ENGLISH 460B

BRITISH LITERATURE, 1918 - 1945

RCH 206
Tues. & Thurs. 1:00-2:30

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of English 460B is to introduce students to British literature which
was written between the end of World War I (1918) and the end of World War II (1945).
Thus, the two world wars are focal points of the course. Of particular interest will be the
social, cultural, and historical backgrounds, as well as influential movements in literature
(e.g., imagism and modernism) and art (e.g., cubism and surrealism).

The years immediately following World War I saw a real flourishing of British
literature, and the year 1922 saw the publication of two of the most significant works of
this century: James Joyce's *Ulysses* and T. S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*. (In 1999, a poll of
editors and scholars placed *Ulysses* at the top of all novels written in the 20th century,
with Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, also on the course, coming third.)

The course is organized in two parts. In the first half, we will examine works by
Joyce and Eliot. In the second, we will examine works by other important writers, such
as Virginia Woolf, D. H. Lawrence, Christopher Isherwood, and W. H. Auden; we will
deal with them in roughly chronological order.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To give you practice and training in reading and interpreting works from a particular
   period of British literature, with emphasis on their social, cultural and historical
   background.
2. To give you practice in scholarly research and in the critical analysis of individual
   works of literature, as well as in the comparative analysis of several works.
3. To give you practice applying critical theory to texts.
4. To give you practice presenting your ideas orally.
5. To help you to write more effectively.
6. To give you some enjoyment reading, and to get you started reading *Ulysses* (I hope!).
TEXT BOOKS:

The following text books are required:

*English 460B: Reading Package* (available from the bookstore)
Christopher Isherwood, *The Berlin Stories* (New Directions).
James Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (Bedford/St. Martin's).

The following text is recommended:

Canadian Edition (Addison-Wesley). *Please note that all royalties derived from
the sale of this book will be donated to the Department of English scholarship
fund.*

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF READINGS:

(Note: Toward the beginning of the term we will also be looking at the critical readings
by Freud, Lacan, and Barthes in your Reading Package.)

2. *Joyce*: *Ulysses* ("Telemachus"; "Calypso"; "Circe"; *Time permitting: "Penelope")
   (1922).

5. *Mansfield*: "Je Ne Parle Pas Francais" (1918) (Reading Package).
9. *Woolf*: "A Sketch of the Past" ("Moments of Being and Non-Being") (1939-40)
   (Reading Package)
11. *Auden*: "In Memory of W. B. Yeats" (1939) (Reading Package).
    "September 1, 1939" (1939) (Reading Package).
12. *Orwell*: "Inside the Whale" (1940) (Reading Package).
    "Benefit of Clergy" (1944) (Reading Package).
GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS:

One short essay, based on *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, will account for 15% of the final grade.

One essay proposal, including a short annotated bibliography, will account for 10% of the final grade. This proposal will be the basis of your longer essay.

One longer essay of approximately 10 double-spaced, typewritten pages (2500 words) will account for 35% of the final grade.

One three-hour final exam will account for 35% of the final grade.

Class participation and general professionalism will account for the remaining 5% of the final grade.

(Note also: One number grade (1%) may be subtracted for each day that a paper is late, unless an extension has been granted in advance.)

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*The Faculty of Arts requires that we notify you of the following:*

"Note on avoidance of academic offenses: All students registered in courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy # 71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy # 71 (Student Academic Discipline) which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (p. 1: 1). If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean."