



AMBROSE
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

EN 400 Modernism (3)
Fall 2012

Instructor: Rita Dirks Heath
Office Hours: 14:30-15:45 W/F,
or by appointment
Class Times: 16:00-17:15 W/F

Office: Room L2067
Office Phone: 410-2000, ext. 5900
Class Location: Room A2141
E-Mail: rdirksheath@ambrose.edu

Required Texts

Faulkner, William. *As I Lay Dying*. New York: Vintage, 2004.
Huysmans, Joris-Karl. *Against Nature (A Rebours)*: London: Penguin, 2003.
Lawrence, D.H. *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. The Unexpurgated 1928 Orioli Edition.
New York: Bantam, 1983.
Lewis, Pericles. *The Cambridge Introduction to Modernism*. Cambridge:
Cambridge UP, 2007.
Wilde, Oscar. *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1998.
Woolf, Virginia. *Mrs. Dalloway*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2000.

Suggested Critical Texts

Batchelor, John, ed. *From Decadent to Modernist*
Bradbury, Malcolm. *The Modern American Novel*
Bradbury, Malcolm. *The Modern British Novel*
Bradbury, Malcolm and James MacFarlane, eds. *Modernism: A Guide to
European Literature, 1890-1930*
Charlesworth, Barbara. *Dark Passages: The Decadent Consciousness in
Victorian Literature*
Dowling, Linda. *Language and Decadence in the Victorian fin de siècle*
Faulkner, Peter. *Modernism*
Fletcher, Ian, ed. *Decadence and the 1890s*
Gilman, Richard. *Decadence: The Strange Life of an Epithet*
Goldman, Jane. *Modernism, 1910-1945*
Howe, Irving, ed. *The Idea of the Modern in Literature & the Arts*
Kime Scott, Bonnie, ed. *Gender in Modernism: New Geographies, Complex
Intersections*
Kolocotroni, Vassiliki, ed. *Modernism: An Anthology of Sources and Documents*
Levenson, Michael, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Modernism*

Munro, John Murchison. *The Decadent Poetry of the Eighteen-Nineties*
 Nicholls, Peter. *Modernisms: A Literary Guide*
 Pittock, Murray. *Spectrum of Decadence: The Literature of the 1890s*
 Rabaté, Jean-Michel. *1913: The Cradle of Modernism*
 Ridge, John Ross. *The Hero in French Decadent Literature*
 Ross, Stephen, ed. *Modernism and Theory: A Critical Debate*
 Ruland, Richard and Malcolm Bradbury. *From Puritanism to Postmodernism: A
 History of American Literature*
 Weir, David. *Anarchy and Culture: The Aesthetic Politics of Modernism*

Course Description

This course examines the European and American movement(s) that took place in literature between 1890 and 1930. Poetry, essays, and novels will be studied in the context of Modernism—a distinct and vital movement that changed the way we perceive literature and art.

Course Objectives

As one of the most complicated literary phenomena of the twentieth century, Modernism invites the study of its definition in its many manifestations. A large part of the objective of this course is answering the question: What is Modernism?

Course Schedule

September	5	Introduction
	7	Early Modernism—Decadence
	12	Barlas, “Terrible Love”; Beerbohm, “A Defence of Cosmetics”
	14	Dowson, “Extreme Unction,” “Benedicto Domini”; Field, “The Poet”; Gray, “A Crucifix,” “The Barber”
	19	Johnson, “The Cultured Faun,” “In Honour of Dorian and His Creator,” “The Destroyer of a Soul”; Le Gallienne, “The Boom in Yellow”
	21	Wilde, “Reading Gaol”; Wratislaw, “Sonnet Macabre,” “Hothouse Flowers”
	28	Huysmans, <i>A Rebours</i>
	October	3
5		Lewis, Chapter 1: Trials of Modernity
10		Wilde, <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>
12		<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>
17		Lewis, Introduction; Chapter Two: Primitivists and Modernizers
19		Bradbury and McFarlane, “The Name and Nature of Modernism” in <i>Modernism</i> (Bradbury & McFarlane, eds.); Bell, “The Metaphysics of Modernism” (Levenson, ed.)

	24	Howe, "The Idea of the Modern," <i>The Idea of the Modern in Literature & the Arts</i> (Howe, ed.)
	26	Bradbury, <i>The Modern British Novel</i> , Part One
	31	Lewis, Chapter 5: Prose Fiction; Trotter, "The Modernist Novel" (Levenson, ed.)
November	2	Woolf, <i>Mrs. Dalloway</i>
	7	<i>Mrs. Dalloway</i>
	9	D.H. Lawrence, <i>Lady Chatterley's Lover</i>
	14	<i>Lady Chatterley's Lover</i>
	16	Ruland & Bradbury, "Modernism in the American Grain," <i>From Puritanism to Postmodernism</i> (Ruland & Bradbury)
	21	Bradbury, <i>The Modern American Novel</i>
	23	Faulkner, <i>As I Lay Dying</i>
	28	<i>As I Lay Dying</i>
	30	Review; Essay due

Course Requirements

1. Students should do all the prescribed readings before class and be prepared to participate in class discussion.
2. Assignments are due on the dates specified. Late assignments will not be accepted, unless extenuating circumstances can be shown.
3. To receive a passing grade in the course, students must be in attendance during scheduled class times, and all assignment must be submitted to the instructor.
4. Students may not submit work done for another class.
5. The student is responsible for all the information given in class, and also for any changes to the syllabus that are announced in class.
6. Assignments and Grade Distribution:

Participation in class discussions	40%
Presentation (critical)	20%
Presentation (fiction)	20%
Essay (2500 words)	20%

Grading Scale

96-100	A+	
91-95	A	Excellent
86-90	A-	
82-85	B+	
75-81	B	Good
72-74	B-	
68-71	C+	
63-67	C	Satisfactory
60-62	C-	
56-59	D+	

50-55	D	Minimal Pass
0-49	F	Failure

Important Notes

The last day to enter a course without permission and/or voluntary withdrawal from a course without financial penalty is November 12, 2012.