

ENGL 443: A SPECIAL AUTHOR GERARD MANLEY HOPKINS – 2007

COURSE ORGANISATION

Course supervisor

Peter Whiteford (VZ801, Ext. 6820)

Class times and places

Classes meet in VZ 808, Mondays 12.00 – 2.50.

Any further information about the course will be distributed in class. Note that this course does not make use of Blackboard.

AIM, OBJECTIVES AND CONTENT

By the end of the course you can expect (i) to have read all of Hopkins's major poetry, together with a selection of his early work, his letters, and his prose writings; (ii) to have become familiar with appropriate secondary material; (iii) to be able to comment closely and in detail on individual poems; (iv) to be able to discuss some aspect of Hopkins's life or work in an extended essay; and (v) to be able to evaluate and report on selected secondary materials.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum requirements which must be satisfied in order to complete the course are:

1. completion of all the in-term written work detailed below;
2. leading a seminar; and
3. as in all English courses, attendance at a minimum of 70% of classes. Attendance and participation are crucial for the Honours programme, and you should expect to attend all seminars. The 30% leeway allows for illness or other emergencies.

The Honours programme is traditionally an intense year of study (although it may of course be spread over more than one year), and the workload reflects that. You should normally expect to spend about 22 hours per week (inclusive of class time) working on this paper.

TEXTS

There is only one set text for the course: *Gerard Manley Hopkins: the Major Works*. Ed. Catherine Phillips. Oxford World's Classics. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002. (Later versions are acceptable.)

ASSESSMENT

60% In-term work.

This consists of three brief commentaries (300 words each, total 15%, due 7 August) and a major essay on a research topic of your choosing (3500-4000 words, total 45%, due 12 October). The former relates to course objectives (i) and (iii); the latter relates to all course objectives.

40% Final Examination.

The examination will be of three hours duration, and will be an "open book" examination, i.e., you will be permitted to take your set text into the examination. Further details about the examination will be agreed during the course. The examination will assess against course objectives (iii) and (iv).

Work submitted up to two weeks late without an extension having been granted in advance will be penalised by loss of a grade; thereafter, the penalty will be a reduction of one grade for each week. Your in-term work should, in total, amount to the equivalent of 4500-5000 words. Two copies of all written work should be submitted. One will be retained.

STRUCTURE

In the first part of the course, weeks 1 to 6, we will work through Hopkins's poetry together, aiming to cover all of the major work by the mid-term break. For all but the first week in this part of the course, you are required to provide, at each seminar, a short written comment on one of the poems being discussed. This should be of no more than 300 words. At the end of week 6, you choose to submit three of them for assessment.

In the second part of the course, the focus will be on your own areas for research. We will spend three weeks (weeks 7 to 9) working on selected secondary materials, developing and refining your chosen topics, discussing strategies, and sharing resources. In the final three weeks, you will be required to lead a seminar as part of the preparation for your major essay. The essay will be due at the end of the trimester, although extensions beyond study week may be permitted.

Note that your seminar will not be formally graded, but will constitute an important of your essay preparation; you will also be expected to submit a proposal or brief draft of your research topic for discussion.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times. The University defines plagiarism as: *the presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.* It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words. *Note: it is, however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.* Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include: an oral or written warning; cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course; suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:
www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the VUW homepage at:

http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically at:

http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/downloads/course_outlines_general_information.pdf

Academic Grievances

Student and Staff Conduct

Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments

Student Support

CLASS SCHEDULE 2007

<i>Weeks</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Content</i>
1	July 9	Introduction; brief biography; course arrangements; early poetry (titles supplied in advance by email).
2	July 16	The Wreck of the Deutschland; God's Grandeur; As Kingfishers catch fire; Spring; The Sea and the Skylark; The Windhover; Pied Beauty; The Caged Skylark; Hurrahing in Harvest
3	July 23	Duns Scotus's Oxford; Binsey Poplars; Spring and Fall; Inversnaid; Ribblesdale; The Leaden Echo and the Golden Echo
4	July 30	The Blessed Virgin Compared to the Air We Breathe; Henry Purcell; Felix Randal; Harry Ploughman; Tom's Garland
5	August 6	To Seem the Stranger; I Wake and Feel; No Worst; To What Serves Mortal Beauty; Carrion Comfort; My Own Heart; Spelt from Sibyl's Leaves
6	August 13	Ashboughs; Epithalamion; That Nature is a Heraclitean Fire; Justus es; The Shepherd's Brow; To R. B.
		Mid-trimester break
7	Sept 3	Weeks 7, 8 and 9: secondary readings; Hopkins's letters and spiritual writing; preparation / research for seminar and essay.
8	Sept 10	Weeks 7, 8 and 9: secondary readings; Hopkins's letters and spiritual writing; preparation / research for seminar and essay.
9	Sept 17	Weeks 7, 8 and 9: secondary readings; Hopkins's letters and spiritual writing; preparation / research for seminar and essay.
10	Sept 24	Seminars
11	Oct 1	Seminars
12	Oct 8	Seminars
		Note – there will be two seminars each week in the final three weeks.

Note: the distribution of materials here may be adjusted to reflect interests that develop as the course proceeds.