

James Joyce's *Ulysses*

English 4520F
 Michael Groden
 mgroden@uwo.ca
 classes: UC 282
 Mondays 7:00-10:00
 Introduction
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<http://instruct.uwo.ca/english/4520f/>

texts

required:

Ulysses: The Gabler Edition
Dubliners (any edition)
A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man
 (any edition)

optional:

Blamires, *The New Bloomsday Book*
 Gifford-Seidman, *Ulysses Annotated*
Finnegans Wake (any edition)
 + online notes on *Ulysses*:

<http://publish.uwo.ca/~mgroden/notes/>

Ulysses

Ezra Pound (1922): "All men should 'Unite to give praise to Ulysses'; those who will not, may consider themselves with a place in the lower intellectual orders."

T.S. Eliot (1922): *Ulysses* has "the importance of a scientific discovery." It is "a step towards making the modern world possible for art."

Ulysses

Shane Leslie (1922): "As a whole, the book must remain impossible to read. . . It is experimental, anti-conventional, anti-Christian, chaotic, totally unmoral."

anonymous review in *The Sporting Times* (Dublin 1922): *Ulysses* "appears to have been written by a perverted lunatic who has made a specialty of the literature of the latrine."

"Ulysses is hopeless. It is absurd to imagine that any good end can be served by trying to record every single thought and sensation of any human being. That's not art. It's like trying to copy the London Directory."

George Moore (Irish novelist) in 1922

Ulysses (1)

publication February 2, 1922
 Joyce wrote *Ulysses* between 1914 and 1922
 declared obscene in U.S. in January 1921 (judgment reversed in December 1933)
Ulysses published on Joyce's 40th birthday by Shakespeare and Company in Paris (732 pages)

time span June 16, 1904
 Arnold Bennett called June 16, 1904 "the dailiest day possible"
 Bloomsday

location Dublin
 Joyce to Frank Budgen: "I want to give a picture of Dublin so complete that if the city one day suddenly disappeared from the earth it could be reconstructed out of my book."

Ulysses (2)

class working-class / lower-middle-class

characters Leopold Bloom, Molly Bloom, Stephen Dedalus

style interior monologue, stream of consciousness
 Joyce: "the initial style" - then new styles and techniques

title *Ulysses*
 Homer's *Odyssey*