

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
COURSE OUTLINE

Fall 2014

ENGLISH 201.02 - Approaches to Literature: The Anxiety of Reproduction

Instructor: Heather Osborne

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Office hours: Thursdays, 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM, or by appointment.

Important Dates:

October 13: Thanksgiving

November 8-11: Reading Days

December 5: Last English 201 lecture of term

Course Description:

English 201 is an introduction to the study of fiction, with an emphasis on critical reading and writing skills. In reading short prose fiction and novels, we will examine themes of anxiety surrounding sexuality, reproduction, pregnancy, and childbirth. Although fatherhood, and perhaps especially motherhood, are often portrayed as beautiful and life-affirming, there has been much fiction written which explores the doubts, fears, and even horror of bodily and social change that comes with bringing a child into the world. These juxtapositions will be addressed by in-class discussion and the crafting of argumentative essays, with a strong emphasis on textual evidence. At the end of the course, you will have a literary vocabulary with which to express your ideas; you will have learned how to write an essay defending an argument or thesis; and you will have a deeper understanding of the craft of storytelling. **No prerequisites.**

Required Texts:

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood

The Midwich Cuckoos by John Wyndham

Alien (film) directed by Ridley Scott

"The Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman

"That Only A Mother" by Judith Merrill

"Bloodchild" by Octavia Butler

"A Momentary Taste of Being" by James Tiptree, Jr. (Alice Sheldon)

"Coming of Age in Karhide" by Ursula K. Le Guin

The short fiction and non-fiction will be available in a course pack which can be purchased from Bound & Copied. The novels will be available in the Campus Bookstore. **Important Note:** We will be screening the film in class. If you are absent during those classes, you are still responsible for viewing the film.

Highly Recommended Texts:

I highly recommend having a dictionary and a thesaurus available for all writing components of the course. A handbook on MLA citation style is also recommended.

Assignments and Evaluation:

15% Reading quizzes (5 quizzes, 3% each)

20% Argumentative Essay (Using one class text; defending a debatable thesis) - 750-1000 words

15% Annotated Bibliography (Researching and evaluating two secondary sources) - 500 words

30% Research Essay (Using two secondary sources and one class text; building on the annotated bibliography assignment) - 1000-1250 words

20% Registrar-scheduled final exam. Students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period (Dec. 8-18).

Participation:

While there is no grade assigned for participation, attendance and involvement in the class discussions will greatly enhance your understanding of the course materials. In-class exercises will help develop the necessary skills for the graded assignments. Questions and concerns can be dealt with more fully during the class period. Keep in mind the importance of participation to your own growth during the course.

Grading System:

Grades are arrived at through a combination of the percentages and letter grades. The following grading system is used in this course:

A+	4.0	90+%
A	4.0	85–89 %
A–	3.7	80–84 %
B+	3.3	77–79 %
B	3.0	74–76 %
B–	2.7	70–73 %
C+	2.3	67–69 %
C	2.0	64–66 %
C–	1.7	60–63 %
D+	1.3	55–59 %
D	1.0	50–54 %
F	0	0 – 49 %

Many first-year students find that their grades are lower than those they earned in high school. We will discuss this phenomenon in class, as well as ways to remedy it.

Please Note:

1. I welcome questions! If you have any questions at all, please ask, either during class or during my office hours.
2. You *must* complete all the assignments and exams in order to be eligible for a passing grade in this course.
3. Please submit your assignments to me during the class in which they are due. If for some reason you are unable to deliver them to me in class, please deliver them to the English Department office (Social Sciences 1152) where they will be date-stamped before they are delivered to my mailbox.
4. Please keep a copy of your essays in case of loss by any cause.
5. I will give you plenty of notice for each assignment. I only give extensions to the class as a whole, or to individuals in exceptional circumstances.
6. The penalty for late papers is one third of a letter grade for each day that the paper is overdue. For example, an A paper due on Tuesday and submitted on Wednesday will receive a letter grade of A-. I do not mark papers overdue by nine or more days: I simply assign a grade of F. (Note that an assignment not completed before this period *must* still be submitted--see point #2 above.)
7. I do not accept assignments electronically and only return assignments in class.

D2L and email:

It is your responsibility to read email from me and to check our D2L course page regularly for updates.

Plagiarism:

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement below on plagiarism.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

Scribe and Muse Club for English Students:

The Scribe and Muse Reading and Writing Club (SMRWC) fosters and champions reading and writing through community service, leadership, and engagement. We strive to enhance the academic and social experience of undergraduate students by promoting academic excellence and interaction between students, faculty, and the community, through social, cultural, and academic events

<http://english.ucalgary.ca/scribe-and-muse-english-club>.

Our email address is smec@ucalgary.ca.

English Department Website:

For more information about courses, programs, policies, events and contacts in the Department of English, please go to our website at <http://english.ucalgary.ca>. Please note that the course outlines

posted on the English Department website constitute the official course outline for purposes of appeals. Students should verify any hard copies against this posted version. For courses which employ numerical grades, the official departmental percentage to letter grade conversion scale is also posted on the department website.

Writing support:

The Student Success Centre offers both online and workshop writing support for U of C students.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

Guidelines on e-mail Etiquette:

<http://www.enough.utoronto.ca/computeruse/eetiquette.htm>

Library and Research Support:

Melanie Boyd, Librarian for English, offers research support to students, including strategies for finding articles, books, and other library materials. Contact: maboyn@ucalgary.ca

Find *The English Pages* research guide here: <http://libguides.ucalgary.ca/english>

Follow the Department of English on Facebook & Twitter:



Academic regulations and schedules:

Consult the Calendar for course information, university and faculty regulations, dates, deadlines and schedules, student, faculty and university rights and responsibilities. The homepage for the University Calendar is

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/index.htm>

Grade appeals:

Consult the following University Calendar link and request advice from the English Department office, SS 1152. Please note that “mere dissatisfaction with a decision is not sufficient grounds for the appeal of a grade or other academic decision.”

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>

Deferral of term work and final examinations:

Should you require an extension for completion of term papers or assignments beyond the deadline of five days after the end of lectures, an Application of Deferment of Term Work form must be completed. The University also has regulations governing the deferral of final examinations. See Calendar:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>,

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>.

Academic Accommodation:

It is the students' responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodations and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact them at 403-220-6019. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodations. More information about academic accommodations can be found at www.ucalgary.ca/access.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>;

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/>

“Safewalk” Program:

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night: call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at

<http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Contact for Students Ombudsman’s Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):

"At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference - please participate in USRI Surveys."

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Please read the following information carefully. The penalty routinely recommended by the English Department for documented plagiarism is failure of the course in which the offence occurred; academic probation is also routinely applied at the Faculty level. Suspension or expulsion can result from severe or repeated plagiarism.

The University Calendar states:

1. Plagiarism - Essentially plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

- (a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- (b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- (c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
- (d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, or when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. Citing your sources in a bibliography is not enough, because a bibliography does not establish which parts of a student's work are taken from other sources. MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose. Advice on adequate documentation can be found at the following web sites:

<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STATEMENT ON PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT

According to the University Calendar, (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j.html>)

“The University of Calgary community has undertaken to be guided by the following statements of purpose and values: to promote free inquiry and debate, to act as a community of scholars, ..., to respect, appreciate, and encourage diversity, [and] to display care and concern for community”. The Department of English, like the university as a whole, is committed to a “positive and productive learning and working environment.” This environment is characterized by appreciation and encouragement of diversity and respect for the dignity of all persons: students, support staff, and faculty. The department will not tolerate unacceptable behaviour, such as threatening gestures, threatening or abusive verbal or written communication (including e-mails), or any conduct that “seriously disrupts the lawful education and related activities of students and/or university staff”. Any cases of such misconduct should be reported immediately to the department Head, who, depending on the nature and severity of the incident, may then take further appropriate action.