

| Class Information                         |              | Instructor Information |  | First day of classes:                                | Wed., Sept. 9, 2015 |
|---|--------------|------------------------|--|--|---------------------|
| Days:                                     | W/F          | Instructor :           | D. Dyck (Ph.D. ABD)  | Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:            | Sun., Sept 20, 2015 |
| Time:                                     | 4:00-5:15 pm | Email:                 | <a href="mailto:darren.dyck@ambrose.edu">darren.dyck@ambrose.edu</a> | Last day to request revised exam:                    | Mon., Oct. 26, 2015 |
| Room:                                     | A1085-2      | Phone:                 | Ext. 6931  | Last day to withdraw from course:                    | Thu., Nov. 12, 2015 |
| Lab/Tutorial:                             | N/A          | Office:                | L2062  | Last day to apply for time extension for coursework: | Mon., Nov 23, 2015  |
| FINAL EXAM: Fri., Dec 18, 9 am, Rm. A2141 |              | Office Hrs:            | Th 2:30-3:30   | Last day of classes:                                 | Mon., Dec 14, 2015  |

**Textbooks:**

- Lewis, C.S. *Perelandra*. (Harper Collins: ISBN-13 9780007157167)
- ---. *Till We Have Faces*. (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt: ISBN-13 9780156904360)
- Tolkien, J.R.R. *The Fellowship of the Ring*. (Harper Collins: ISBN-13 9780261103573)
- Williams, Charles. *Descent into Hell*. (Eerdmans: ISBN-13 9780802812209)
- Additional Readings (on Moodle: **print** and bring to class)

**Course Description:**
*From the Academic Calendar:*

This course studies the major literary works, themes, and ideas of C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien in the context of their lives, faith, and friendships. It examines themes such as the use of myth to explore problems of modernity, the relationship between Christian faith and art, as well as the debates over literary versus popular fiction.

*An Elaboration:*

J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis are known the world over and loved, the former for his *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, the latter for his *Chronicles of Narnia*. Less well known (though no less loved, at least, by those who know them) are Charles Williams and Owen Barfield. These men, together with Lewis, Tolkien, and a host of other scholars, writers, and thinkers, comprised a 'literary' group known as the Inklings. It was at Inklings meetings that excerpts from what later became these authors' great works were first read and admired. Though each member was undeniably his own man, the group as a whole was preoccupied with certain subjects—among these, (1) Christianity, (2) myth, (3) fantasy and the imagination, (4) love, and (5) friendship.

Through the study of (mostly) fictional works by Tolkien, Lewis, Williams, and Barfield, this course will explore the thought of the Inklings, collectively and individually, on such topics as the relationship between Christianity and fiction, the role of myth in enlivening the imagination, the role of the imagination in enflaming love, and the essentiality of friendship.

### Expected Learning Outcomes:

- to introduce students to a select group of the literary works of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, Charles Williams, and Owen Barfield
- to familiarize students with the literary, historical, and political contexts in which these works were written
- to analyze these works, specifically with respect to the following themes: Christianity, myth, fantasy and the imagination, love, and friendship
- and, generally, to enhance the ability of students to read closely and thoughtfully, and to write effectively and clearly

### Course Schedule:

| Date  | Topic(s)   | Readings  | Work                   |
|-------|--|---|------------------------|
| Sept. |  |   |                        |
| 9     | Introductions:<br>Key Figures, Texts, and Concepts | No Assigned Reading   |                        |
| 11    | The 'Inklings'                                     | <b>M:</b> Carpenter, <i>The Inklings</i> (1979):<br>"Thursday evenings"               |                        |
| 16    | Concerning Hobbits, a Ring,<br>and Tom Bombadil    | Tolkien, <i>The Fellowship of the Ring</i> (1954):<br>Prologue-Book I, Chapter 7      |                        |
| 18    | Of Men, Dwarves, and Elves                         | <i>The Fellowship of the Ring</i> :<br>Book I, Chapter 8-Book II, Chapter 2           |                        |
| 23    | <i>Faerie: An Interlude</i>                        | <b>M:</b> Tolkien, "On Fairy-Stories" (1947):<br>start at p. 57 ("And with that ...") | 15-<br>Minute<br>Essay |

|      |   |   |                              |
|------|---|---|------------------------------|
| 25   | More Elves  | <i>The Fellowship of the Ring:</i><br>Book II, Chapter 3-end of Book II               |                              |
| 30   | Spiritual Emphasis Day  | No Class  |                              |
| Oct. |   |   |                              |
| 2    | Evil and Redemption   | <b>M:</b> Tolkien, <i>The Return of the King</i> (1955):<br>Book VI, Chapters 3 & 7-9 | EQ                           |
| 7    | Words and Worlds  | Lewis, <i>Perelandra</i> (1943):<br>Chapters 1-5                                      |                              |
| 9    | Temptation in Paradise:<br>“I will speak greater words than these”                            | <i>Perelandra:</i><br>Chapters 6-11   |                              |
| 14   | Sci-Fi:<br>Another Interlude  | <b>M:</b> Lewis, Amis, & Aldiss, “Unreal Estates” (1965)                              | 15-<br>Minute<br>Essay       |
| 16   | The Great Dance   | <i>Perelandra:</i><br>Chapters 12-17  |                              |
| 21   | A ‘Metaphysical Thriller’   | Williams, <i>Descent into Hell</i> (1937):<br>Chapters 1-4                            |                              |
| 23   | The Doctrine of Substituted Love  | <i>Descent into Hell:</i><br>Chapters 5-8   |                              |
| 28   | Ultimate Things   | <i>Descent into Hell:</i><br>Chapters 9-12  | <b>1st<br/>Paper<br/>Due</b> |
| 30   | “ <i>Incipit vita nova</i> ”  | <i>Descent into Hell</i>  | 15-<br>Minute<br>Essay       |
| Nov. |   |   |                              |
| 4    | ‘Beren’s’ Background:<br>The Tale of Pyramus and Thisbe &<br>A History of Middle-Earth (F.A.) | No Assigned Reading   |                              |
| 6    | “a fair tale, though it is sad”   | <b>M:</b> Tolkien, <i>The Silmarillion:</i><br>“Of Beren and Lúthien” (various dates) | EQ                           |
| 11   | Remembrance Day   | No Class  |                              |
| 13   | “there are none, now ...<br>that remember it aright as it was<br>told of old”                 | <b>M:</b> <i>The Silmarillion:</i><br>“Of Beren and Lúthien”                          | 15-<br>Minute<br>Essay       |
| 18   | Orpheus: A Primer   | No Assigned Reading   |                              |
| 20   | Consciousness:<br>“What I or me / Is not the heart?”  | <b>M:</b> <i>Orpheus: A Poetic Drama:</i><br>Acts I & II                              |                              |
| 25   | “Can Eros <i>become</i> Agape?”   | <b>M:</b> <i>Orpheus: A Poetic Drama:</i><br>Acts III & IV                            | 15-<br>Minute<br>Essay       |
| 27   | Apuleius: Cupid and Psyche  | Lewis, <i>Till We Have Faces</i> (1956):<br>Part One, Chapters 1-7                    |                              |
| Dec. |   |   |                              |

|    |                    |  |                              |
|----|--------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 2  | Loss and Disbelief | <i>Till We Have Faces:</i><br>Part One, Chapters 8-15  |                              |
| 4  | The Queen of Glome | <i>Till We Have Faces:</i><br>Part One, Chapters 16-21 | <b>2nd<br/>Paper<br/>Due</b> |
| 9  | An Assumption      | <i>Till We Have Faces:</i><br>Part Two, Chapters 1-4   | 15-<br>Minute<br>Essay       |
| 11 | Conclusions        | No Assigned Reading                                    |                              |

#### Requirements:

- Attend class. Always bring the relevant readings to class. If the relevant reading is a PDF (available on Moodle), print it out and bring it in hard copy.
- All assignments are due in hard copy by the beginning of class.
- Extensions may be granted on written assignments in exceptional circumstances. The late penalty is one refined letter grade per class day late.
- All assignments must be submitted to receive a passing final grade.

#### Attendance:

Students should attend class consistently and punctually. Unexcused absences will negatively affect not only your comprehension of course content but also your participation grade. 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.

#### Grade Summary:

|      |                                       |
|------|---------------------------------------|
| 20 % | 15-Minute Essays                      |
| 20 % | Paper 1 (5-6 pages; 1500-1800 words)  |
| 30 % | Paper 2 (8-10 pages; 2400-3000 words) |
| 20 % | Final Exam                            |
| 10 % | Participation                         |

#### Course Work:

Completion of all course work is requisite for a passing grade.

#### 15-Minute Essays

You will write six 15-minute in-class essays over the course of the term (see Course Schedule for dates). For each essay, you will be prompted by a single question: you may be asked to identify and/or state the significance of a passage from a previous class's readings; to explain a key concept with respect to an author and/or text; or to take a stand for or against a certain claim.

These 'essays' are meant to encourage and reward attendance, preparation, and attention; to stimulate discussion; and to prepare you for similar questions on your final exam. Submissions that are off topic, incoherent, illegible, or give no specific evidence of your having done the readings or listened to class lectures and discussions will score poorly. Each essay is worth 4%; the best five out of six will count. If you miss one, you will have no choice but to use the remaining five marks; if you miss two, that is your problem.

### Papers

You will write two papers in this course, one 5-6 pp. in length, and the other 8-10. The longer of these two papers will have a research component. The first paper is due on **Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**, and will deal with material covered between September 9<sup>th</sup> and October 16<sup>th</sup>. The second paper is due on **Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**, and will deal with material covered between October 21<sup>st</sup> and November 25<sup>th</sup>.

**It is up to you which paper you write first.** End of term is a busy time; you might think it prudent to write your longer paper earlier rather than later.

### Final Exam

The final exam will consist of two essay questions, one on *Lewis's Till We Have Faces* exclusively, and the other on a broader topic requiring you to discuss a number of the texts we have read over the course of the term.

### Participation

Participation takes many forms. Endeavour to discover as many of these as you can.

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

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

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform College-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:

### 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.