



Instructor: Dr. Mark Crimmins

~ mark.crimmins@utoronto.ca

Course Number: ENG 329 H5F

Course Title: Contemporary British Fiction

Course Description: This course will examine representative short and long fiction by some of Britain's most daring authors. Martin Amis and Julian Barnes will represent our selections from the Eighties, Amis with a set of tales informed by nuclear paranoias and Barnes with a postmodern novel that comments on history and way we fashion it. McEwan's stunning examination of erotomania and madness will be our selection from the Nineties. Nicola Barker and Zadie Smith will be our representatives of the 'Noughties,' both authors commenting extensively on a contemporary culture recognizably our own.

Required Reading:

Required Reading: Martin Amis: *Einstein's Monsters*; Julian Barnes: *A History of the World in 10 ½ Chapters*; Ian McEwan: *Enduring Love*; Nicola Barker: *Clear*; Zadie Smith: *The Autograph Man*.

First Three Texts/Authors to be Studied: Amis, Barnes, McEwan.

Method of Instruction: Lecture and discussion

Method of Evaluation:

Short Essay: 25%

Long Essay: 35%;

Test (short answer and essay): 30%

Participation: 10%.