

<A> Reading and watching *The Lord of the Rings* (Advanced)

Theme	Literature		
Course title	Reading and watching <i>The Lord of the Rings</i>	Specific skill	LSRW
Name	Stephen Brown		
Course Aims and Outcomes	<p>This class aims to explore the unique and exciting world of J.R.R. Tolkien's <i>The Lord of the Rings</i>, giving students the opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improve and practise their listening, reading, speaking and critical thinking skills; - explore and discuss issues from the book/movie which are relevant to us all as human beings; - communicate their thoughts, ideas and opinions in writing. 		
Course Description	<p>We will use extracts from <i>The Lord of the Rings</i> (particularly Part 2, "The Two Towers") while watching parts of the movie trilogy directed and produced by Peter Jackson. We will discuss important themes and issues which are of interest to students.</p> <p>The first semester will mainly focus on exploring and describing the world of the story; the second semester on in-depth discussion and interpretation.</p>		
Course Schedule	<p>As we read and watch <i>The Lord of the Rings</i>, we will focus particularly on the second and third parts of the story. Part 2, "The Two Towers", will be covered during the first semester; part 3, "The Return of the King", during the second half of the year.</p> <p>At the beginning of the course, students will watch the first part of the story ("The Fellowship of the Ring"), to ensure that they are familiar with the setting and the characters. Then, reading and watching "The Two Towers" in more detail, we will explore various aspects of the story: 1. The different peoples of Tolkien's world (elves, men, hobbits, dwarves, orcs . . .), their language and their culture; 2. The individual characters that appear; 3. The way Tolkien builds his story.</p> <p>The second half of the course will deal with the final part of the story ("The Return of the King") in the same way and explore the many interpretations and connections which the story offers.</p>		
Class Organization	<p>The course will be run as a workshop, <u>not</u> as a lecture course. Students will be expected to participate fully in class discussions and to show initiative in researching and studying areas which are of interest to them. In each semester, as students will give a group presentation of one aspect of "The Lord of the Rings", some class time will be spent preparing for these presentations.</p> <p>At the end of each semester, the group will publish a small book of reports: in semester 1, these will be group reports exploring the peoples of Tolkien's world; in semester 2, individual reports focussing on different issues and themes.</p>		
Grading Plan	<p>Group discussions: 30%</p> <p>Presentation (Semester 1 in groups, semester 2 individual): 40%</p> <p>Final report (Semester 1 in groups, semester 2 individual): 30%</p> <p>Grades will NOT be given to students who are absent for more than 1/3 of the classes.</p>		
Required Texts	<p>Title: The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers</p> <p>Author : J.R.R. Tolkien Publisher: Harper Collins</p>		
Supplies / References			
Course Assignments	<p>First Semester: Group presentation; group report, reflective notebook</p> <p>Second semester: Individual presentation; individual report, reflective notebook</p>		
Other Requirements			
Suggestions for Success	<p>Successful students will be ready to engage in classroom discussions, sharing their ideas and giving their opinions.</p>		