

This syllabus has been provided as a reference tool for students considering this course. It has been modified to follow Senate regulations. Current students enrolled in any undergraduate course must obtain the most recent syllabus from their course instructor or from their course website. This is not the latest version.

Faculty of Health Sciences
School of Kinesiology

Sport in Literature
Kinesiology 3378F (001)/English 2680F (001)
Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. Don Morrow

Date/Time: Tuesday 9:30am-11:20am
Thursday 10:30am-11:30am

Location: Chemistry Building 9

Prerequisites

At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020E or 1022E or 1024E or 1035E or 1036E or both English 1027F/G and 1028F/G, or permission of the Department.

Antirequisite(s): Kinesiology 3378F/G, the former Kinesiology 178E.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

Sport Literature is the study of the relationship between sport and life as reflected through fiction, non-fiction, essays, and poetry with a focus on sport. The principal aim of the course is the exploration of themes as they are developed in and through sport literature. Another important objective in this course is to develop critical thinking and feeling skills as they emerge in response to the genre of sport literature and in considering the relationship between sport and culture from a variety of perspectives.

Course Format and Expectations:

This course is very much taught in the style of a participatory English course. There are 7 novels to read along with essays and poetry (the latter two are available on our web site); these materials **MUST** be completed each week as the course progresses. Although all points of view will be encouraged and respected, each individual needs to be prepared to support and express a point of View based upon a careful and close reading of the written works. The format of each class will involve discussion rather than lecture and everyone will be expected to participate in any and all discussions - silence may be golden, but not in this course. Participation in class discussion is mandatory. Literature of any kind is about the human condition expressed in written form. Thus, unlike the sciences or fact-based courses, there are no incorrect points of View; what is important is that you are able to support your point of View.

*****While the use of computers/notebooks for the purpose of note-taking during class is permitted, the use of the internet, email, twitter, msn, face-book etc. is strictly prohibited. *****
Audio and/or videotaping of lectures is not permitted unless approval has been sought from the instructor in advance.

Objectives:

Successful students who complete the course will be better able to:

- Describe course concepts and applications to sport and literature (Knowledge);
- Deconstruct poems, essays, and novels through literary analysis (Comprehension);
- Demonstrate an ability to critically assess a poem or essay (Application);
- Analyze a full text or novel through thematic analysis (Analysis);
- Compare and contrast sport literature writings in alignment with broader categories such as aesthetics, love, exhilaration, participation (Analysis).

Course Materials

1. **Sport Poetry:** Each course theme includes poems - and in some cases, essays – for analysis; they are provided on the course website under each theme (the course has 11 themes; see **Course Themes** below). As we go through each theme, I need you to download and print the poems and/or essays for each theme to bring to class for discussion and note-taking purposes.
2. **The Hunger Games** by Suzanne Collins
3. **The Old Man and the Sea** by Ernest Hemingway
4. **Once a Runner** by John L. Parker
5. **Riding Lessons** by Sara Gruen
6. **The Bone Cage** by Angie Abdou
7. **The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon** by Stephen King
8. **The Last Season** by Roy MacGregor

** All texts, #2-8 above, are available in the UWO bookstore and those book store editions will be the editions I use for page references in class (in case you find other editions). I will also, from time-to-time, assign web site readings as we go through each course theme. See the note to this effect at the bottom of page 2. In class, I will provide an approximate schedule of dates for when each novel will be covered so that you have time to read and prepare in conjunction with other courses and scheduling you might have.

Methods of Evaluation

Mid-term examination	30%
Teaching a Poem	10%
Essay	30%
Final Exam	30%

Course Framework

Class discussion will take place according to the broad categories (listed below) rather than according to literary genre. The categories are meant to give a focus to the discussion rather than as a means of limiting the discussion. The sport poems and/or essays are provided under each theme-heading on our web site. This is the order in which we will pursue each course theme and each novel over the course of the term:

1. **Introduction:** overview and examples
2. **Fantasy** (The Hunger Games)
3. **The Participant** (Once a Runner)
4. **The Spectator**
5. **Aesthetics** (The Old Man and The Sea)
6. **Film and Literature** (film analysis...a film selected by class consensus)

7. **Sport and Life** (The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon)
8. **Exhilaration/Love** (The Bone Cage)
9. **Humour** (Riding Lessons)
10. **Death and Dying** (The Last Season)

Ultimately, no book or poem or essay or movie “about” sport is really about the sport; rather, these forms of writing represent efforts to express the human condition using sport as the dominant form of action or metaphor or story thread.

***I will be posting web site materials as we proceed through each thematic unit and I will be clear in class and in OWL which ones are mandatory reading.

Assignments:

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned due date and will not be accepted late, except under medical or other compassionate circumstances. Electronic submission of assignments will not be accepted (unless otherwise specified) under any circumstances. Submitting a late assignment without appropriate documentation will result in a zero (0) grade. Appropriate documentation for assignments worth less than 10% should be submitted to the Undergraduate office. A missed midterm examination without appropriate documentation will result in a zero (0) grade. The course policy is not to allow make-ups for scheduled midterms, presentations or final exams, nor to assign a grade of Incomplete without acceptable and verifiable medical (or equivalent compassionate) reasons. Acceptable reasons might include hospital stays, serious illness, family emergencies (like serious accidents or illness, death) or similar circumstances.

Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student’s Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

Plagiarism Checking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.