



School of English, Journalism  
& European Languages

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## Unit Outline

### HEA314 Literature of Tasmania

Semester 1, 2009

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

<b>Convenor:</b>	Assoc Professor Philip Mead  Room: Hum 560 Phone: 6226 2352 Email: <a href="mailto:P.Mead@utas.edu.au">P.Mead@utas.edu.au</a>
<b>Consultation Hours:</b>	Wednesday 4-5 pm Thursday 10-12 (during semester)
<b>Unit Description:</b>	Introduces students to a wide range of writing about Tasmania, from 19th-century, early 20th-century, contemporary and Aboriginal perspectives. The unit aims to give students a detailed knowledge of some of the historically and generically diverse body of writing about Tasmania written and published both in Tasmania and in other national and international contexts. Thematic focuses of the unit include Tasmania in the European imagination, 'the hated stain' of convictism, Van Diemen's Land, Tasmanian Gothic, black-white relations, colonial narrative, the literature of the South, the strange narrative density of Tasmania, and the representation of the natural environment.
<b>Unit Aims and Objectives:</b>	Aims and objectives of this unit include extending the ability of students to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. read literary texts closely with skill and critical awareness, across a range of genres, including fiction, poetry, drama, life writing, archival material, and historical materials</li><li>2. situate their reading and understanding of texts in relation to theoretical and critical frameworks</li><li>3. develop knowledge about the literary representation of a specific region of Australia, including its history and themes</li><li>4. discuss responses to texts and relevant issues in the tutorial situation</li><li>5. research a literary-historical topic and/or text.</li></ol>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b>	Successfully completing this unit will mean that students: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. build their <i>knowledge</i> in the areas described in the Unit Aims and Objectives (above)</li><li>2. enhance their skills in <i>written communication</i> with special emphasis on reading practice and writing practice in the form of 2 500-3 000 word research and interpretative essay</li><li>3. enhance their skill in <i>oral communication</i></li></ol>

	<p>4. develop their perspective on cultural regionality in relation to concepts of nation and <i>global perspectives</i></p> <p>5. explore issues of textual politics in the literary representation of history, race, region, nation and gender.</p>
<b>Required Texts:</b>	<p>HEA314 unit reader, <i>Literature of Tasmania</i> all readings, apart from texts marked *, on the lecture schedule, are available in the unit reader and on Reserve in the Morris Miller Library.</p> <p>Richard Flanagan, <i>Wanting</i> Christopher Koch, <i>The Boys in the Island</i> Julia Leigh, <i>The Hunter</i> Louis Nowra, <i>The Golden Age</i></p> <p>See also unit bibliography-in-progress</p>
<b>When Taught:</b>	<p><b>Lecture</b> Wed 10:00am-10:50am, SB.Socsci210</p> <p><b>Seminars</b> Wed 11:00am-12:50pm, SB.Socsci309 Wed 2:10pm-4:00pm, SB.Geo328</p>
<b>Assessment:</b>	<p>1 x class participation task (10%), 1 x 3,000 word written assessment (40%), 1 x 2hr examination (50%)</p>

## LECTURE/SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Lecturer
Week 1 25 February	<b>introductory</b> Van Diemen's Land (early inscriptions) Abel Tasman, from <i>Voyages of Abel Janszoon Tasman</i> [1642] Anthony Trollope, from <i>Australia and New Zealand</i> [1873] Mark Twain, from <i>Following the Equator</i> [1895] Jim Davidson, 'Tasmanian Gothic' Tim Herbert, 'The Van Diemenising of Tasmania'	PM
Week 2 4 March	<b>imagining convictism (i)</b> Marcus Clarke, 'Hobart 1830' Francis MacNamara, 'A Convict's Tour of Hell' _____, 'The Seizure of the Cyprus Brig in Recherche Bay, Aug. 1829' _____, 'On Leaving Van Diemen's Land' John Mitchel, from <i>Jail Journal</i> [1854] Price Warung, 'How Muster-Master Stoneman Earned His Breakfast' Andrew Motion, from <i>Wainwright the Poisoner</i> Bryce Courtenay, from <i>The Potato Factory</i>	PM
Week 3 11 March	<b>imagining convictism (ii)</b> Marcus Clarke, 'Hobart 1830' Francis MacNamara, 'A Convict's Tour of Hell' _____, 'The Seizure of the Cyprus Brig in Recherche Bay, Aug. 1829' _____, 'On Leaving Van Diemen's Land' John Mitchel, from <i>Jail Journal</i> [1854] Price Warung, 'How Muster-Master Stoneman Earned His Breakfast' Andrew Motion, from <i>Wainwright the Poisoner</i> Bryce Courtenay, from <i>The Potato Factory</i>	PM
Week 4 18 March	<b>memory and politics</b> Christopher Koch, <i>The Boys in the Island*</i> _____, 'A Tasmanian Tone' James McQueen, from <i>Hook's Mountain</i> _____, 'Hook's Country: an essay' John Dale, from <i>Wild Life</i>	PM
Week 5 25 March	<b>island poetry</b> Margaret Scott, 'Tasmania's Literary Heritage' Francis MacNamara, 'A Convict's Tour of Hell' Poems (A.D. Hope, Tim Thorne, James Hebblethwaite, Hal Porter, James McAuley, Gwen Harwood, Vivian Smith, Margaret Scott, Les Murray)	PM
Week 6 1 April	<b>Neo-Georgian Tasmania (drama)</b> Louis Nowra, <i>The Golden Age*</i> Hal Porter, <i>The Tower</i>	PM

Week 7 8 April	<p><b>Tasmanian lives</b>  Nicholas Shakespeare, from <i>In Tasmania</i>  Peter Conrad, from <i>Down Home: Revisiting Tasmania</i>  Ida West, from <i>Pride Against Prejudice</i>  Denis Altman, from <i>Defying Gravity: A Political Life</i></p> <p>[screening: <i>The Tale of Ruby Rose</i>]</p>	PM
	<b>Easter Break – 9-15 April</b>	
Week 8 22 April	<b>no formal lecture/seminars: essays due Wednesday 22 April, 4 pm</b>	PM
Week 9 29 April	<p><b>Aboriginal Tasmania</b>  George Augustus Robinson, from <i>Friendly Mission</i>  The Flinders Island Chronicle  Greg Lehman, 'Life's Quiet Companion'  Jim Everett, 'Aboriginality in Tasmania'</p> <p>[screening: <i>The Last Tasmanian</i>]</p>	PM
Week 10 6 May	<p><b>different histories (i)</b>  Richard Flanagan, <i>Wanting*</i></p>	PM
Week 11 13 May	<p><b>different histories (ii)</b>  Richard Flanagan, <i>Wanting*</i></p>	PM
Week 12 20 May	<p><b>the biogothic</b>  Julia Leigh, <i>The Hunter*</i>  James McQueen, 'More than a River'  Amanda Lohrey, from <i>Ground-swell: the Rise of the Greens</i></p>	PM
Week 13 27 May	<p><b>summary/revision – islandness</b>  Gillian Beer, 'Island Bounds'</p>	PM
	<b>Study Period: 1-5 June</b>	
	<b>Examination Period: 6-23 June</b>	

# ASSESSMENT

## **Assessment and Attendance Requirements**

- Eligibility to sit the examination depends upon the completion and submission of all written work.
- You are expected to attend all seminars; if your attendance drops below 8 seminars you may be excluded from the exam.
- The school will notify students of the final date that any work will be accepted.

If your seminar attendance has not met the requirements, you may also be required to do additional work in order to be eligible to sit the end-of-semester examination.

## 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](http://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
- Careers Adviser
- Disability 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](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](mailto:HelpDesk@utas.edu.au) or 6226 1818, within University 1818)