

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 201. L05
APPROACHES TO LITERATURE
TOPIC: THE BODY

FALL 2015

Instructor: Dr Basil Chiasson
Meeting Time: Mon. and Wed. 14:00-15:15
Location: EDC 388
Instructor's Office: SS1020
Office hours: Monday 10-11
Email: basil.chiasson@ucalgary.ca
Course website (D2L): <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home/105592>

Course Description

Bodies are all around us and always have been. Yet, the ways we experience them and make meaning from encounters with bodies can be diverse and complicated. This section of Approaches to Literature provides instruction in critical reading and writing by focusing on the physical, material body. In this course we read, discuss, think about, and respond in writing to select works of poetry, short fiction, drama, a novel, and non-fiction in order to glimpse how over time and in different parts of the world the body figures in the cultural imagination.

Objectives

- 1) Teaching students close reading, which, among other things, requires a student to realize that a text is constructed, and not a transparent reflection of reality
 - 2) Introducing students to a range of technical terms and critical tools with which to interpret texts
 - 3) Instructing students how to write strong, well-supported, clearly written academic essay. This includes teaching students the idea of writing as a process by guiding them through the various stages of composition and teaching students how to create effective arguments
 - 4) Teaching students proper documentation, including what constitutes plagiarism
 - 5) Teaching students library research skills: how to search and locate reference works, books and articles, both electronic and print; and how to use print and online resources responsibly and thoughtfully
 - 6) Teaching students to engage with other scholars by assigning at least one exercise or assignment that asks them to respond to at least one critical text
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Primary Texts (arranged chronologically)

Whitman, Walt. "I Sing the Body Electric."
DeSade, Marquis. "Fixelange, or The Faults of Ambition."
Munro, Alice. "Boys and Girls."
Kincaid, Jamaica. "Girl."
Eggers, David. "After I Was Thrown Into the River and Before I Drowned."
Mustafa, Naheed. "My Body Is My Own Business."
Hall, Stuart. *Race, The Floating Signifier*
Glaspell, Susan. *Trifles*.
Beckett, Samuel. *Act Without Words II*.
Wilde, Oscar. *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

NOTE: The texts for this course are not available for purchase at the University Book Store. All primary and assigned readings are available the course website via links or as downloadable PDFs.

Bibliographic information for all texts will be provided for on the course website.

The reading schedule for this course will be distributed in the first week of the course. While the readings will not change, the reading schedule may at the Instructor's discretion.

Assignments and Evaluation

Reading Quizzes (x2)

10% each (20% total)

These quizzes are designed to keep students reading attentively and to gauge attendance and participation in the course. These are ten-question, fact-based tests comprised of a combination of multiple choice, identification, and (very) short answer questions. Students can expect a mixture of specific and broad questions.

Essay—length: 1200 words, double-spaced

25%

This assignment is designed to promote thought, analysis, and interpretation through writing. There are a number of approaches which can be taken, and your instructor will discuss them in the lead up to the assignment's due date. Broad essay topics will be distributed; however, students are welcome to devise their own topic and from that craft an argument. If doing so, please consult the Instructor to ensure you are on the right track. NOTE: The essay must have a thesis—be organized and driven by a clearly articulated argument or main idea—and use at least two scholarly secondary sources.

Students are expected to write in conformity with the basic standards of university-level essay writing: Content, Organization, Style, and Mechanics. Essays must adhere to MLA (the Modern Language Association of America) style guidelines and be typed in the following format: double-spaced (spacing is vital for it leaves room for the Instructor to respond in writing) in black, 12 point, Times New Roman font with regular margins. *Essays not adhering to these criteria will not be accepted, nor will essays submitted electronically.* Essays are due at 4.30 on the submission date. Assignments submitted one week past their due date will no longer be accepted. Extensions are generally not provided but can be negotiated with your instructor by consultation no less than two days prior to deadline.

In-Class Essay

25%

Students will be required to write *one* essay which braids together assigned readings and material covered in class (lectures and discussion). Written work will be expected to demonstrate comprehensive engagement with the course. Evaluation is based on content (demonstration of familiarity and command over subject matter as well as insight into it) and structure (see Essay assignment, above, and the expectations for the basic standards of university-level essay writing). To this end, topics will be distributed in advance (at least 2 days) and students are encouraged to make at least some form of plan/outline of their in-class essay prior to the day of writing, which they will be allowed to work from during the assignment.

Final Examination

30%

This exam will consist of short answer and short essays; there will be a range of topics and prompts to choose from. As with both essay assignments for this course, students' answers will be expected to demonstrate comprehensive engagement with the course, not only the assigned material but also lectures and discussions transpiring during class time over the semester. Written responses will be evaluated for content (demonstration of familiarity and command over subject matter as well as insight into it) and structure. To this end, students are encouraged to make at least some form of plan/outline of their arguments before beginning to write.

NOTE

There is a registrar-scheduled exam for ENGL 201. This exam will not be an open book format. Students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period (Dec 11-22).

Reasonable notice will be given for each assignment (at least two weeks). Extensions will only be given to the entire class or to individuals in exceptional circumstances.

Students must complete and submit all assignments (including quizzes) to be eligible to pass the course.

Assignments are to be submitted to the Department of English Office (11th floor Social Sciences), where they will be date stamped before they are delivered to your instructor's mailbox.

Your instructor does NOT accept emailed assignments. Assignments will only be returned in class.

Back up your work, keeping a copy of your essays in case of loss—whatever the cause.

It is your responsibility to become familiar with this course outline: let it guide you through the semester and do not approach your instructor, in person or by email, with questions the answers for which are contained in this document.

Grading System

In ENGL 201 assignments will be given numerical grades—in the form of percentages—according to the Undergraduate Grading System (see left column of chart below), as described in the Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-2.html>). Note that the Department has now standardized the percentage conversion scale.

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

NOTE

There is no grade of D-.

According to the University Calendar (F.1), instructors may use their discretion when rounding upwards or downwards when the average of term work and exams is between two letter grades.

Although the A+ is solely an honorific that entails no additional points in the four-point system, your instructor for this course will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.

A grading rubric for essays will be distributed at the beginning of the semester.

Late Assignments

Late essays will be penalized at the rate of 5 points per day of lateness (including both Saturdays and Sundays). Thus, if you hand in a paper one day late and it scores a 9.5/10 (95%), it will be downgraded to a 9 (90%).

Learning Environment

Desire2Learn (D2L) has now replaced Blackboard. For assistance regarding the course website and learning environment in general go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students>, where you will find Student Help and FAQs about D2L. It is your responsibility to consult the course website and its pages regularly for updates.

E-mail Protocol and Etiquette

You must have (and use) a ucalgary.ca email address to receive emails from and contact your instructor. Your instructor responds to emails on the basis of their import. You should not expect a response before 9am or after 5pm. You can expect, for standard emails (that is, inquiries and notifications), a response time of roughly two to three days. For information pertaining to proper email usage see: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/it/help/articles/email/etiquette>.

Laptops and Other Mobile Devices

Laptop computers are permitted only for taking notes or following along with course-related activity. Anyone using them otherwise will be asked to leave the class. Cell phones must be shut off during all classes. (If you have an emergency situation, please inform the Instructor at the beginning of class.) Mobile devices are not permitted during quizzes or exams.

Important Dates

Lectures begin: 8 September

Our first lecture/class: 9 September

No classes/lecture: 12 October; 11-15 November

Last ENGL 201 lecture of semester: 7 December

Lectures end for semester: 8 December

Final exam: TBA

Note: Classes fall within 13 weeks for the semester. Consult the Academic Calendar at:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

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 smecuofc@gmail.com.

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: maboym@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>.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf.

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 Arts Students' Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at

ascarts@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.