

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH 201-04
COURSE TITLE: Approaches to Literature: Subversive Literature
M/W/F 11:00-11:50 ST 126

Fall 2016

Instructor: Jane Chamberlin
Office: Social Sciences 1117
Phone: 403-220-2137
E-mail: gjechamb@ucalgary.ca
Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

Homepage/course website:

Desire2 Learn, the University of Calgary's official learning management system, is accessible through the myUofC web portal. The website will have some of our readings, the grade book, and some useful web links. Students are responsible for checking the D2L website regularly for updates.

Course description:

Literature can entertain, provoke, inform and subvert. But in this course we will focus on texts that critique political and cultural norms, asking readers to re-evaluate their world views. The reading list extends from the 17th century to present, so students will consider the literary and thematic qualities that make texts relevant today. How does Dickens's theme of social responsibility apply to Canada in the 2000s? What can today's feminists learn from "The Yellow Wallpaper?" What does *The Tempest* tell us about North American race relations? We will then turn to contemporary writers such as Hill, Vonnegut and Smith, who explore issues like immigration, military conflict and race – issues that regularly surface on news sites and current affairs programs. Through analysis, discussion and critical writing, students will explore the narrative elements of these texts, and then reflect on the ways literature helps readers consider the need for societal change.

The course will include several writing workshops, in order to help students write effectively at the university level. Students will be encouraged to contribute to a lively classroom atmosphere by participating in whole-class and group discussions.

Texts and readings:

Texts to be purchased at the U of C book store:

Shakespeare	<i>The Tempest</i>
Kurt Vonnegut	<i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i>

Lawrence Hill *The Illegal*

Texts to be accessed through the D2L website:

Charles Dickens	“A Visit to Newgate”
Virginia Woolf	“How Should One Read a Book?”
C. Perkins Gilman	“The Yellow Wallpaper”
Joshua Ferris	“The Pilot”
Margaret Atwood	“The Stone Mattress”
Zadie Smith	“The Embassy of Cambodia”
Neil Gaiman	“Why our future depends on libraries, reading and daydreaming”

Assignments and Evaluation:

Four short assignments – 20%

These assignments are each worth 5%. They include:

- developing discussion questions (150 words) and leading group discussion. This assignment will be done as a group.
- writing a response to a scholarly journal (250 words)
- writing a series of responses to a text or class discussion (5 x 100 words). Each of these responses will be graded on a scale from 0–2.
- completing a short group project

Essay outline – 10%

Shortly before the essay assignment is due, students will hand in an outline demonstrating the key points to be covered in their essays. The outline should include a draft thesis statement, and the textual evidence and analysis supporting that thesis. The outline may be written in point form. Students will receive feedback from the instructor on overall argument, evidence and analysis, and structure.

Essay – 25%

This essay is 1250 words in length and uses the outline assignment as a jumping-off point. It should demonstrate a clear understanding of the text and its relationship to one current event/social issue. The essay should also demonstrate the student’s expertise with the writing workshop concepts covered to date. Note that the emphasis here is on textual analysis rather than analysis of current events and issues. Students will be expected to follow MLA style and include a works cited list.

Midterm exam - 20%

The exam will consist of short- and long-answer questions. It will test students on their knowledge of how the elements of narrative function in the texts.

Registrar-scheduled final exam – 25%

This open-book exam will include short answer questions and an essay question. Students will receive the topic during the last week of class.

Notes on assignment protocol:

Note that students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period (Dec 12-22). Students must complete all assignments in order to receive a passing grade in this course. Assignments must be handed in as paper copies at the beginning of class on the due date.

Assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized with the loss of a third of a grade (an A- to B+) for each business day [not class] that the assignment is overdue. No assignments will be accepted one week past the assignment deadline without the prior consent of the instructor.

Please make every effort to take assignments directly to the instructor. If it is not possible to do so, take your assignment to SS 1152 and put it in the dropbox. Your assignment will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox. It is your responsibility to keep a copy of all assignments in case of loss by any cause. Assignments cannot be returned by staff in the Department office.

Grading system:

Assignments will be given a percentage grade. The only exception is the series of responses to texts/class discussion: each of those responses will be graded on a scale from 0 to 2 and converted to percentages. The final percentage for all assignments will then be translated into a letter grade as follows:

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

Please note that, 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, the course instructor will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.

Technology in the classroom

You are welcome to take notes digitally, and there may be times where the class will be asked to search for

information on the Internet. But please do not use laptops for other purposes during class time. Restrict use of phones and other devices to classroom purposes only.

Communication

I am happy to meet with students during my office hours, and I will respond to your emails within about 24 hours. If you're unable to meet me during office hours, please drop me a line or see me after class to set up an appointment.

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:

Christie Hurrell, Interim Librarian for English, offers research support to students, including strategies for finding articles, books, and other library materials. Contact: christie.hurrell@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.