



School of English, Journalism
& European Languages

Unit Outline (revised)

HEA239/339
Heroes and Heroines
Semester 3, 2007
www.utas.edu.au/units/HEA239

Convenor:	Dr Claire Knowles Room: HUM 562 Phone: 6226 1722 Email: Claire.Knowles@utas.edu.au
Consultation Hours:	Mondays 10 am -11 am Tuesdays 10 am -11 am
Unit Description:	This unit examines the changing nature of the hero and heroine in a variety of texts, from the late eighteenth century gothic novel to present day film and television. Students who successfully complete this unit will have an understanding of the different role of the hero and heroine in romantic, Victorian, modern and postmodern contexts. The role of the hero and heroine in the construction of national identity will also be explored.
Unit Aims and Objectives:	This unit aims to enable students to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. critically analyse the representation of heroes and heroines in a variety of texts (novels, short stories, poetry, film and a television show)2. understand the ways in which these representations are shaped by some of the various historical, cultural and social circumstances within which they were produced.3. develop skills in:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• close reading and critical analysis;• written and oral communication; and• research methodology.

<p>Learning Outcomes:</p>	<p>Students taking this unit will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. build knowledge in the areas described in the Unit Aims and Objectives (above); 2. enhance skills in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) written communication, with special emphasis on writing practice in the forms of essays, and b) oral communication, through participation in tutorial activities; and 3. enhance skills in problem solving through assessment tasks and tutorial activities, which develop critical analysis techniques in English.
<p>Required Texts:</p>	<p>Unit Reader Ann Radcliffe, <i>The Italian</i> (Oxford World's Classics) Mark Twain, <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> (Penguin) <i>Buffy the Vampire Slayer</i> (selected episodes) (dir. Joss Whedon) <i>The African Queen</i> (dir. John Huston)</p> <p>NB: Screenings of <i>The African Queen</i> and <i>Buffy the Vampire Slayer</i> will be organised for students. There is no need to purchase these DVDs.</p>
<p>When Taught:</p>	<p>Mon, Tue, Wed & Thu 11 am – 1 pm Film screenings – Thu 1.10 pm – 4 pm, 11 & 18 Jan (wks 2 & 3) HUM 548</p>
<p>Assessment:</p>	<p>1,000 word seminar paper (20%) and either ONE 4,000 word research essay (80%) or TWO 2,000 word essays (40% each).</p>

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Date	Module	Topic
Wed, Jan 3		Introduction
Thu, Jan 4	Romantic Heroes and Heroines	Radcliffe, <i>The Italian</i>
Mon, Jan 8		Seminar presentations <i>The Italian</i>
Tue, Jan 9		Byron, from <i>Childe Harold's Pilgrimage</i>
Wed, Jan 10		Seminar presentations <i>Childe Harold's Pilgrimage</i>
Thu, Jan 11		Landon, <i>Erinna</i>
Mon, Jan 15		Seminar presentations <i>Erinna</i>
Tue, Jan 16	The Victorian Hero	Conan Doyle, <i>Sherlock Holmes</i>
Wed, Jan 17		Seminar presentations <i>Sherlock Holmes</i>
Thu, Jan 18	National Heroes	Twain, <i>Huckleberry Finn</i>
First 2,000 word essay due Friday, 20 Jan		
Mon, Jan 22		Seminar presentations <i>Huckleberry Finn</i>
Tue, Jan 23		<i>Huckleberry Finn</i> / 19 th century Australian poetry and short stories
Wed, Jan 24		Seminar presentations Australian poetry and short stories
Thu, Jan 25	Modern and Postmodern Heroes and Heroines	Seminar presentations <i>The African Queen</i>
Mon, Jan 29		<i>Buffy</i> (selected episodes)
Tue, Jan 30		Seminar presentations <i>Buffy</i>
Wed, Jan 31		Seminar presentations Conclusion
Second 2,000 word essay, or single 4,000 word essay due Monday, 5 Feb		

ASSIGNMENTS

Assessment in this unit takes the form of a seminar presentation and report, and either one long essay (4,000 words) or two short essays (2,000 words each).

Part One: Seminar Presentation and Report

All students must present a 5-10 minute seminar paper on one of the texts covered in the unit: *The Italian*, *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*, *Erinna*, *Sherlock Holmes*, *Huckleberry Finn*, Australian Poetry and short stories, *The African Queen*, and *Buffy*. All seminar papers must include a component of three questions for the class.

You must also submit a 1,000 word report within 24 hours of your presentation. This report will comprise 20% of your overall grade for this unit.

The seminar report will assess learning outcomes 1, 2 and 3.

Part Two: Essays

Your essay(s) must NOT be written on the text on which you have completed your seminar presentation.

You can EITHER write:

TWO essays of 2,000 words each (40% each of your overall grade)

Essay One due Friday, 20 January 2007

Essay Two due Friday, 2 February 2007

OR

ONE essay of 4,000 words (80% of your overall grade)

Essay due Monday, 5 February 2007

NB:

- 1) The 4,000 word essay will require a substantial amount of research and comprises a large percentage of your overall grade. You should only choose this option if you are confident that you will be able to manage your time effectively.
- 2) If you choose the two 2,000 word essays option for assessment, you may not write on the same text in both essays. Please come and see me if you have any questions about this requirement.

The essay(s) will assess learning outcomes 1, 2a and 3.

Attendance requirements

Regular tutorial attendance is required and an attendance roll will be taken. If you fail to satisfy the attendance requirements and/or complete all assessments you may be deemed ineligible to sit the exam or be required to submit additional work.

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 or the School website. **Assignments submitted without a signed cover sheet will not be marked.** Students who submit assignments without a signed cover sheet will be contacted once via their UTAS email address; in such instances the cover sheet must be completed within two weeks of the due date.

All assignments must be submitted in hard-copy (not by email) 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 submitted on time will be returned within three weeks of the due date; once on time assignments have been returned no further late assignments will be accepted. All marked assignments will be returned in tutorials unless otherwise advised.

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
- Disability Adviser
- Careers Adviser
- Student Counsellor

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/tl/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). For a brief introduction, refer to http://www.utas.edu.au/english/english1/mla_citation_syst.doc, MLA Citations System: A Brief Guide.

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 (email HelpDesk@utas.edu.au or 6226 1818, within University 1818