-206, 244-245</li> <li>• “Character” 61-63, 98-100</li> <li>• <i>Cathedral</i> by Raymond Carver 85-98</li> </ul>	<b>February 26 – Fiction 2</b> Read K&G: “Theme” 184-187, 200-202 Read: <i>The Year We Gave Away the Land</i> by Rudy Wiebe (class handout)
<b>March 2 – Fiction 3</b> Read K&G: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Godfather Death</i> by Jakob and Wilhelm Grimm &amp; “Plot” 12-16</li> <li>• <i>Happy Endings</i> by Margaret Atwood 256-259</li> <li>• “Tone and Style” 147-149, 181-183</li> </ul>	<b>March 4 – Fiction 4</b> Read <i>Chance Traveler</i> by Haruki Murakami (class handout)
<b>March 9 – Fiction 5</b> Essay 1 returned Read K&G: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Point of View” 28-32, 58-60</li> <li>• “Setting” 101-104, 145-146</li> <li>• <i>The Jilting of Granny Weatherall</i> by Katherine Anne Porter 64-72</li> </ul>	<b>March 11 – Fiction 6</b> Read <i>Smith of Wootton Major</i> by J. R. R. Tolkien (class handout)
<b>March 16 – Fiction 7</b> Essay 2 due Essay 3 assigned Read K&G: <i>Harrison Bergeron</i> by Kurt Vonnegut Jr. 194-200	<b>March 18 – Drama 1</b> Read K&G: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Talking with David Ives” &amp; “Reading a Play” 628-630</li> <li>• “Tragedy and Comedy” 654-669</li> <li>• “The Theatre of Sophocles” 683-688</li> </ul>
<b>March 23 – Drama 2</b> Read K&G: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The Theatre of Shakespeare” 736-739</li> <li>• Shakespeare: <i>Othello</i>, Act 1 (742-765, Qs 852)</li> </ul>	<b>March 25 – Good Friday</b> <b>No class</b>
<b>March 30 – Drama 3</b> Read K&G: <i>Othello</i> , Act 2 (765-787, Qs 852)	<b>April 1 – Drama 4</b> Read K&G: <i>Othello</i> , Act 3 (787-812, Qs 853)
<b>April 6 – Drama 5</b> Essay 2 returned Read K&G: <i>Othello</i> , Act 4 (812-833, Qs 853)	<b>April 8 – Drama 6</b> Read K&G: <i>Othello</i> , Act 5 (833-852, Qs 853)
<b>April 13 – Essay Peer Review Workshop</b> Essay 3 – Rough draft due	<b>April 15 – Exam Review</b> Essay 3 – Final draft due
Final exam: April 18, 9-12 AM in Airhart	

## Course Evaluation:

### Participation and Attendance – 5%

Do all the prescribed readings before class, bring your textbook to class, and be prepared to participate in class discussion. When I take attendance I will be keeping track not only of your presence in class, but also of your contribution to discussions and your completion of any class handouts.

### Literalization Exercises – 4 x 5% each = 20%

To understand a poem, you must first identify its plain, literal meaning. To that end, you will write four sonnet literalizations—translation assignments where you take the figurative language of poetry and restate it in logical prose.

I will distribute a sample literalization and explain the nature of these assignments in detail on the second day of class (January 8).

### Essays – 10%, 20%, 25%

Essays will allow you to develop your writing ability as you practice writing three different types of essays: comparison (1000 words; 10%), analysis (1500 words; 20%), and research (1500 words; 25%).

All assignments will be submitted to Turnitin, a plagiarism-detection software. For more information, see [http://turnitin.com/en\\_us/features/originalitycheck](http://turnitin.com/en_us/features/originalitycheck).

### Final exam – 20%

This exam covers the whole course.

## Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Description
A+	96-100	Excellent
A	91-95	Excellent
A-	86-90	Excellent
B+	82-85	Good
B	75-81	Good
B-	72-74	Good
C+	68-71	Satisfactory
C	63-67	Satisfactory
C-	60-62	Satisfactory
D+	56-59	Poor
D	50-55	Minimum Pass
F	0-49	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform university-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

## Policies and Expectations:

### Participation and Attendance

I expect regular attendance and punctuality. More than three unexcused class absences will reduce participation grades by two percentage points.

Participation Tips:

- Do not talk compulsively. Be self-aware and leave space for others' voices.
- Do not be silent. Your contribution matters. You don't need to have everything figured out to participate. Think about how you can help yourself and others learn; often this is as simple as asking a question or pointing out something that you don't understand.
- If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to borrow notes from a fellow student, to acquire any handouts, and to discover whether any changes were made to the syllabus.

### Assignments

- All assignments are due by the beginning of class on the date specified. Upload them to Moodle before class begins.
- All assignments must be submitted to receive a passing final grade.
- I may grant extensions on assignments in exceptional circumstances. If you need an extension, ask for it in advance (as early as possible), have a good reason, and provide proof of your need (for example, a letter from the Registrar or a medical note).
- Late papers will be marked down one refined letter grade per class day (M-F) late, and may not be graded in a timely manner.

### Syllabus and Resources

The most current version of this syllabus and any supplementary handouts will be available on Moodle. Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class and noted in the online version.

### Use of Computers and Phones

- Turn your phones off and do not check them while you are in class.
- You may bring a laptop or tablet to class and use it for three purposes: 1) taking notes, 2) accessing the Oxford English Dictionary online, 3) participating in workshops or assignments where I give you permission to use the Internet.
- If I find you browsing the Internet for any other purpose (checking Facebook, email, etc.) or engaging in any other form of distraction (playing games on your device or texting) I will ask you to leave the classroom. Being in class is a privilege.
- If it becomes evident that following these rules is a problem, electronic devices will be banned completely.

Don't ruin things for everyone by ignoring the rules. If you recognize that distraction is a problem for you, respect others and make your life easier by sticking with a pen and paper.

## Ambrose University Academic Policies:

### Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

### Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

### Exam Scheduling

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4)

extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

### Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the Internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

### Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

### Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

### Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change

of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

### **Academic Integrity**

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

**Note:** Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.