

## **ENG9AF: The Art of Fiction Spring 2012**

The aim of this module is to develop a critical understanding of how fiction works and how it produces the effects it does. By examining in detail a number of novels and short stories, the module will explore fictional rhetoric and technique under five main headings: Voice, Time, Consciousness, Metafiction and Suspense. The module is designed to develop students' awareness of the formal and rhetorical dimensions of fiction and will build directly on their work on meaning and representation in earlier English Studies modules. The module is taught by weekly two-hour seminar in groups of approximately 20 students. Assessment is by means of a Reading Journal, a Close Reading Exercise, and a Critical Essay.

The following texts are required reading for the module and should be purchased by all students:

Henry James, *What Maisie Knew* (Penguin Classics)  
Patrick McCabe, *The Butcher Boy* (Picador)  
Italo Calvino, *If on a winter's night a traveller* (Vintage)  
Muriel Spark, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* (Penguin)

In addition, a Module Reader containing short stories and other materials will be available to purchase at the beginning of semester.

**Suzanne Gilbert Adrian Hunter**