ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
Fall 2026-2027

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ELL 467 20th Century Fiction COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description and Objectives

This course looks at a variety of 20th-century works of fiction which reflect aspects of modernism and other aesthetic, stylistic, or philosophical developments that emerged during the first half of the century. The texts, in translation where appropriate, may be selected from various British, European, American, or other traditions, and may include or be supplemented by philosophical or theoretical essays, as well as works from other disciplines such the visual arts.
The objectives of the course are to: discuss the modernist characteristics of fiction with respect to specific texts, analyze early 20th century issues in novels, and to discuss the historical, social and cultural aspects of the time.

Texts:

James Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (1916)
Virginia Woolf, *Mrs Dalloway* (1925)
Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (1899)

Course Requirements and Means of Evaluation:

Please do **NOT** use your mobile phones and do **NOT** record my voice or video during the courses.
Please be warned that plagiarism of even one sentence can result in a lowering of your grade or a direct F on your assignment. Discrepancy between examples of the student's writing, suspected plagiarism or unethical use of AI technology will be evaluated by the professor and the department academic board, and measures will be taken accordingly. Plagiarism is a serious offense and will not be tolerated.
Please read the texts assigned for each week before the class as a preparation for the course.
A minimum attendance of 60% is mandatory. Students who do not meet this requirement will not be permitted to take the final examination. Students are responsible for keeping track of their own attendance.
Final grades will include:
a. 5 % active participation in class discussions
b. 35 % midterm exam
c. 15 % presentation of projects on the novel(s) (group work)*
d. 45 % final exam

* A group consisting of some students will work individually on some topics/themes/characters, then combine their findings/studies, write their reports to upload webonline and present their works on a specific novel.

1. *A Portrait*- **3 students** investigate Stephen's famous desire to escape the forces that define him. Each student investigates one form of constraint: Religion, Nationalism, Family to answer the question "Is Stephen genuinely free at the end of the novel, or does he simply exchange one set of constraints for another?"
2. *Mrs Dalloway*- **5 students** Each student takes one character and traces the consciousness of them (Clarissa, Septimus, Peter, Rezia, Richard) Where does the character go? What does he/she fear/desire? What does he/she remember?
3. *Mrs Dalloway*- **2 students** compare clock time and psychological time and explore the significance of emphasis on subjective time over linear time.

4. *Heart of Darkness*- **3 students** -Each student investigates a different possible meaning of **"darkness" (**Africa, European civilization/colonialism, Marlow's psyche) **Who or what is actually "dark" in the novella?**
5. *Heart of Darkness*- **2 students** find textual clues to support "Conrad is anti-colonial." Or "Conrad is racist."
6. *Heart of Darkness*- **3 students** focus on narrative structure to examine the unnamed frame narrator, Marlow's narrative, and narratee to answer the question: **Can we trust Marlow?**
7. 5 students- Compare and contrast representation of consciousness in *Mrs Dalloway* and *Heart of Darkness (*focus on Marlow, Clarissa, Septimus, and narrative style of each novel)

Weekly Schedule (Please note that the schedule is tentative, the professor may make changes if necessary)

Weeks	Topics
1. 30 Sept.	Introduction to the course Socio-historical background of the 20th century
2. 7 Oct.	Woolf, "Modern Fiction" Introduction to James Joyce
3. 14 Oct.	Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (chapters 1-2)
4. 21 Oct.	Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (chapter 3-4)
5. 28 Oct.	NO Class- **Republic Day's Eve**
6. 4 Nov.	Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (chapter 5) Project presentations
7. 11 Nov.	**Midterm Exam**
8. 18 Nov.	Woolf, *Mrs Dalloway*
9. 25 Nov.	Woolf, *Mrs Dalloway*
10. 2 Dec.	Woolf, *Mrs Dalloway* Project presentations
11. 9 Dec.	Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (chapter 1)
12. 16 Dec.	Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (chapter 2)
13. 23 Dec.	Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (chapter 3)
14. 30 Dec.	Project presentations Overall Revision