



The University of Southern Queensland

## Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.

Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

### Description: The Art of Storytelling

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
ENL	2003	90819	2, 2009	EXT	1.00	Toowoomba

<b>Academic group:</b>	FOART
<b>Academic org:</b>	FOA003
<b>Student contribution band:</b>	1
<b>ASCED code:</b>	091523

## STAFFING

Examiner: Lawrence Johnson

Moderator: Brian Musgrove

## REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: ENL1000 or ENL1001

## SYNOPSIS

Storytelling is considered to be a universal cultural practice. The study of narrative forms and structures thus contributes to a general understanding of how people make sense of themselves and their world. This course enables students to expand on concepts and skills from introductory English courses, providing more detailed strategies for analysing narratives in a variety of different textual forms, including novels, films and new media. Analyses of texts will be organised around key concepts of Narrative Time and Narrative Distance, enabling students to identify structural commonalities across the different types of narrative texts and to pinpoint specific characteristics of each form. Consideration will also be given in each case to historical and cultural contexts, to highlight the relationship between text and context, but also to demonstrate the more general validity of narrative analysis

## OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Employ an advanced vocabulary of critical narratology in the analysis of narrative texts;
2. Identify structural commonalities among narratives in novels, films and new media;
3. Demonstrate understanding of specific formal characteristics of novels, films and new media relevant to narrative analysis;
4. Critically examine the relationship between a narrative text and the cultural and historical contexts in which it is produced and received;

## TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Critical Approaches: Narrative Time and Distance	20.00
2. Narratology and the Novel	40.00
3. New Narrative Forms	40.00

## TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

DVD, "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind", 2004, Michel Gondry (dir.), Roadshow Entertainment

Film, "Groundhog Day", 1993, Harold Ramis (dir.), Columbia Tristar

Film, "The Others", 2001, Alejandro Amenabar (dir.), Cruise/Wagner Productions

Film, "The Usual Suspects", 1995, Bryan Singer (dir.), PlyGram Filmed Entertainment

Multimedia, "Afternoon, A Story", Michael Joyce, Eastgate Systems Inc.

Conrad, Joseph 1988, *Heart of darkness*, 4th edn, Norton, New York.

(Norton Critical Edition, edited by Armstrong, Paul B.)

Faulkner, William 2004, *As I lay dying*, Vintage Classics,

James, Henry 1999, *The turn of the screw*, 2nd edn, Norton, New York.

(Norton Critical Edition, edited by Esch, Deborah & Warren, Jonathan)

## REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Corrigan, Timothy 1999, *Film and literature: an introduction and reader*, Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, NJ.

Herman, D, Jahn, M & Ryan, M (eds.) 2005, *Routledge encyclopedia of narrative theory*, Routledge, New York.

Herman, David 1999, *Narratologies: new perspectives on narrative analysis*, Ohio State University Press, Columbus, OH.

Kindt, Tom & Muller, Hans-Harald 2003, *What is narratology?: questions and answers regarding the status of a theory*, Walter de Gruyter, New York.

Lothe, Jakob 2000, *Narrative in fiction and film*, Oxford University Press, New York.

Milner, Andrew 2002, *Contemporary cultural theory: an introduction*, 3rd edn, Routledge, New York.

- Monaco, James 2000, *How to read a film*, 3rd edn, Oxford University Press, New York.
- Murray, Janet 1998, *Hamlet on the holodeck: the future of narrative in cyberspace*, MIT Press, Cambridge, MASS.
- Prince, Gerald 2003, *A dictionary of narratology (Rev. ed)*, University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln.
- Punday, Daniel 2003, *Narrative bodies: toward a corporeal narratology*, Palgrave MacMillan, New York.
- Ryan, Marie-Laure 2001, *Narrative as virtual reality*, John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore. (Electronic version also)
- Wolf, Mark & Perron, Bernard (eds.) 2004, *The video game theory reader*, Routledge, New York.

## STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Examinations	2.00
Private Study	160.00

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
ESSAY 1 (2000 WORDS)	100.00	30.00	01 Sep 2009 (see note 1)
ESSAY 2 (2500 WORDS)	100.00	40.00	19 Oct 2009 (see note 2)
EXAMINATION (2 HOUR)	100.00	30.00	END S2 (see note 3)

### NOTES

1. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1 - 4.
2. This assessment is aligned with Objectives 1 - 4.
3. Students will be advised of the exam date when the timetable has been finalised.

## IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:  
There are no attendance requirements for this external course. However, it is the student's responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:  
To successfully complete an individual assessment item, a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. This statement must be read in conjunction with Statement 4 below.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:  
If students submit assignments after the due date without extenuating circumstances and without prior approval, then a penalty of a maximum of 5% of the assigned mark may

- apply for each working day late, up to a maximum of 10 working days, at which time a mark of zero can be recorded for that assignment.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:  
To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
  - 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:  
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
  - 6 Examination information:  
The exam for this course is a CLOSED examination, and candidates are allowed to bring only writing and drawing instruments into the examination.
  - 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:  
Any deferred or supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.
  - 8 University Regulations:  
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6 Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL  
<http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>

## ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner. (b) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to USQ within 24 hours if requested by the Examiner. (c) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as documented ill-health. (d) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the examiner's convenience. (e) Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the examiner of the course to negotiate such special arrangements. (f) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete-Makeup). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study. (g) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).
- 10 Students can expect that questions in assessment items in this course may draw upon knowledge and skills that they can reasonably be expected to have acquired before enrolling in the course. This includes knowledge contained in pre-requisite courses and appropriate communication, information literacy, analytical, critical thinking, problem solving or

numeracy skills. Students who do not possess such knowledge and skills should not expect to achieve the same grades as those students who do possess them.