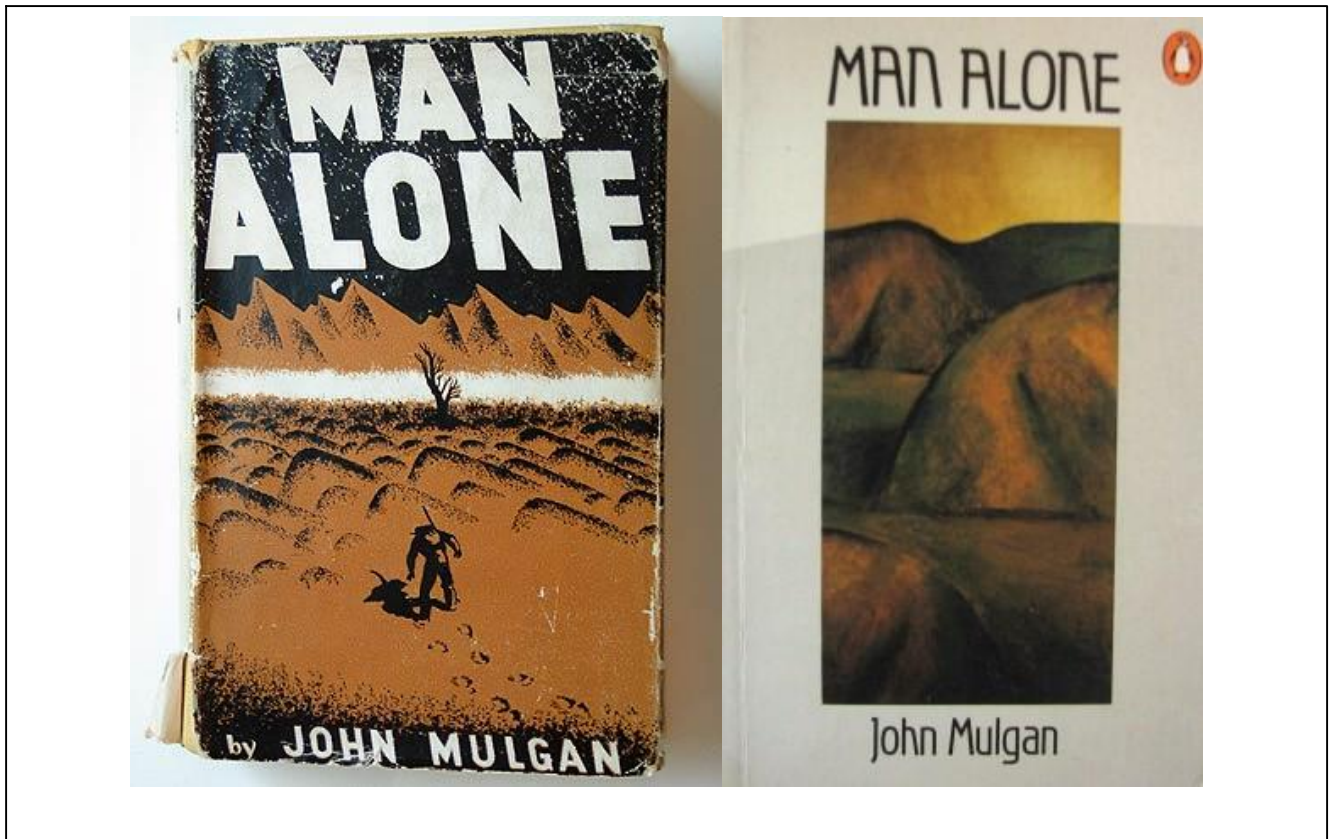


ENGL 443: A Special Author: JOHN MULGAN

Trimester 2 2009

30 Points



TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2009
Study week: 19 to 23 October 2009
Examination/Assessment period: 27 October to 15 November 2009

Note: Students who enrol in courses with examinations are expected to be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Peter Whiteford peter.whiteford@vuw.ac.nz von Zedlitz 801 tel. 6820
Office hours Tuesday 9.30-10.30 or by appointment

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Seminar time: Friday 13.10-16.00
Seminar venue: von Zedlitz 808

COURSE DELIVERY

There are no lectures or tutorials for this course; it is taught wholly by seminar. Note that the contribution *you* make to each seminar is crucial to the shape of the course as a whole. You are expected to have read closely all set material before each session, and in addition to have read widely beyond the prescribed work.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information or information on changes will usually be conveyed directly in class, or by email to class members. Material relating to the course will also be available through Blackboard.

COURSE CONTENT

The primary focus for the course will be the life and work of John Mulgan, and his literary reputation. By any objective measure, Mulgan's literary output is slight, but he has been a significant name in the establishment of the corpus of New Zealand literature and has figured prominently in debates about canonicity and nationalism in literature. The single short novel he wrote has been almost continuously in print since he published it in 1939, and the title, *Man Alone*, has itself become a recurrent motif not only in New Zealand literature but more broadly in New Zealand culture. We will consider *Man Alone* and Mulgan's war memoir, *Report on Experience*, together with a choice of additional materials from: some unpublished materials (an earlier memoir and letters); Mulgan's journalism from Oxford; the novel *Spur of Morning*, written by Mulgan's father. In addition, we will explore the Man Alone motif in New Zealand writing. The detail of what other materials, including unpublished materials, will be studied will be agreed within the course, and there will be scope for individual research, which may include use of archival materials in the Alexander Turnbull Library, subject to confirmation of access.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students passing the course should be able to:

- (a) demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the literary qualities of *Man Alone*;
- (b) conduct a short research exercise on some aspect of Mulgan's work;
- (c) present a seminar on a chosen aspect of Mulgan's life or work;
- (d) present findings from original research in a scholarly essay;
- (e) demonstrate an understanding of Mulgan's place in New Zealand literature.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The University guideline in respect of workload equates to approximately 10 hours per point for the whole of the course. For an Honours course, at 30 points, that means you should expect to spend about 300 hours over the duration of the course (including study breaks and examining period). We have 12 seminars of 3 hours; the remainder of the workload is your own reading, preparation, and research, together with work on assignments. I suggest you should anticipate spending about 18 hours per week.

READINGS

ESSENTIAL TEXTS:

Mulgan, Alan. *Spur of Morning*. Reproduced for ENGL 443. Available through Student Notes.

Mulgan, John. *Man Alone*. NB: Publication details are not specified here, since you are welcome to use any edition that you can obtain. The novel is currently only available on a 'print-on-demand' basis, but should be held in VicBooks.

Mulgan, John. *Report on Experience*. Reproduced for ENGL 443. Available through Student Notes.
ENGL 443 Supplementary Readings on *Man Alone*. Available through Student Notes.

For the first two weeks of trimester, postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of VicBooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. You 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 you or picked up from the shop. You 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.

RECOMMENDED READING:

Note: of the books noted below, you are **expected** to read O’Sullivan’s biography. Additional secondary material will be recommended during the course.

Day, Paul W. *John Mulgan*. New York: Twayne Publishers, [c.1968].

McNeish, James. *Dance of the Peacocks*. Auckland: Vintage, 2003.

O’Sullivan, Vincent. *Long Journey to the Border: A Life of John Mulgan*. Auckland: Penguin Books, 2003.

Copies of these texts, of *Spur of Morning* and *Report on Experience*, are available on 3-day issue.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The course is assessed through a combination of internal and external assessment. The final exam (about which details will be supplied later in the course) will be worth 40% of the total mark. The internal component (60%), will include the following items:

- (a) one short critical analysis, of about 500 words, on a passage from *Man Alone*;
Due date: Friday week 3. Value 10%
This assesses learning objective (a).
- (b) a short research exercise on *Report on Experience*;
Due date: Friday week 6. Value 10%
This assesses learning objective (b).
- (c) seminar presentation (details will be supplied later).
Due dates: Weeks 7-10. Value 10%.
This assesses learning objective (c).
- (d) an essay of about 4000 words, embodying in a proper scholarly report the material introduced in the seminar;
Due date: Friday week 12. Value 30%.
This assesses learning objective (d).

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your tutor’s name.

PENALTIES AND EXTENSIONS

If work is handed in late, then one grade is subtracted and no comments are offered.

Extensions

If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant

documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Extension requests must be submitted to the Course Co-ordinator.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To gain a pass in this course you must:

- Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work);
- Take responsibility for leading one seminar;
- Attend at least 70% of the seminars.

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Two copies of all work should be submitted, one of which will be retained for external moderation.

Work submitted in the final examination will obviously be handwritten. You are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

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

You should familiarise yourself 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 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>

COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1	July 17	Introduction and <i>Man Alone</i>
Week 2	July 24	Reception of the novel; changing fortunes; the Man Alone idea
Week 3	July 31	Mulgan's life; <i>Long Journey to the Border</i> First assignment due by 5.00.
Week 4	Aug 7	<i>Report on Experience</i> ; textual problems / censorship
Week 5	Aug 14	Mulgan and <i>Spur of Morning</i> ; the Man Alone idea revisited
Week 6	Aug 21	(to be confirmed) visit to Turnbull library Second assignment due by 5.00

Mid Trimester Break: Monday 24 August– Friday 4 September 2009

Week 7	Sept 11	Student-led seminars: own research topics
Week 8	Sept 18	Student-led seminars: own research topics
Week 9	Sept 25	Student-led seminars: own research topics
Week 10	Oct 2	Student-led seminars: own research topics
Week 11	Oct 9	topics for final weeks will be agreed in class
Week 12	Oct 16	topics for final weeks will be agreed in class Final assignment due by 5.00

Study Period: Monday 19 to Friday 23 October 2009

Examination Period: Tuesday 27 October – Sunday 15 November 2009