

Paper Number:
139.326

Paper Title:
Travel Writing

Credit Value:
15 credits

Calendar Prescription:
A study of travel writing, involving both critical and ideological analysis and creative writing developed from the students' own field work.

Pre and co requisites:
Pre-requisite: Any 200-level paper

Semester:
Two

Campus:
Wellington

Mode:
Internal

E-Learning Category:
N (no web access required)

Paper Coordinator and lecturer contact details:
Dr John Muirhead
School of English and Media Studies
Tel: (06) 356 9099 ext 2734
Email: J.Muirhead@massey.ac.nz

Teaching Timetable (for internal papers only):
Please see <http://publictimetable.massey.ac.nz/> for timetabling information.

Learning Outcomes:
The paper aims to:

- introduce you to a variety of travel books published in recent years;
- introduce you to some of the literary issues and critical vocabulary germane to the interpretation of these texts;
- introduce you to some of the ideological and ethical issues involved in the representation of other cultures and peoples;
- encourage you to integrate your critical awareness of the genre of travel writing into your own creative practice;
- enhance your creativity and skill as a writer working in this genre.

Major topics or paper structure:
In this paper you study texts by at least two prominent contemporary travel writers, paying special attention to literary aspects of their work. You then apply your critical understanding of the genre to the production of your own travel stories, based on experiences that you have had overseas or within New Zealand.

Assessment Proportions:

Internal Assessment: 100%

Description of assessment activities:

Critical Commentary on the representation of the object in one set text: 15%

Creative Writing Exercise: Writing a Scene: 10%

Critical Commentary on the representation of the subject in one set text: 15%

Object-orientated Travel Story (and revision): 25%

Subject-orientated Travel Story (and revision): 25%

Attendance and Participation: 10%

Due dates / deadlines:

The due dates for assignments (and any other internal assessment components) will be advised at the start of the semester.

Penalties for late assignment submission:

Assignments may not be submitted late without the permission of the Paper Coordinator.

Assignment turnaround:

Three weeks.

Any specific requirements for passing the paper:

None.

Principal Textbook:

B. Chatwin, *The Songlines*, Jonathan Cape.

J. Kincaid, *A Small Place*, Virago Press.

D. Murphy, *Cameroon with Egbert*, Flamingo.

J. Raban, *Coasting*, Collins Harvill.

P. Theroux, *The Happy Isles of Oceania*, G.P. Putnam and Sons.

All subject to availability