



School of English, Film, Theatre, and Media Studies

English Programme

ENGL331: New Zealand Literature

TRIMESTER 2, 2009
13 July to 15 November 2009

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October

Study week: 19 to 23 October

Examination/Assessment period: 27 October to 15 November. Students should be able to attend the examination at any time during the formal examination period.

Names and contact details

Convener: Mark Williams
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463 6810 (internal: 6810)
office VZ 911

Lecturers: Mark Williams (MW)
Alice Te Punga Somerville (ATPS)
Alice.TePungaSomerville@vuw.ac.nz VZ910
Lydia Wevers (LW)
John Newton (JN) guest lecturer

Tutors: Tutors' information will be posted on the Blackboard site.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Monday, 2.10pm – 3.00pm, Murphy LT220
Friday, 2.10pm – 3.00pm, Murphy LT220

Course delivery

The course will be delivered by way of lectures, in which varying levels of student participation will be invited, and by tutorial discussion, to which students will be strongly expected to contribute. Tutorials begin on 3rd week of trimester. Note there are no tutorials in either week 1 or week 2 and there will be no lecture on the 17th July. Tutorial lists will be posted on the English notice board and on Blackboard. There are ten tutorials in all. Attendance at seven or more is required. The tutorials are a very important part of your development in the subject, and you should prepare fully for them by reading and being ready to contribute to the discussion.

Course content

This course looks at New Zealand literature by way of four distinct modules, each of which is centred on a particular, figure, text or historical moment. Starting with Katherine Mansfield as a 'colonial' writer, we consider the place of New Zealand within the developing styles of her fiction. We then consider James K. Baxter as a public poet, possessed of a powerful vision of New Zealand's ills and of the road to redemption. Next we look at an important contemporary novelist, Paula Morris, whose *Hibiscus Coast* explores the complexities of culture and the problems of national identity in the 2000s. Finally, we look at the poetry of Bill Manhire and the controversies surrounding his creative writing programme at Victoria University.

Additional Information

This course uses Blackboard for all important information and announcements, as well as posting lecture notes, and encourages you to check it regularly. Information about the course will be posted from time to time on the English Section's notice-board on the third floor of the Hugh Mackenzie building, outside Hugh Mackenzie LT206, as well as announced in lectures and posted on Blackboard. If you have a question or problem, consult your tutor or the course convener. Draft and final examination timetables will be posted on the HM notice-board and on Blackboard.

Learning Objectives

The course is designed to expose you to a range of concepts relevant to more advanced students of New Zealand literature; it will equip you with an understanding of the cultural and historical contexts of the material you are studying; and it will foster your ability to respond critically to a range of literary texts and present your findings in formal assessment tasks.

By the end of the course you should:

- be familiar with all of the texts studied in the course;
- have developed some sense of the comparative historical and cultural contexts of the range of texts studied;
- be able to read texts critically and discuss your findings in a formal academic essay;
- be responsive to the detail of selected passages of literature and demonstrate your responsiveness in a variety of assessment tasks;

Expected workload

Student should expect to spend 3 hours per week attending classes, 6 hours reading the texts and critical material, and 6 hours doing assignments.

Reading

Required texts (in order of teaching):

- Katherine Mansfield, *Selected Stories: Katherine Mansfield*, ed., Angela Smith (Oxford UP)
- *Selected Poems of James K. Baxter*, ed., Paul Millar (Oxford UP).
- Paula Morris, *Hibiscus Coast* (Penguin)
- Bill Manhire, *Collected Poems 1967-1999* (Victoria UP)

Strongly recommended:

- John Newton, *The Double Rainbow* (Victoria UP, 2009)
- *Floating Worlds: Essays on Contemporary New Zealand Fiction*. Eds. Anna Jackson and Jane Stafford (Victoria University Press, 2009)
- Mark Williams, ed. *Writing at the Edge of the Universe* (Canterbury UP, 2006)

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of VicBooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from VicBooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

week starting	Monday lecture	Friday lecture	tutorial topic
13 July	Introduction (MW)	No lecture	no tutorial
20 July	Mansfield (LW)	Mansfield (LW)	no tutorial
27 July	Mansfield (LW)	Mansfield (MW)	Mansfield
3 Aug	Mansfield (MW)	Mansfield (MW)	Mansfield
10 Aug	Mansfield (MW)	Baxter (MW)	Baxter
17 Aug	Baxter (MW)	Baxter (JN) Essay 1 due	Baxter
	<i>mid-trimester break</i>	<i>mid-trimester break</i>	<i>mid-trimester break</i>
7 Sept	Baxter (MW)	Baxter (MW)	Baxter
14 Sept	<i>Hibiscus Coast</i> (ATPS)	<i>Hibiscus Coast</i> (ATPS)	<i>Hibiscus Coast</i>
21 Sept	<i>Hibiscus Coast</i> (ATPS)	<i>Hibiscus Coast</i> (ATPS)	<i>Hibiscus Coast</i>
28 Sept	Manhire (MW))	Manhire (MW)	Manhire
5 Oct	Manhire (MW)	Manhire (MW) Essay 2 due	Manhire
12 Oct	Manhire (MW)	wrap up	Exam preparation

Assessment

In order to pass this course, you need to hand in all pieces of written work. Additionally, according to the rules of the School, you also need to attend at least 8 of the *tutorials* in order to pass this course.

For a course at 300-level, it is recommended that you spend *on average* 15 hours per week including class contact hours. Therefore, you should spend about 12 hours of your own time on reading, research and preparation.

All written work must be in an acceptable academic format. A referencing guide produced for students in the English programme is attached to the end of this document.

Each of these assessments has been designed to focus on a different aspect of the overall objectives of the course.

Assessment	% of final mark	Due date
Essay #1 (Mansfield)	25	21 August (4pm)
Essay #2 (Baxter)	25	9 October (4pm)
Final exam	50	tba

25% Essay #1 (Mansfield)

Due by 4pm Friday 21 August: place in essay box, 8th floor Von Zedlitz. You may send the essay as an email attachment by arrangement with your tutor. Be careful to retain a copy.

Length: 2000 words.

25% Essay #2 (Baxter)

Due by 4pm Friday 9 October: place in essay box, 8th floor Von Zedlitz.

Length: 2000 words.

50% Final examination

The three-hour exam is made up of three sections: Section A is focused on *Hibiscus Coast*; Section B is focused on Bill Manhire; Section C allows students to address a general topic and may draw on any of the authors studied in this course. Students must answer **one** question from each section. Sections A and B are each worth 30 marks each; Section C is worth 40 marks.

Penalties

The deadlines for term work must be strictly observed. If you need an *extension* beyond the due date of any piece of work, you need to apply to your tutor before the due date, providing supporting documentation if possible. If an extension is granted, work will be marked in the usual way. If an extension is not applied for, or not granted, the final mark will be reduced by one 'step' of the grade (eg from A to A- or B- to C+).

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

General University Policies and Statutes

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* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/Publications.aspx>

Select Bibliography

Baxter:

- Broughton, William. "A Discursive Essay about Jerusalem." *WLWE*, 14 (1975): 69-90.
- Jensen, Kai. *Whole Men*. Auckland: Auckland University Press, 1996.
- Journal of New Zealand Literature*, 13 (1995). [This is a special issue of articles on Baxter]
- Manhire, Bill. "Events and Editorials." *Islands*, 31-32 (1981): 102-20.
- McKay, Frank. *The Life of James K. Baxter*. Auckland: Oxford University Press, 1990.
- Riach, Alan. "James K. Baxter and the Dialect of the Tribe." In *Opening the Book: New Essays on New Zealand Literature*. Eds Mark Williams and Michele Leggott. Auckland: Auckland University Press, 1995.
- Simpson, Peter. "The Trick of Standing Upright: Allen Curnow and James K. Baxter." *WLWE*, 26 no 2 (1986): 369-78.

Mansfield:

- Fullbrook, Kate. *Katherine Mansfield*. Brighton: Harvester, 1989.
- Kaplan, Sydney Janet. *Katherine Mansfield and the Origins of Modernist Fiction*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1991.
- Mansfield, Katherine. *The Urewera Notebook*, edited by Ian A. Gordon. Auckland: Oxford University Press, 1978.)
- Nathan, Rhoda B. ed. *Critical Essays on Katherine Mansfield*. New York: G.K. Hall, 1993.
- Robinson, Roger, ed. *Katherine Mansfield: In from the Margin*. Baton Rouge and London: Louisiana University University Press, 1994.
- Sargeson, Frank. "Katherine Mansfield." In *Conversation on a Train and Other Critical Writings*, edited by Kevin Cunningham. Auckland: Auckland University Press/Oxford University Press, 1983): 28-33.
- Scott, Margaret. *The Katherine Mansfield Notebooks*, 2 vols. Wellington: Lincoln UP/Daphne Brassell, 1997.
- Smith, Angela. *Katherine Mansfield: A Literary Life*. Basingstoke: Macmillan, 2000.
- Stafford, Jane and Mark Williams. *Maoriland: New Zealand Literature 1872-1914*. Wellington: Victoria University Press, 2006.
- Tomalin, Clare. *Katherine Mansfield: A Secret Life*. London: Penguin, 1987.
- Wevers, Lydia. "How Kathleen Beauchamp Was Kidnapped," *Women's Studies Journal* 4 no. 2 (December 1988): 5-17.
- Wevers, Lydia. "'The Sod Under My Feet': Katherine Mansfield." In *Opening the Book: New Essays on New Zealand Writing*, edited by Mark Williams and Michele Leggott. Auckland: Auckland University Press, 1995): 31-48.

Bill Manhire:

- Evans, Patrick. "Spectacular Babies: The Globalisation of New Zealand Fiction", *Kite* 22, May 2002.
- Manhire, Bill. Introduction, *Mutes and Earthquakes*.
www.nzepc.auckland.ac.nz/authors/manhire
- Manhire, Bill. 'Dirty Silence: Impure Sounds in New Zealand Poetry'. In Graham McGregor and Mark Williams, eds. *Dirty Silence: Aspects of Language and Literature in New Zealand*. Auckland: Oxford University Press, 1991.
www.nzepc.auckland.ac.nz/authors/manhire
- Pirie, Mark. Introduction to *The NeXt Wave*. Dunedin: University of Otago Press, 1998.
- Wevers, Lydia and Mark Williams. "Going Mad Without Noticing", *Landfall* 204 (Spring 2002).