

University of Cape Town Summer School Extension

presents a public lecture by Professor David Attwell

Autobiography into fiction: J.M.Coetzee's *The Life and Times of Michael K*

“I have retreated and retreated and retreated, till I am on the highest mountaintop and there is nowhere more to go save up into the heavens. Now I am face to face at last with time: everything else is behind me, only the huge block of the day is before me every day when I wake, and will not go away. Now there is nothing for me to do but live, through time, like an ant boring its way through a rock.”

Beginning as the story of a writer who turns to vigilantism after his house is invaded and vandalized, *Michael K* underwent innumerable changes before becoming an account of an unconquerable desire for freedom. Drawing on his research into previously unseen manuscript material housed at the Ransom Centre of the University of Texas at Austin, Professor David Attwell will trace the twists and turns of Coetzee's creative process in producing one of South African literature's most acclaimed novels.

Date: Wednesday 9 July 2014
Time: 18.00-19.00
Venue: LT3, Kramer Building, Middle Campus
Cost*: R75 (full fee); R37 (staff and students); R19 (reduced)
RSVP: 021 650 2888 or ems@uct.ac.za

* As a partially self-funding entity, we are obliged to charge a small fee for extension lectures. These are fixed at Summer School rates.

