

**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

English 239-13

Fall 2012

Fundamentals of Literary Studies: Urban / Rural Spaces

Location: SS 541

Lectures: Tuesday/Thursday 11:00-12:15

Instructor: C. Derkson

Office: SS 1137

Phone: 1+ (403) 220-8656

E-Mail: caderkso@ucalgary.ca

Office hours: By Appointment or Thursdays at 12:30-1:30 pm

Course Description:

This course investigates diverse themes in urban and rural spaces. While exploring a range of texts showcasing different geographies, students will hone their critical thinking, reading, and writing skills. Understanding of the basic components of fiction, poetry, and criticism will develop through close reading, class discussions, and essay workshops. As Salomé Voeglin writes in *Listening to Noise and Silence: Towards a Philosophy of Sound Art*, “I cannot see to make sense but hear to understand, contingently, the meaning of my place” (133), we will engage a variety of spaces through place and time to ask how space affects and constructs our present.

Topics / questions for discussion:

- 1) What is contemporary space? How do we inhabit urban spaces? How do we begin to engage with othered spaces such as rural or wilderness ideas/ideologies of space? Does the past affect our definitions or embodiment of present spaces? If so, why? Why might space be one of the most important forms of capital in the present?
- 2) Comparison of urban / rural spaces in various literary genres, contexts, and methods
- 3) Cultural histories of the required texts
- 4) 19 c – 21st c spaces
- 5) We will examine a diverse number of questions and subjects in the texts pertaining to the history, culture, and theories of urban, rural, and wilderness spaces, including ecology/environment, sound and aesthetics, global citizenship or community, gender and bodies, architecture, war, identity and nation especially pertaining to wilderness spaces and rural / urban politics.

Required Texts and Readings:

Bronte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*. Intro. Pauline Nestor. Preface. Lucasta Miller. London: Penguin Group, 2003. Print.

Delillo, Don. *The Body Artist*. New York: Scribner, 2002. Print

Graham, Jorie. *Place*. New York: Ecco P, 2012. Print.

Lai, Larissa. *Salt Fish Girl*. Toronto: Thomas Allen P, 2002. Print.

Mazels, Robert. *City of Forgetting*. Toronto: The Mercury P, 1998, Print.

*N.B. I will introduce a small number of supplementary short poems (mostly 19c), criticism, photographs, and film clips throughout the duration of the course to augment the required texts. A variety of short texts will be available on reserve or on-line. Students are responsible for all materials discussed/viewed in-class. Students are also responsible for all material the instructor classifies as required reading or viewing.

Supplementary Texts and Websites:

Fowler, Ramsey, et al. *The Little, Brown Handbook*. 6th ed. Toronto: Pearson, 2011.
 Gibaldi, Joseph. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 7th ed. New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2009. Print.

Student’s Guide to the Presentation of Essays:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/UofC/eduweb/grammar/guide.htm>

***Assignments and Evaluation:**

Close Reading assignment:	5%	Due September 27th
Short Essay (700-1000 words):	15%	Due October 18th
Proposal for Research Essay (500 words):	10%	Due November 1 st
Spatial Stories/Oral Presentation assignment:	5%	Sign-up Sheet
Research Essay:	35%	Due December 6th
Final Examination:	30%	**Scheduled by registrar
Total:	100%	

*All assignments must be submitted typed and stapled in MLA format with a works cited or bibliography page(s). All assignments are to be submitted on the due date at the beginning of the class as a hard copy unless the instructor specifies otherwise.

Assignment work (any written work) must adhere to university-level standards—a minimal number (3) of errors per page—with MLA format.

Evaluation: Percentage grades are provided on assignments. A rubric and/or specific requirement criteria is used by the instructor on every assignment. The grade given is the grade for the paper. Example: if an assignment is classified as 95.2, the assignment will be given a 95.2.

**Students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period (Dec 10-19). Examinations will not be conducted on computers or laptops; exams are not open book.

Late assignment policy: A loss of a third of a grade (e.g., A- to B+) may be assigned for each business day an assignment is late. Assignments submitted after the instructor scheduled due date are considered late.

*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.***

Undergraduate Grading System: The following grading system will be used for final grades. Percentage grades will be given for all assignments and will be based on the following grade conversion chart.

Grade	Percentage	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96-100%	4.00	Outstanding
A	90-95%	3.90	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter
A-	85-89%	3.70	
B+	80-84%	3.30	
B	75-79%	3.00	Good-clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete
B-	70-74%	2.70	
C+	65-69%	2.30	
C	60-64%	2.00	Satisfactory-basic understanding of the subject matter
C-	55-59%	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation (See individual undergraduate faculty regulations).
*D+	53-54%	1.30	
*D	50-52%	1.00	Minimal Pass-marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	0-49%	0	Fail-unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.
**I		0	Incomplete-unsatisfactory (effective 2007)

*Passing Grades: the number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy.

**Not all work has been submitted. Or may be used if instructor knows that an application for a Deferred Exam has been made. If all work is submitted, but unsatisfactory, an F-grade would be awarded.

Registrar Examination Schedule: Refer to the University of Calgary Academic Schedule:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-4.html>

Student Misconduct and Plagiarism: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html>

Additional Policies: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html>
Guidelines on e-mail etiquette: As this is a university-level course, all communication with the instructor and other students must be professional.

Internet and Electronic Communication: Laptop use in class is accepted unless it is used for recreational or other work that does not pertain to the course. Laptop use is accepted unless it is disruptive to students or the instructor. Electronic devices (cell phones, I-phones, I-pods etc) must be turned off unless permission is obtained from the instructor (for a compelling and significant reason).

Recording of lectures or student discussion is not allowed under any conditions.

Attendance Policy: As this is a university-level course, students must show evidence of participation in the class discussions and assignments. Submission of assignments without class participation or attendance is not enough to pass the course. All assignments must be submitted to qualify for a passing grade, including the oral presentation and final exam. There are no extra credit assignments. If classes are missed, lectures and lecture material are not provided again by the instructor. Students must request information from their student colleagues.

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/content/scribe-and-muse-reading-and-writing-club>

Our email address is smrwc@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>.

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>

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>

Guidelines on e-mail Etiquette:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/it/help/articles/email/etiquette>

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 a student’s responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation and if you have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Your academic accommodation letters should be provided to your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the commencement of this course. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/>

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>

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.