

Advanced Academic English Options Spring Semester

1 John Wilson

Poetry

Students will be interactively involved in reading and discussing a range of poems of different types and from different periods. In class we will work on visualizing poems, on the voice or voices within the poem and on the conflict or tension going on inside the poem. We will also slowly build up a range of specialist vocabulary and look at various critical approaches to poetry. Students will write critical commentaries on the poems for homework. These will be published to a blog and students will be encouraged to comment on each other's work. There will also be a term paper, in which students will have an opportunity to explore a particular topic in more detail.

2 Richard Pinner

Language & Society: An Introduction to Sociolinguistics

This student-centred class is all about language, specifically focusing on the social aspects of language use. We will examine a range of theories related to sociolinguistics and discuss how language is used in society. As part of the course you will be required to write a three page (1,500 word) essay in English about an aspect of language acquisition covered in the course. You will also give short presentations and lead discussions as part of the **output sessions**, which count towards assessment.

3 Dominic Cheetham

***Winnie-thePooh* by A. A. Milne.**

This course includes reading the *Pooh* stories, discussing them, learning the background to their creation, and finding ways to study them academically. Some students will read more work for children by A.A. Milne, and others will read works they consider related (ie animal stories like *The Wind in the Willows*, *Peter Rabbit*, or Milne's adult writing). Students will choose their own approach to *Pooh* to write an end of semester report.

4 Tom Dillon

Archetypes: Patterns and Structure in Literature

From star-crossed lovers to damsels in distress to tricksters and devil figures and more -- Literature is packed with archetypal character and story patterns. This course will examine those patterns and present archetypal structure as one means of

analyzing fiction. Class texts will include L. Frank Baum's *The Wizard of Oz* and assorted other readings from American Literature. Students will present a research paper at term's end on a text of their selection. Other homework will include various writing and reading assignments.

5 Philip Patrick

A Course in British History and Culture

This course aims to give students the opportunity to explore different aspects of British history and culture through analysis of authentic material related to a selection of British historical and cultural topics. The aim of the course is to enable students to gain a better understanding of a selection of Britain, its past and what constitutes 'Britishness' today while at the same time improving their overall English language skills through focussing on discrete grammatical and lexical items arising out of the course material.

Each lesson will have a new topic which will be presented through articles, news reports, and audio and video recordings. Lexis sets connected to the topic and a grammar focus will be introduced and practiced through group and pair work.

Students will be encouraged to analyse the topics critically and make comparisons with their own countries and cultures.

Homework will take the form of written assignments or research where students will be asked to find articles or other material related to the topic which they will bring to the next class and summarise to their group.

6 Quenby Hoffman Aoki

Introduction to Gender Studies

In this class students will explore the concept of gender and the many ways in which it shapes people's beliefs and behavior. A particular focus will be gender roles in Japanese society and abroad, which students can relate to their own experience and consider how these issues may influence their lives after graduation. Readings will include excerpts from fundamental texts by scholars such as Simone de Beauvoir, Betty Friedan, and Audre Lorde. Regular homework assignments will develop language skills and encourage critical thinking about the topic, and active participation in weekly class discussions will be required. The main assessment at the end of the term will be leading a short interactive mini-lesson (NOT a standard one-sided presentation) on a specific gender issue such as gender in the workplace, gender in TV programs, or the lives of women in a particular developing country,

Advanced Academic English Options
Autumn / Fall Semester

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2 Richard Pinner

Language & the Mind: an Introduction to Psycholinguistics

This student-centred class is all about language, specifically focusing on the psychological aspects of language use. We will examine a range of theories related to psycholinguistics and discuss how language exists in the mind. As part of the course you will be required to write a three page (1,500 word) essay in English about an aspect of language acquisition covered in the course. You will also give short presentations and lead discussions as part of the **output sessions**, which count towards assessment.

3 Dominic Cheetham

Truckers by Terry Pratchett.

We will read the story. Some students will then read the other books in the series (*Diggers* and *Wings*) and some will read other stories about small people (*Gulliver's Travels*, *The Borrowers*, *The Carpet People* and so on). We will study the ideas of small people in literature (probably also including fairy tales and folk lore) and students will choose their own approach to *Truckers* to write an end of semester report.

4 Tom Dillon

The 1920's: When Literature Roared

Students in this course will apply New Historical Critical method to examine the influences behind American Literature produced in the 1920's, the so-called Roaring

Twenties, a time of "flappers," jazz and gangsters. Class texts will include shorter works by F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Dorothy Parker and more. Students will present a research paper at term's end on a text of their selection. Other homework will include various writing and reading assignments.

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