

Colorado State University-Pueblo
Department of English & World Languages
ENG511 – Major Authors
Ursula K. Le Guin
Summer 2020

Instructor name: Dr. Audra Spicer

Instructor contact information: (p) 412-254-6595, (e) audra.spicer@csupueblo.edu

Instructor office hours: M, 8-9 am MT

Course Description:

Intensive study of the works of one or two major authors – 3 credits

English Graduate Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrates professional level of competency in the study of literature.
2. Incorporates theories and strategies of literary and rhetorical criticism at a professional level.
3. Reveals professional-level writing skills appropriate to the genre(s) of the work.
4. Employs research strategies for English studies in a professional manner.
5. Manifests professional understanding of pedagogical theories and strategies appropriate to English.
6. Ability to speak in informed and articulate ways about a range of theory, research, and resources relevant to literature, language, rhetoric, and composition studies.

ENG511 Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Explicate texts by using close, critical reading strategies
2. Evaluate Le Guin's treatment of issues such as environmentalism, gender constructs, ideology, subjectivity, and social control
3. Explain Le Guin's influence on contemporary literary and cinematic genres
4. Synthesize a conceptual framework from literary scholarship to use in interpreting select works by Le Guin.

Required materials:

1. Le Guin, Ursula K. *Buffalo gals and other animal presences*. Any edition.
2. Le Guin, Ursula K. *The wizard of Earthsea*. Any edition.
3. Le Guin, Ursula K. *The left hand of darkness*. Any edition.
4. Le Guin, Ursula K. *The dispossessed*. Any edition.
5. FlipGrid download on your smartphone, tablet, or computer.

Course Requirements:

Discussion Forums (8x40 points) = 320 points

At the graduate level, there is an expectation that you will engage at a higher level of engagement in which you fully explore and draw connections to course readings. You should also see the discussion as a place to try out ideas that you might more fully develop in future projects. Main posts should be at least 250 words and a minimum of 2 peer responses should be at least 75 words. Main posts are due by 11:59 pm MT on Wednesday of each week; peer responses are due by 11:59 pm MT on Sunday.

Module	Assignment	Points	Module Total
Module 1	Discussion	40	40
Module 2	Discussion	40	
	Literary Scholarship Article Explication #1	115	155
Module 3	Discussion	40	40
Module 4	Discussion	40	
	Literary Scholarship Article Explication #2	115	155
Module 5	Discussion	40	40
Module 6	Discussion	40	
	Conceptual Framework for Studying and Teaching Le Guin – Paper	150	190
Module 7	Peer Review Discussion (40 pts) + FlipGrid video (50 pts)	90	90
Module 8	Presentation Discussion (40 pts) + FlipGrid video (50 pts)	90	90
	Le Guin Paper	200	200
		Grand Total:	1,000 points

Attendance/Participation: Students are expected to participate actively throughout the class unless an illness or emergency arises. If there is an illness or emergency, please contact the instructor immediately to make a plan for keeping up with your work. If you miss an excessive

amount of work, the instructor reserves the right not to pass you for the course due to non-participation.

Expected effort for this online course is designed for an average of 25 hours per week in online course activities, preparation and homework, in order to meet graduate level accreditation requirements.

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit in this class.

Grading:

- A 100%-93%
- A- 92.99%-90%
- B+ 89.99%-87%
- B 86.99%-83%
- B- 82.99%-80%
- C+ 79.99%-77%
- C 76.99-70%
- D+ 69.99%-67%
- D 66.99%-63%
- D- 62.99%-60%
- F 59.99%-Below

Accommodations: This University abides by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which stipulates that no student shall be denied the benefits of an education "solely by reason of a handicap." If you have a documented disability that may impact your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see the Disability Resource Coordinator as soon as possible to arrange accommodations. In order to receive accommodations, you must be registered with and provide documentation of your disability to: the Disability Resource and Support Center, which is located in the Library and Academic Resources Center, Suite 169.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty is any form of cheating which results in students giving or receiving unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise or receiving credit for work which is not their own. In cases of academic dishonesty, the instructor will inform the chair of the department prior to implementation of punitive action. Academic dishonesty is grounds for disciplinary action by both the instructor and the Dean of Student Services and Enrollment Management. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty may receive a failing grade for the work in question, a failing grade for the course, or any other lesser penalty which the instructor finds appropriate. To dispute an accusation of academic dishonesty, the student should first consult with the instructor. If the dispute remains unresolved, the student may then state his or her case to the department chair (or the dean if the department chair is the instructor of the course).

Academic dishonesty is a behavioral issue, not an issue of academic performance. As such, it is considered an act of misconduct and is also subject to the University disciplinary process as defined in the CSU-Pueblo Student Code of Conduct Policies and Procedures Manual. Whether

or not punitive action has been implemented by the faculty, a report of the infraction should be submitted to the Dean of Student Services and Enrollment Management who may initiate additional disciplinary action. A student may appeal a grade through the Academic Appeals Board. The Dean of Student Services and Enrollment Management's decision may be appealed through the process outlined in the Student Code of Conduct Policies and Procedures Manual.

Important Dates:

The course dates are: 06/29/2020 – 08/23/2020

Other Policies:

Active participation throughout the class is essential for student success. Please engage with me, with your peers, and with the course material in order to maximize your learning. If you have questions, ask.

No late work is accepted without documentation of an emergency. If you are ill or have an emergency, contact me immediately so as not to fall behind in the course.

Grade Disputes and Grievance Policy: If you have a warranted disagreement and argument against a grade on a specific assignment, you may approach me to discuss it, please follow these standards. First, you must approach within two weeks of receiving your grade. Second, you must have a written list of reasons as to why you believe your grade did not reflect your work. This list should be clear and concise, and should focus on the work, not issues relating to your personal life, etc. I will review your written argument in relation to the assignment and will consider your case accordingly.

Student Conduct: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a polite, professional manner at all times. Remember that tone can be hard to detect in written communication (even when we're all writing instructors) and be attentive to your word choice and thoughtful of your peers' ideas.

Learning Resources:

Writing Center: LARC 251, Open M-F 8am-5pm

<https://www.csupueblo.edu/center-for-academic-enrichment/writing-room/index.html>

General Education Tutoring Center: LARC 251, Open M-F 8am-5pm

<https://www.csupueblo.edu/center-for-academic-enrichment/general-education-center/index.html>

Module 1. Introduction to Ursula K. Le Guin and ENG511

Literature reading:

Le Guin, Ursula K. "Buffalo Gals, Won't You Come Out Tonight" in *Buffalo Gals and Other Animal Presences*.

Literary criticism reading - read this essay by Le Guin:

Le Guin, Ursula K. "The critics, the monsters, and the fantasists." *Wordsworth Circle*, vol. 38, no. 1-2, 2007, p. 83+. *Gale Academic OneFile*, <https://link-gale-com.ezproxy.csupueblo.edu/apps/doc/A166034614/AONE?u=usc&sid=AONE&xid=61be2878>. Accessed 18 Apr. 2020.

Discussion board assignment:

What is Le Guin's premise about literature? About literary criticism? Her claims? Her evidence? How do you see her concepts and argument enacted in "Buffalo Gals?"

Recommended materials:

- 1) Graphic organizer for reading and interpreting scholarship

Due:

- Discussion

Module 2. Coyote's Song – Mythology and Le Guin

Required reading:

Le Guin, Ursula K. "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas (Variations on a Theme by William James)." *Utopian Studies*, vol. 2, no. 1/2, 1991, pp. 1–5. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/20719019. Accessed 18 Apr. 2020.

Le Guin, Ursula K. "Time in the Valley." *The Hudson Review*, vol. 37, no. 4, 1984, pp. 537–548. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/3851245. Accessed 18 Apr. 2020.

Le Guin, Ursula K. "It Was a Dark and Stormy Night; Or, Why Are We Huddling about the Campfire?" *Critical Inquiry*, vol. 7, no. 1, 1980, pp. 191–199. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/1343182. Accessed 18 Apr. 2020.

Armbruster, Karla. "Blurring Boundaries in Ursula Le Guin's 'Buffalo Gals, Won't You Come Out Tonight': A Poststructuralist Approach to Ecofeminist Criticism." *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*, vol. 3, no. 1, 1996, pp. 17–46. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/44085414. Accessed 18 Apr. 2020.

Recommended materials:

- 1) Graphic organizer for reading and interpreting scholarship

Due:

- Discussion
- Literary Scholarship Article Explication #1

Module 3.

Required reading:

Le Guin, *The dispossessed*. Chapters 1-7.

Foucault, Michel. "The Subject and Power." *Critical Inquiry*, vol. 8, no. 4, 1982, pp. 777–795. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/1343197. Accessed 18 Apr. 2020.

Max Weber, "The Monocratic Type of Bureaucratic Administration" (linked in the classroom)

Due:

- Discussion

Module 4.

Required reading:

Le Guin, *The dispossessed*. Chapter 8-end.

Stanley Milgram, "Some Conditions of Obedience" (linked in the classroom)

Louis Althusser, "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses" (linked in the classroom)

Mark Tunick, "The need for walls: Privacy, community, and freedom in *The Dispossessed*" (linked in the classroom)

Due:

- Discussion
- Literary Scholarship Article Explication #2

Module 5. Is Gender Necessary? Gender Constructs

Required reading:

Le Guin. *The left hand of darkness*. Chapters 1-10.

Le Guin, Ursula K. "Which Side Am I on, Anyway?" *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*, vol. 17, no. 3, 1996, pp. 27–28. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/3346869. Accessed 18 Apr. 2020.

Le Guin, Ursula K. "Quoits." *Southern Review*, vol. 27, no. 3, Summer 1991, p. 585. EBSCOhost, search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&AN=9610111006&site=ehost-live&scope=site. Permalink: <https://login.ezproxy.csupueblo.edu/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=aph&AN=9610111006&site=ehost-live&scope=site>

Due:

- Discussion

Module 6. Is Gender Necessary? Gender Constructs

Required reading:

Le Guin. *The left hand of darkness*. Chapters 11-end.

Le Guin, Ursula K. "Bill Weisler." *The Kenyon Review*, vol. 12, no. 4, 1990, pp. 146–154. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/4336349. Accessed 18 Apr. 2020.

Le Guin, Ursula K., and David Ketterer. "Ketterer on 'The Left Hand of Darkness' [with Response]." *Science Fiction Studies*, vol. 2, no. 2, 1975, pp. 137–146. *JSTOR*, www.jstor.org/stable/4238936. Accessed 18 Apr. 2020.

Due:

- Discussion
- Conceptual framework for studying and teaching Le Guin – paper

Module 7. High Fantasy and Young Adult Literature

Required reading:

Le Guin. *The wizard of Earthsea*. Chapters 1-5.

Rawls, Melanie A. "Witches, Wives and Dragons: the evolution of the women in Ursula K. Le Guin's *Earthsea*--an overview." *Mythlore*, vol. 26, no. 3-4, 2008, p. 129+. *Gale Academic OneFile*, <https://link-gale-com.ezproxy.csupueblo.edu/apps/doc/A178795466/AONE?u=usc&sid=AONE&xid=9769d862>. Accessed 18 Apr. 2020.

Due:

- Discussion for this week is Peer Review [20 points for posting your draft (post by Wednesday), 20 points for written participation (post by Friday) + 50 points for FlipGrid video talking about your revision plan (post by Sunday)] = 90 points

Module 8. High Fantasy and Young Adult Literature

Required reading:

Le Guin. *The wizard of Earthsea*. Chapters 6-end.

Due:

- Discussion for this week is the presentation of Le Guin Paper (20 points for posting your draft, 20 points for written participation + 50 points for FlipGrid video) = 90 points

Using FlipGrid, you will record a final presentation about your paper, sharing your project, research, and reflections on your work this term.

- Le Guin Paper