

Term: Spring, 2016
Course Number: EWPC 496X
Instructor: Chris Buczinsky
Office: 177 Office Phone: 219-473-4250
E-mail: cbuczinsky@ccsj.edu
Office Hours: **Monday 8:00-10:00 a.m.**
Tuesday 8:00-4:00 p.m.
Wednesday 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Instructor Background: I attended Northwest Nazarene College, a small Christian liberal arts school in Nampa, Idaho, but I earned my B.A. in English Education from Northern Arizona University. I taught high school in Arizona for a few years, and then in 1994 I earned my Ph.D. in English from Northwestern. Before coming to CCSJ I worked for two years as an associate editor of a trade magazine, and before that I spent four years as a writer and performer of children's poetry. This is my 14th year at CCSJ. I am head of the English Program and the Director of the Humanities Department.

Course Time: Mondays 3:30-6:30 p.m.

Course Description: The Fantasy Novel explores the nature of fantasy fiction, its main types, its plot structures, its stylistic conventions, and its thematic preoccupations. Taught in seminar style and grounded in class discussion and student participation, this senior-level literature course investigates the role of fantasy in life, the problem of escapism, the nature of world making, and a variety of other issues raised by this perennially popular genre—in short, the meaning of dragons and the alternative worlds in which we set them free. **Prerequisites:** EWPC 111

Learning Outcomes/ Competencies:

1. To **know** exemplary some works fantasy fiction and major fantasy writers.
2. To **understand** the main types of fantasy writing, its generic conventions, and some key concepts in the critical and theoretical discussion of fantasy literature.
3. To **apply** one's knowledge of literary criticism to understanding, interpreting, and appreciating particular works of fantasy fiction.
4. To **analyze** particular works of fantasy fiction, understanding setting, character, plot, theme, and style.
5. To **synthesize** one's knowledge of fantasy fiction in creative and critical writing projects and presentations.

Textbooks:

The Fellowship of the Ring by J. R. R. Tolkien
Game of Thrones by George R. R. Martin
Perdido Street Station by China Mieville

Selected works of fantasy authors and critics.

Learning Strategies: The class will use **three basic teaching/learning methods:**

1. **Chalk Talks**—Short lectures on genre, author, and literary-critical concepts.
 - a. My job is to be clear, informative, and entertaining.
 - b. Your job is to *listen well, take good notes, and ask probing questions.*
2. **Class Discussions.** There are three types:
 - a. *Teacher-Led Discussion.* I lead discussion of a set of questions meant to stimulate thought and gain insight.
 - b. *Open Discussion.* Open-ended discussion in traditional seminar style.
 - c. *Fishbowl Discussion.* The class discusses the material without me, and evaluating one another's contributions.
3. **Coaching.** I help you write of your class stories, essays, and presentations.

Assessment:

Your **final grade** in this class will be assigned based on your performance in **three** areas:

1. The Writing Projects (2)	200 pts.
2. The Student Presentation	100 pts.
<u>3. Unit Exams</u>	<u>300 pts.</u>
Total Points	600 pts.

1. The Writing Projects (200 pts. total)

Your written engagement with fantasy literature will take critical and a creative form. You will produce two pieces of finished writing—from **10-15 pages total**. You may distribute the number of pages as you will, but you must produce both

1. **An Essay.** Either *a literary-critical essay* on one work of fantasy fiction we read in class **or** *a research paper* on a general topic in the study of fantasy literature.
2. **A Story.** Almost anything goes, but the story must be a *fantasy story*. We will be debating precisely what that means.

2. The Student Presentation (100 pts.)

Student presentations are **15-20 minute presentations** on a key feature of the fantasy novel we are studying on an assigned day. Topics will be assigned or student selected.

3. The Unit Exams (100 pts. total)

There will be **three unit exams**, one for each of the types of fantasy fiction we will be surveying. The unit exams will consist of *short, in-class essays* on the novel we read during the unit and on any key critical concepts and topics we discussed.

Grading Scale:

Grades will be assigned based on your performance on the requirements listed above. Students will be assigned final grades based on a traditional scale: A (100-95); A- (94-90); B+ (89-88); B (87-84); B- (83-80); C+ (79-78); C (77-74); C- (73-70); D+ (69-68); D (67-64); D- (63-60); F (59 and below).

Course Calendar:

INTRO		WHAT IS FANTASY FICTION?	
1/11	Syllabi/ <i>Intro</i>	“The Wonderful Window” by Lord Dunsany	
1/18	<i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day: No Class</i>		
1/25	What Fantasy? Definition Structures Types SP#1	“On Fairy Stories” by J. R. R. Tolkien “The Fortress Unvanquishable Save for Sacnoth” by Lord Dunsany “Cimmeria: From the <i>Journal of Imaginary Anthropology</i> by Theodora Goss	
UNIT 1		PORTAL-QUEST FANTASY	
2/1	SP#2	<i>The Fellowship of the Ring Book I</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien	
2/8	SP#3	<i>The Fellowship of the Ring Book I</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien	
2/15	SP#4	<i>The Fellowship of the Ring Book I</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien	
2/22	SP#5	Intro and Unit Exam I Writing Project #1 Due	“King Kong” Directed by Merian Cooper
2/29	<i>Spring Break—No Class</i>		
UNIT 3		INTRUSIVE FANTASY	
3/7	SP#6	<i>Game of Thrones</i> by George R. R. Martin	
3/14	SP#7	<i>Game of Thrones</i> by George R. R. Martin	
3/21	SP#8	<i>Game of Thrones</i> by George R. R. Martin	
3/28	SP#9	Unit Exam II	
UNIT 4		IMMERSIVE FANTASY	
4/4	SP#10	<i>Perdido Street Station</i> by China Mieville	
4/11	SP#11	<i>Perdido Street Station</i> by China Mieville	
4/18	SP#12 and SP#13	<i>Perdido Street Station</i> by China Mieville Writing Project #2 Due	
4/25	<i>Final (Unit Exam III)</i>		

I reserve the right to change this schedule to meet the needs of the class. Please consult our online Blackboard Course site for reading and schedule changes.

Student Responsibilities

You have **five main responsibilities**.

1. **Attend Class.** You cannot succeed in this class if you do not attend. We believe that intellectual growth and success in higher education occur through interaction in the classroom and laboratories. However, we do not want to penalize students for participating in college-sponsored events. When you miss class because of a college event, you must give notice of your absence in advance, and you are responsible for all missed work. Being absent doesn't excuse you from doing class work; you have more responsibilities to keep up and meet the objectives of this course.

*In accordance with English program policy, **any student missing more than NINE (9) hours of class will receive an F.** These nine hours include both excused and unexcused absences; it also includes all tardies of more than 15 minutes. Please be aware these hours include birthdays, sport events, illness, work, etc. If a problem arises with your absences, please come and talk to me immediately.*

2. **Submit Work on Time.** You cannot succeed in this class if you do not turn in all your work on the day it is due. Class Presentations not ready on time will be rescheduled and docked one full letter grade. Late Writing Projects will also be docked one full letter grade. If you miss a Unit Exam, you must reschedule and make up the exam no later than *one week* after the initial exam date or risk being docked one full letter grade on the exam.

3. **Avoid Distraction.** Electronic devices can only be used in class for course-related purposes. If you text or access the Internet for other purposes, you may be asked to leave, in which case you will be marked absent. If there is an emergency situation that requires you to have your phone or beeper turned on (e.g. illness at home, work situation), please ask permission before class begins.

Please refrain from eating meals in class. You may drink coffee, tea, soda or water and snack discretely on low-mess items like Skittles, but no pizza, McDonalds, sandwiches, or anything else distractingly aromatic or resembling a meal.

4. **Participate in Class.** You must be on time, stay for the whole class and speak up in a way that shows you have done the assigned reading. If you are not prepared for class discussion, you may be asked to leave, in which case you will be marked absent. Bring a binder for this class only, with paper for notes and a pen or pencil for writing. Our class begins at **3:30 p.m.** sharp. I reserve the right to lock the doors to all who are consistently late and to mark you absent for the whole class if you develop a habit of leaving early.

5. **Do Your Own Work.** If you turn in work that is not your own, you are subject to judicial review, and these procedures can be found in the College Catalog and the Student

Planner. The maximum penalty for any form of academic dishonesty is dismissal from the College. Using standard citation guidelines, such as MLA or APA format, to document sources avoids plagiarism. The Library has reference copies of each of these manuals, and there are brief checklists in your Student Handbook and Planner.

PLEASE NOTE: All papers may be electronically checked for plagiarism.

Withdrawal from Classes Policy

After the last day established for class changes has passed (see the College calendar), you may withdraw from a course by following the policy outlined in the CCSJ Course Catalog.

RESOURCES

Student Success Center

The Student Success Center provides faculty tutors at all levels to help you master specific subjects and develop effective learning skills. It is open to all students at no charge. You can contact the Student Success Center at 219 473-4287 or stop by the Library.

Disability Services

Disability Services strives to meet the needs of all students by providing academic services in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. If you believe that you need a “reasonable accommodation” because of a disability, contact the Disability Services Coordinator at 219-473-4349.

CCSJ Alerts

Calumet College of St. Joseph’s emergency communications system will tell you about emergencies, weather-related closings, or other incidents via text, email, or voice messages. Please sign up for this important service annually on the College’s website at: <http://www.ccsj.edu/alerts/index.html>.

In addition, you can check other media for important information, such as school closings:

Internet: <http://www.ccsj.edu>

Radio: WAKE – 1500 AM, WGN – 720 AM, WIJE – 105.5 FM, WLS – 890 AM, WZVN – 107.1 FM, WBBM NEWS RADIO 78

TV Channels: 2, 5, 7, 9, 32

Emergency Procedures

MEDICAL EMERGENCY

EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Call 911 and report incident.
2. Do not move the patient unless safety dictates.
3. Have someone direct emergency personnel to patient.
4. If trained: Use pressure to stop bleeding.
5. Provide basic life support as needed.

FIRE

EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Pull alarm (located by EXIT doors).
2. Leave the building.
3. Call 911 from a safe distance, and give the following information:
 - Location of the fire within the building.
 - A description of the fire and how it started (if known)

BUILDING EVACUATION

1. All building evacuations will occur when an alarm sounds and/or upon notification by security/safety personnel. **DO NOT ACTIVATE ALARM IN THE EVENT OF A BOMB THREAT.**
2. If necessary or if directed to do so by a designated emergency official, activate the building alarm.
3. When the building evacuation alarm is activated during an emergency, leave by the nearest marked exit and alert others to do the same.
4. Assist the disabled in exiting the building! Remember that the elevators are reserved for persons who are disabled. **DO NOT USE THE ELEVATORS IN CASE OF FIRE.** **DO NOT PANIC.**
5. Once outside, proceed to a clear area that is at least 500 feet away from the building. Keep streets, fire lanes, hydrant areas and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel. The assembly point is the sidewalk in front of the college on New York Avenue.
6. **DO NOT RETURN** to the evacuated building unless told to do so by College official or emergency responders.

IF YOU HAVE A DISABILITY AND ARE UNABLE TO EVACUATE:

Stay calm, and take steps to protect yourself. If there is a working telephone, call 911 and tell the emergency dispatcher where you are **or** where you will be moving. If you must move,

1. Move to an exterior enclosed stairwell.
2. Request persons exiting by way of the stairway to notify the Fire Department of your location.
3. As soon as practical, move onto the stairway and await emergency personnel.
4. Prepare for emergencies by learning the locations of exit corridors and enclosed stairwells. Inform professors, and/or classmates of best methods of assistance during an emergency.

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SPILL/RELEASE

EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Call 911 and report incident.
2. Secure the area.
3. Assist the injured.
4. Evacuate if necessary.

TORNADO

EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Avoid automobiles and open areas.
2. Move to a basement or corridor.
3. Stay away from windows.
4. Do not call 911 unless you require emergency assistance.

SHELTER IN PLACE

EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Stay inside a building.
2. Seek inside shelter if outside.
3. Seal off openings to your room if possible.
4. Remain in place until you are told that it is safe to leave.

BOMB THREATS

EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Call 911 and report incident.
2. If a suspicious object is observed (e.g. a bag or package left unattended):
 - Don't touch it!
 - Evacuate the area.

TERRORISM AND ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATIONS

EMERGENCY ACTION

1. Call 911 and report intruder.

RUN, HIDE OR FIGHT TIPS:

1. **Prepare** – frequent training drills to prepare the most effectively.
2. **Run and take others with you** – learn to stay in groups if possible.
3. **Leave the cellphone.**
4. **Can't run? Hide** – lock the door and lock or block the door to prevent the shooter from coming inside the room.
5. **Silence your cellphone** -- use landline phone line.
6. **Why the landline?** It allows emergency responders to know your physical location.
7. **Fight** – learn to “fight for your life” by utilizing everything you can use as a weapon.
8. **Forget about getting shot – fight!** You want to buy time to distract the shooter to allow time for emergency responders to arrive.
9. **Aim high** – attack the shooter in the upper half of the body: the face, hands, shoulder, neck.
10. **Fight as a group** – the more people come together, the better the chance to take down the shooter.
11. **Whatever you do, do something** – “react immediately” is the better option to reduce traumatic incidents.