

ENGL 281 The Great War in Film and Lit
Fall 2014
Tom Slater

Required Texts: Course packet from Copies Plus.

help everyone achieve this goal, and I hope you all enjoy the experience and find that it has been valuable for you.

Assignments & Grades: Informal written responses to readings and films, 25%. These should be typed, single-spaced, using a 12 pt. font and approximately one page in length. If your work does not meet all of these criteria, I will not accept it. Make sure you have it printed out and ready

hen expect to hand it in either. Getting to class on time with your work properly completed is a primary responsibility. So make sure you do this.

I will give you a writing prompt or series of questions for each assigned writing. Your work should show your own accurate observation of films or reading of the lit and your own thinking. Drawing on secondary sources is not allowed.

your own interests in relation to literature film or other art about the war.

able to explore other work in relation to your major project. I might also ask you to use your

your sincere thoughts about the material.

Two short essays during the semester and an in-class final exam essay, 15% each. The two essays written during the semester should be approximately six double-spaced pages printed in 12 pt. font. I will provide a choice of topics to write about and you can use any material from your free writings, assigned readings, or presented by anyone in class. You should not use any other material from other sources. For the final, you will write on paper using notes and texts to refer to if you wish, and there will not be a required length.

Major project, 30%. This project may be a research paper about a film or literature in relation to the war that we are either studying as part of our assigned work or something that is not on the syllabus. But you might also choose to do a creative project, writing either fiction, poetry, a screenplay, or play, or making your own film. Another option could be to create your own artwork in relation to the war or existing works about the war. These will be due on Dec. 8, the

Assistance: Please contact me to set a conference time any time you feel like you'd like to discuss the course material, a rough draft of an essay, or your research. You can reach me by email at tslater@iup.edu or by my office phone 724-357-4879. I will have regular office hours on T, 3:30-5:30, and MW, noon-2.

Electronic Devices: While in class, please turn off all electronic devices such as cell phones, and ipods and keep them out of sight. I will greatly appreciate it, and you will help your performance in class.

Attendance: Please provide me with an excuse for any class you miss or know you will miss.

points, useful feedback on your work, and the chance to learn from and contribute to the work of others. So please make sure you notify me by email, tell me in class, or leave a phone message

about your reasons for absences either before or as soon as possible afterwards. You will be class on those days. However, you will receive no credit for work done during a class for which you have an unexcused absence.

With any absence, you are still responsible to be caught up and prepared with the required assignment for the next class session. The syllabus provides a plan for the semester. But I may need to make some changes as we go. So, if you miss a class, make sure you contact a classmate or me to find out what you need to have ready for the start of the next class.

Plagiarism: Some people feel that while classmates may have to work hard for grades, they believe I have constructed this class so that plagiarism is not a real possibility. Nevertheless,

do suspect that you have plagiarized, I will confront you about it. If you have in fact plagiarized, you will receive an extremely low grade (such as 0) for that assignment that may ensure your failure in the course.

Civility: This means that we will not use derogatory language towards any of these aspects in

beliefs. But if you expect to have your views respected, you must state them logically and without disrespect towards others.

Assignment Schedule:

8/25 Intro to course. Film: *Coward* (David Roddham, 2013).

8/27 Discussion. Film: *Shoulder Arms* (Charlie Chaplin, 1919).

9/3 Discussion. Reading: Pieces by *Writing After War*, by John Limon, pp. 1-8 (accessible as an e-catalog).

9/8 Film: *The Big Parade* (King Vidor, 1925).

9/29 Discussion.

10/1 Reading and Discussion: *All Quiet on the Western Front*.