ENG 5395:001 — Spring 2013

Capstone

Instructor: Dr. Molly Engelhardt
TR 5:30 – 6:45; BH 111
Molly.engelhardt@tamucc.edu
361-825-3793
Office Hrs: TR 2 – 3; W 1 – 3

What we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from.
— T.S. Eliot

This course is designed to prepare you for entering the professional world as a Master of English. The first part of the semester will be spent looking back to assess your intellectual strengths and identify gaps in your knowledge base that you will begin to fill independently with outside reading. You will choose the “best of” work from your tenure as a graduate student to revise for your capstone portfolio. After assessing the past, we will move to the present to study the status of the discipline in the academy and in society today and to identify a place of entry that suits your own strengths and career interests. And lastly, we will look to the future to make ready for crossing the threshold into the professional world. You will “step out and move on” with a defined career path and a piece of scholarship in hand, ready to share with other professionals in your field. In our journey through and between these temporal zones we will read a few literary texts to feed our imaginations and remind us of the opportunities available at the start of the end.

Required books:

Coetzee, J.M. Disgrace. Penguin

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students will:

• have identified what it means to be an active, successful professional in the discipline of English Studies (or in another chosen field);
• developed personal goals and objectives;
• created a plan for implementing these;
• generated a manuscript for publication and/or conference presentation
Overview of Student Responsibility

• **Class Participation**
  o Perfect attendance. Read weekly assignments on time, completely, and come to class with serious responses and willingness to discuss the topics/readings assigned.
  o 10-15 minute book review presentation
  o A 15-20 minute “conference” presentation
  o Collaborative drafting workshops

• **Writing Assignments**
  o A finished, polished paper to be sent out for publication or submitted to a conference (along with revision plans, drafts, and submission plans)
  o The graduate capstone portfolio (and its components)
  o Critiques of seminar members’ drafts (one-page, single space. There will be five of these).
  o A book review (4-5 pages)
  o A career plan

**Grading Policy:**

- Workshop/collaboration/critiques: 20%
- Capstone Portfolio: 10%
- Book Review, reading responses: 20%
- Manuscript for submission: 40%
- Career Plan: 10%

A = 90-100 points; B = 80-89 points; C = 70-79 points; D = 60-69 points; F = below 60 points

**Late Papers:** I will not accept late writing assignments unless you have made previous arrangements (“previous” means at least 48 hours before the due date).

**Plagiarism:** Any form of plagiarism will result in a “F” for the course and a recommendation for expulsion from the program.

**Notice to Students with Disabilities:** Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.) please contact the Services for Student with Disabilities Office, located in CCH 116, 119, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.
Grade Appeal Process: As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Schedule

WEEK ONE


WEEK TWO


Thurs. Jan 31: Discuss portfolio; Sign up for book review

WEEK THREE

Tues., Feb 5: Draft of reflective essay due; workshop

Thurs., Feb 7: Final draft of reflective essay due. Capstone portfolio workshop

WEEK FOUR

Tues., Feb 12: Edwin Drood

Thurs., Feb 14: Edwin Drood Reading response due
WEEK FIVE

Tues., Feb 19: Manuscript revision workshop (bring 4 copies revised manuscript to class)

Thurs., Feb 21: Critiques of peers’ drafts due
Workshop

WEEK SIX

Tues., Feb 26: Book review presentations
Capstone portfolio due

Thurs., Feb 28: Book Review presentations

WEEK SEVEN

Tues., Mar. 5: Book review presentation

Thurs., Mar. 7: Revision plan due
workshop

SPRING BREAK MARCH 11 – MARCH 15

WEEK EIGHT

Tues., Mar. 19: Disgrace

Thurs. Mar. 21: Disgrace
Reading response due
Authors Day: Linda Hogan, 7pm

WEEK NINE

Tues., Mar. 26: Individual Conferences

Thurs. Mar. 28: Individual Conferences

WEEK TEN

Tues. Apr. 2: Revised manuscript due
Workshop

Thurs., Apr 4: Status of English studies in Academy, Society
Selected readings from MLA, The American Scholar
WEEK ELEVEN

Tues. Apr. 9: Achieving our Country
Thurs., Apr. 11: Achieving our Country
 Reading response

WEEK TWELVE

Tues., Apr. 16: Career options, sharing of resources
Thurs., Apr. 18: Career options, sharing of resources
 Career Plan due

WEEK THIRTEEN

Tues., Apr 23: Graduate conference: Title TBD
Thurs. Apr. 25: Graduate conference

WEEK FOURTEEN

Tues., Apr. 30: Graduate conference
Thurs., May 2: Graduate conference

WEEK FIFTEEN

Tues., May 7: Celebration!

WEEK SIXTEEN

Tues. May 14: Final project portfolio due