

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

ENGLISH 239, Lecture 04

Winter 2013

COURSE TITLE: Fundamentals of Literary Studies: Special Topics: Satire

Time: 11:00-11:50 AM: Mon, Wed, Fri

Location: SS541

Instructor: Hollie Adams

Office: SS 1137

Email: hadams@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: Monday 12:00-1:00 PM, or by appointment

Course Description:

This course will begin by introducing students to satire and its history, conventions, and social and political functions. We will discuss why and how it has been used by writers and look at various examples of satire in art and the media in order to develop our understanding of the genre. Students will be asked to critically read, analyze, and write about satiric novels and essays, as well as satire in other forms such as political cartoons, speeches, and television programs. The texts we study in this course will lead us to consider the use of humour, parody, irony, and sarcasm in literature; dystopian/utopian fiction; and issues of ethics and free speech.

Texts and Readings:

Swift, Jonathan. *A Modest Proposal*. 1729. (available online)

Swift, Jonathan. *Gulliver's Travels*. Book 1: "A Voyage to Lilliput." 1735. (available online)

Voltaire. *Candide*. 1759. Penguin Classics, 2005.

Heller, Joseph. *Catch-22*. 1961. Simon & Schuster, 1996.

Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid's Tale*. 1985. Seal Books, 1998.

Assignments and Evaluation:

Group Presentation	15%
Reading Responses (3)	15%
Short Essay	20%
Midterm	20%
Final Essay or Creative Project	25%
Class Participation	5%

There will be no Registrar-scheduled exam for this course. All tests and written assignments must be completed to qualify for a passing grade.

About the Group Presentation:

Working in small groups of three or four, you will be responsible for presenting to the class on a non-print satirical work of your choosing (e.g. a political cartoon, a television episode, a speech,

a work of visual art, etc.). You will be expected to introduce the satire to the class, present historical or contextual background relevant to the satire, and offer your own analysis of the work. You may also wish to ask questions of the class and facilitate discussion. Student-led presentations should last approximately twenty minutes.

About the Reading Responses:

Students will be expected to hand in 3 reading responses (approx. 2 pages double-spaced) over the course of the term, one for each of the novels we are examining. Reading responses will be due in class on the first day we are covering that novel. While reading responses can be informal, they should demonstrate your preliminary understanding of the text. These assignments will be graded out of 5, corresponding to the 5% of your total grade each one is worth.

About the Short Essay:

Students will be required to complete an argumentative short essay (approx. 800-1000 words) on one of the novels, essays, or other texts we are examining in this course. More information on this assignment will follow.

About the Final Essay and Creative Project:

Students will have the choice to complete *either* a longer argumentative essay (approx. 1500-1700 words) on one or more of the novels we are examining in this course (students may not write on the same novel for both the short essay and the final essay) *or* a creative project. For creative projects, a one-page proposal must be submitted and approved prior to the project's due date and an artist's statement must accompany the project. More information on these assignments will follow.

About Class Participation:

Class participation will be graded according to the student's attendance, participation in class discussion and on Discussion Board, and preparedness for class (texts are expected to be read before we are scheduled to discuss them in class).

Late assignment policy:

Assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized with the loss of a third of grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each business day that the assignment is overdue.

Submission of Assignments:

All work is due in hard copy at the beginning of lecture on the assignment due date. If you cannot be in class, please make arrangements to hand in your assignment early or have a classmate hand it in for you. 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:

The University of Calgary's four-point Undergraduate Grading System, as described in the Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-2.html>), will be used in this course.

A+/A (4.0); A- (3.7); B+ (3.3); B (3.0); B- (2.7); C+ (2.3); C (2.0); C- (1.7); D+ (1.3); D (1.0); 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.

Electronic Devices:

Consulting or using electronic devices of any kind (laptop computer, PDA, cell phone, etc.) is not permitted in class. All devices should be switched off before the beginning of class. Exceptions can be made for students registered with the Disability Resource Centre. Please consult with me as soon as possible if this is the case.

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.