GOALS: This course will examine the development of the spy novel from its birth in the early 20th century through the early 21st century in its historical, geographic, and literary aspects. Our subject matter offers a unique and entertaining pedagogical opportunity. The nature of the spy novel will require the student to fine tune his/her logic skills by reasoning through the evidence as presented in the novels. The settings of the spy novels will require the student to understand the history and politics of Europe in the 20th century. Perhaps most importantly, we will examine and critique the development of “the enemy” in espionage literature through close reading of depictions of anarchists, communists, Nazis, Cold-War Soviets, terrorists and corporations. The course aims to help the student interrogate constructions of evil and otherness, heroism and patriotism, as well as to question the methods whereby readers are manipulated by such depictions and influenced by their own geographical, political and historical circumstances.

REQUIREMENTS: This class requires attendance in all classes, participation in class discussion, a final exam, and two papers.

Attendance and Participation: Attendance is required in all classes unless the student has a significant medical emergency. The student's final grade will be penalized one full letter grade for each class missed. The student is expected to read all assigned material and to participate in all class discussions every day; class participation counts for 10 % of the student's final grade, but let me be clear about what constitutes “class participation”: just because a student talks a lot does not mean s/he will receive a high class participation grade. Commentary must be substantive.

Papers: This course requires two essays, each worth 30% of the student's grade (approximately 5 pages in length at the 2000 level and 7 pages in length at the 4000 level). Papers should be typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins and twelve-point font; OR, considering our limited access to printers, written neatly in blue or black ink on one side of lined notebook paper; OR submitted electronically to me (cut and paste into an email--DO NOT send as an attachment!). Paper grades are final. Whereas students are not required to use outside sources in their papers, should you choose to do so, all quotations, paraphrases, and summaries must be documented in MLA style, with in-text citations and a “Works Cited” page. Failure to document outside sources correctly in MLA style will result in an F on the paper; this includes internet sources, which must be approved by the instructor beforehand and are strongly discouraged. Guidelines for MLA citation may be found through Purdue University’s Online Writing Lab at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/. Class participation counts 10% of the student's final grade.

A word about plagiarism: That word is “don’t.” Plagiarism, the use of someone else’s ideas or words without adequate acknowledgment, is grounds for failure or worse (consult the instructor or the university website for a fuller explanation: go to http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu/studentpolicies/policymanual/judicial_code_pt1.cfm; scroll down to the heading Academic Dishonesty; the section that follows this heading will explain the concept fairly thoroughly). Be advised that once the instructor has grounds to believe the student guilty of plagiarism, all evidence of that plagiarism must be turned over to the academic director, after which it becomes a university matter and all pleas to the instructor for mercy or a “do over” are futile. So again, “don’t.”

Final Exam: The final exam will be cumulative, in that it will require the student to think back over all the novels we will read. The final exam will be in essay form.
REQUIRED TEXTS: I have chosen our reading material with an eye towards manageable length in order that students not be overwhelmed by the amount they must read in a four-week course: all our novels are less than 300 pages long, and fully half of them are closer to 200 pages. Students can easily read all the texts before leaving for Prague, although of course this is not a requirement. Most books are available for Nook, Kindle, ipad, etc, and students are welcome to use e-books.


*The Third Man and The Fallen Idol* by Graham Greene. Penguin, 1992. ISBN 9780140185331 [nota bene: We will not be reading *The Fallen Idol*, but this was the least expensive, readily available edition the instructor could find.]

*Stamboul Train* by Graham Green. Penguin, 1992. ISBN 978-0140185324 [nota bene: this text is required only for those students taking the class at the 4000-level.]


**Daily Class Schedule**

**Thursday, July 11:** Introduction to the class, a brief history of spy novels and thrillers.

**Friday, July 12:** Conrad, *The Secret Agent: A Simple Tale*.

**Monday, July 15:** Continue *The Secret Agent*.

**Tuesday, July 16:** Ambler, *Background to Danger*.

**Wednesday, July 17:** Continue *Background to Danger*.

**Thursday, July 18:** Greene, *The Third Man*.

**Friday, July 19:** Greene, *Stamboul Train*.

**Monday, July 22:** Viewing & discussion of the film *The Third Man* (1949); paper one due.

**Tuesday, July 23:** Viewing of the film version of *Casino Royale* (2006).

**Wednesday, July 24:** Fleming, *Casino Royale*.

**Monday, July 29:** Finish *Casino Royale*, discussion of film as adaptation and modernization of novel. Begin Le Carre, *The Spy Who Came In From the Cold*.

**Tuesday, July 30:** Continue *The Spy Who Came In From the Cold*.

**Wednesday, July 31:** Viewing of film version of *The Spy Who Came In From the Cold* (1965).
Thursday, August 1: Furst, *Kingdom of Shadows*.

Friday, August 2: Continue *Kingdom of Shadows*.

Monday, August 5: Paper two due; tie up any lose ends; review for final exam.

Tuesday, August 6: Final exam.