



School of English, Journalism
& European Languages

UNIT OUTLINE

HEA233/333
Ideas of Authorship

Semester 1, 2006

www.utas.edu.au/units/HEA233

Convenor:	Dr Narelle Shaw Room: L216 Phone: 6324 3225 Email: N.Shaw@utas.edu.au
Consultation hours:	Tuesdays 11-12, Wednesdays 12-1
Unit description:	Examines how contemporary Australian authors conceive of art's relations to life and criticism, and how they defend the authority of the poetic against poststructuralist theory on the premise that art takes priority over its reception. Compares authors' responses, on the one hand, to classical ideas of authorship (imitation, inspiration) and, on the other, to the 'linguistic turn' and 'the death of the author'.
Unit aims and objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compare classical and postmodern ideas of authorship• Develop an understanding of such terms as "Structuralism," "Post-structuralism," "Deconstruction," and "Postmodernism"• Discuss representations of the relationship between language and reality, art and life, in the work of selected authors
Learning outcomes:	<p>Knowledge: students will have knowledge in their chosen field of study and initiate the process of life-long learning in pursuit of personal and professional development</p> <p>Communication skills: students will be able to communicate across a range of contexts</p> <p>Problem-solving skills: students will have developed competencies in information literacy</p>
Required texts:	JA Cuddon (ed), <i>The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory</i> Robert Dessaix, <i>Night Letters</i> Gwen Harwood, <i>The Present Tense</i> David Malouf, <i>Child's Play</i>

	Les Murray, <i>Killing the Black Dog</i>
Recommended text:	Barnet and Cain, <i>A Short Guide to Writing about Literature</i>
When taught:	5 contact hrs fortnightly, Vista supported (13 wks)
Assessment:	3,000-word essay (60%), 2-hr exam (40%)

LECTURE/SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Week beginning	Topic
27/2	Ideas of Authorship: Classical and Postmodern
6/3	Ideas of Authorship: Classical and Postmodern
13/3	The Linguistic Turn and Barthes' "The Death of the Author"
20/3	The Linguistic Turn and Barthes' "The Death of the Author"
27/3	<i>Child's Play</i> and "The Death of the Author"
3/4	<i>Child's Play</i> and "The Death of the Author"
10/4	<i>Night Letters</i> : Linguistic Anxieties and "Desire to Be"
	SEMESTER BREAK
24/4	<i>Night Letters</i> : Linguistic Anxieties and "Desire to Be"
1/5	<i>Killing the Black Dog</i> : Murray's Take on Postmodernism
8/5	<i>Killing the Black Dog</i> : Murray's Take on Postmodernism
15/5	Art and <i>The Present Tense</i>
22/5	Art and <i>The Present Tense</i>
29/5	Concluding Review
	Study period: 5 June – 9 June 2006
	Examination period: 10 June – 27 June 2006

ASSIGNMENT

- Length:** 3000 words (including quotations)
- Value:** 60%
- Topic:** What does Dessaix's *Night Letters* tell us about art, language and the relation of art to life?
- Due:** 19 May

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

1. Effectiveness of introduction
2. Relevance and coherence of argument
3. Effectiveness of conclusion
4. Scope of textual referencing
5. Use of critics
6. Attention to expression, spelling, proof-reading, and MLA Style

As preparation for writing your essay, read the following sections from Barnet and Cain's *A Short Guide to Writing about Literature*: "Organizing the Material," "Communicating Judgments," "Review: How to Write an Effective Essay" (65-71), "What is Interpretation," (97-108) and "Style and Format" (275-297).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Submission of Assignments

Students are required to submit a signed cover sheet with every assignment. This includes a declaration that all material submitted is their own work except where there is clear acknowledgement or reference to the work of others and that they have read the University statement on Academic Misconduct (Plagiarism) on the University website at www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism or in the Student Information Handbook. Assignment cover sheets are available from the School office. All written assignments must be submitted in hard-copy (not by email or other electronic means) and placed in the essay box at the School office on or before 5pm on the due date. Students are required to keep copies of all submitted assignments. Assignments will be returned within three weeks of the due date; once assignments have been returned no further late assignments will be accepted.

Late Assignments

Late submissions will be penalized as follows: 5% of the available marks for the first day, and then 2% per working day thereafter. Late work will be accepted without penalty if accompanied by a medical certificate for the relevant period or a letter from a counsellor in the case of a serious non-medical reason.

Difficulties with your Studies

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, have personal or life planning issues, disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you should raise these with your lecturer and/or one of the following Student Services staff as soon as possible:

- Learning Skills Adviser
- Student Counsellor
- Careers Adviser
- Disability Adviser

University Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

"**Plagiarism** is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example, using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source, using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation, copying another student's work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines, and the academic integrity resources on the web at

<http://www.utas.edu.au/ti/supporting/academicintegrity/index.html>.

The intentional copying of someone else's work as one's own is a serious offence punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct, see

<http://www.utas.edu.au/universitycouncil/legislation/>."

The University and any persons authorised by the University may submit your assessable works to a plagiarism checking service, to obtain a report on possible instances of plagiarism. Assessable works may also be included in a reference database. It is a condition of this arrangement that the original author's permission is required before a work within the database can be viewed.

Assignment Presentation

The English discipline uses MLA Style, which is characterized by in-text referencing and a list of works cited. See the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 6th ed. Ed. Joseph Gibaldi (New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2003).

Marking Scale

The following distribution of marks and grades is applied in assessing your work:

- High Distinction (HD)—80-100%
- Distinction (DN)—70-79%
- Credit (CR)—60-69%
- Pass (PP)—50-59%
- Fail (NN)—0-49%

All marks are subject to moderation.

Assessment Criteria

The following criteria apply to assessment of the essay:

- Effectiveness of introduction
- Relevance and coherence of argument
- Effectiveness of conclusion
- Scope of textual referencing
- Use of critics
- Attention to expression, spelling, proof-reading and stylesheet.

IT Support

Learning online—for online learning and Vista support

<http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/>

Information Technology Services—for general IT support (includes link to UTAS download website)

<http://www.utas.edu.au/servicedesk/student/index.html>

Library Services—for information literacy support

<http://www.utas.edu.au/library/>

Help Desk

HelpDesk@utas.edu.au; or phone 62261818 (1818 within the University)