

September 8, 1993

English 492/2 (1993-4)
Fourth Year Honours Seminar
Pacific Northwest Writing and the Shapes of Knowledge

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Barre Toelken feels that, despite a spectacularly varied topography, he can detect some overriding 'coherence' in the Northwest--its defining occupations are always related to "forests, horses, mines, and boats"; its geographic feel is "mountains, rivers, deserts and oceans"; its centre of gravity is coastal, and its psychology is end-of-the-trail. (Northwest Perspectives 26-7) Maybe; maybe not. Coyote and Raven are wise and powerful presences here. But, of course, they sometimes don't quite finish things properly, and they're both fond of playing tricks--even on themselves.

I've written a course outline with the hope of giving you some fuller sense of what the course might involve, but with the expectation that we will make several changes as we listen together for Raven.

9 Sept. Placing the story: an introduction
16 Sept. Ish River: a poetics of place
23 Sept. Annie Dillard The Living
30 Sept. Emily Carr Klee Wyck
7 Oct.
14 Oct. The Living (Armitage & Wilbert)
21 Oct. Stafford, Having Everything Right
28 Oct.
4 Nov. The Northwest School (Kingsbury)
11 Nov. Remembrance Day
18 Nov. Armstrong Slash (Tedlock)
25 Nov.
2 Dec. Chin Chickencoop Chinaman (Barman)

6 Jan. Klee Wyck (Carter & Remnley)
13 Jan. Grainger Woodsmen of the West
20 Jan.
27 Jan. Slash (Suttles)
3 Feb.
10 Feb. additional text t.b.a.
17 Feb. mid-term break
24 Feb.
3 March Marlatt Steveston (Kaiser & Egan)
10 March
17 March Marlatt Seveston
24 March unexplored writers
31 March envoi

NOTE To be scheduled: guest lecturer(s), field trip(s), film(s).

Requirements:

An introductory exercise in critical reading	10
Class presentations (schedule to be circulated)	30
Diary and dossier	10
Term paper	<u>50</u>
	100