

Preliminary Web Course Description

*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL*3960-02	Course Title: Literature and History	Date of Offering: WINTER 2017										
Course Instructor: G. Campbell	School of English and Theatre Studies											
<p>Brief Course Synopsis: This course offers an introduction to how literary and cultural texts are imbedded in their time. We will attend to the major political and social movements of the 1960s—the Civil Rights movement, the rise of Black Power and Black nationalism, the return to history of active protest in the anti-Vietnam War movement, the rise of student activism and calls to change, the rebirth of feminism, global decolonization and national liberation, the birth of a counterculture, the generation gap, the birth of environmental awareness and activism, gay and lesbian liberation—in relation to poetry, fiction, nonfiction, film and music. The counterculture itself, a space within mass culture in the form of progressive rock music, drug use, sexual liberation, and a celebration of youth, perhaps found a force of innovation in literary genres that predate the sixties. Historical reality will be represented by specific texts of the period collected in the anthology <u>Takin’ It to the Streets: A Sixties Reader</u>. Students will be encouraged to expand on their knowledge of the period with extra readings. This will not be a course requirement. This is a seminar course, so students will be encouraged to develop and expand upon their own interests. Examples of indigenous voices in North America (Idle No More in 2013), the return of protest (Occupy Wall Street) or student activism in the streets in the Spring of 2012. Topic in relation to the 60s may include the relationship between literature/culture and social change, the possibilities in the arena of human consciousness, an evaluation of success and failure for particular projects such as the Civil Rights movement, and a consideration of possible lasting effects of the sixties on politics, sexual identities, countercultures, subcultures, and mass culture.</p>												
Course Format: lecture/discussion/seminar	Methods of Evaluation and Weights: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Seminar Presentation</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Class Participation</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Short Paper 1000-1500 words</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Major Paper 2000-2500 words</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">35%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Final Exam</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">20%</td> </tr> </table>		Seminar Presentation	25%	Class Participation	10%	Short Paper 1000-1500 words	10%	Major Paper 2000-2500 words	35%	Final Exam	20%
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<p>Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)</p> <p>Poetry Adrienne Rich. <u>Fact of a Doorframe</u>. (Selections) On Reserve. Other poems will be assigned from the internet.</p> <p>Fiction Margaret Atwood. <u>The Edible Woman</u>. Richard Brautigan. <u>Trout Fishing in America</u>. Jack Kerouac. <u>On the Road</u>. (Penguin)</p> <p>Prose E. Cleaver. <u>Soul on Ice</u>. Joan Didion. <u>Slouching Toward Bethlehem</u>. Michael Herr. <u>Dispatches</u>.</p> <p>Text Alexander Bloom and Wini Breines, eds. <u>Takin’ It to the Streets: A Sixties Reader</u>. Third Edition. New York: Oxford UP, 2010</p>												

Other information that you wish share about the course (optional):

List the distribution requirements that this course fulfills: 20th/21st Century