ENGLISH 208E
TWENTIETH CENTURY WOMEN AUTHORS
SECTION 01 WINTER 1998

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor: Shannon Hartling
Office: PAS 2216 ext. 3841
Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:15 - 11:15; Thursdays 1:15 - 2:15 or by appointment
Email: slhartli@watarts.uwaterloo.ca
Mailbox: English Department Mailroom, HH 229 (open weekdays 8:30 - 4:30)

Course Description
This course deals with literary texts by several major female authors of the twentieth century. It will examine the significance of these authors’ works, and place them in context of their historical and ideological framework. Further, this course will explore issues of female authorship and the social significance of female voice, the representation of female protagonists by female authors, and issues of canon.

Required Texts
Edith Wharton The Age of Innocence
Virginia Woolf Orlando
Zora Neale Hurston Their Eyes Were Watching God
Sylvia Plath The Bell Jar
Margaret Atwood Lady Oracle
Fay Weldon The Life and Loves of a She Devil

Recommended Text
Jane E. Aaron and Murray McArthur The Little, Brown Compact Handbook*

Method of Instruction
This course will be taught via lectures and class discussion. The class discussion will be generated from the issue cards which make up 25% of your final grade, as well as from occasional assigned questions. It is expected that a significant portion of each class will be given over to mediated discussion, and all students are required to come to class having read the material assigned for that day and prepared to engage in an informed critique of that material.

Assignments Weight Due Date
Issue Cards 20% Throughout term
Short essay (900 words) 10% To be announced
Major Essay (1500-2000 words) 30% To be announced
Exam 40% Winter exam period
Issue Cards
Five issue cards will be due on assigned days throughout the term. Each issue card will involve a brief summary of what you have read, as well as a paragraph or so which raises an issue you consider significant to your reading of the text. The issue cards are designed so that you interrogate five of the six works studied in this course, at your discretion.

Essays
Topic sheets for the essay will be handed out in class well in advance of the due date. The major essay will deal with two or three of the texts studied in class, and will not require, but will definitely allow, secondary sources. The essay must be written and documented in MLA style.

Exam
The exam will be held during the exam period in April. It will consist of a short answer section in which you will be asked to identify, contextualize, and give the significance of several quotations from texts studied in the course, and one or two essay questions. Each section of the exam will involve choice of questions. No aids will be permitted.

Late Policy
Issue cards are due on the day assigned, and are due at the beginning of class. Because of the nature of issue cards -- they will facilitate discussion after being handed in -- and the fact that there will be more than five opportunities for handing in issue cards, no issue card will be accepted after the beginning of class on the day it is due.

Late essays will be penalized by 3% per school day unless an extension is granted by me prior to the due date, or appropriate documentation accompanies the extension requirement. Any papers not handed in during class hours must be signed and dated by the English department secretary before being handed in to my mailbox. Absolutely no extensions will be granted (barring emergencies) after April 9.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a serious academic offense which involves presenting another's words, ideas, or other intellectual property as your own. It covers not only the appropriation of another's direct quotations, but also paraphrasing or appropriation of ideas, without proper documentation. All students are responsible for understanding the University of Waterloo's Policy #71 (refer to the Undergraduate Calendar 1:9) as regards to plagiarism. If any doubt arises, contact me.

*All proceeds from the sale of The Little, Brown Compact Handbook go to the Department of English Scholarship Fund.