

# **ENGL 4160: Modern British Literature**

**Dr. Jenny Crisp**

**MW 10:50-12:05**

## **Required Texts:**

*The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, Ninth Edition, Volume F, Ed. Stephen Greenblatt, et. al

*The Waste Land* (Norton Critical Edition) by T. S. Eliot, ed. Michael North

*The Satanic Verses* by Salman Rushdie

*The Ocean at the End of the Lane* by Neil Gaiman

## **Catalog Description**

Surveys British poetry, fiction, and essays since 1900. Typically includes Hardy, Conrad, Joyce, Yeats, Lawrence, Woolf, Auden, and Lessing.

Prerequisites: ENGL 3010.

## **Detailed Course Description**

What does it mean to be British? In particular, what does that mean in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, when the word “empire” seems too large to apply, but “nation” is too small and “a people” is far too singular for the plurality of ways to be British? What, if anything, does the literature produced by such a “grouping of persons” tell us about them? These are some of the questions we will explore in this course, using the lens of literature to examine the development of the thoughts and concerns of the British people since the turn of the last century. We will examine the impact of the World Wars, the Cold War, and the ending of those three "wars" on their artistic expression. Finally, we will consider the end of the British Empire, the increasing diversity of the population, and the negotiations between former colonizer and the formerly colonized as they learn(ed) to live together.

## **Course Requirements/ Evaluation:**

- A daily write-up on a discussion question related to the days' reading(s).
- A “scholarly essay book club” focusing on one article from each student, focused on a research topic he or she is considering
- An abstract and a presentation on the research project early in the term. This will be developmental, a presentation and discussion of research in progress.
- A full draft of the research paper and peer editing.
- A research paper of 12 pages plus Works Cited.
- A midterm and final exam (short answer and paragraphs for midterm, short essay question for the final)