



FACULTY OF ARTS
Department Of English

COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 251 (L03): Literature and Society
Summer 2022
June 27 to August 10
Lecture: Tu / Th 9:00 to 11:45 EDC 286

Instructor	Michele Braun
Email:	braunmd@ucalgary.ca
Web Page:	D2L (access via MyUofC portal)
Office Hours:	<i>Wednesdays 9-11am (online) or by appointment (online or office - room TBD)</i> <i>Book through Calendly: https://calendly.com/braunmd/15min</i>

Course description:

An examination of the relationship of literature to the world around us, with instruction in close reading and critical writing. Considers how literature as a cultural practice responds to and reflects its social context. Includes the study of at least one text by an Indigenous author.

Stories and storytelling are an integral part of being human, and writers often explore the theme of what it means to be human, especially as the world around us changes. This section of ENGL 251 will read several works that ask what it means to be human by focusing on the human body (and conversely, inhuman bodies). From the theory of evolution through the discovery of DNA, through to the development of cloning and the mapping of the Human Genome Project, we have questioned just how much of being human is a result of inhabiting a human body... and how far can that body change before we are no longer human? Exploring the deviations from human bodies and from humane behaviour provides a reflection on what we think it means to be human. We will read a range of literature from the last century and a half as we explore what it means to be human.

Additional Information

The weekly schedule of topics and readings can be found on D2L. Students are responsible for reading and following all course and university policies discussed in this outline.

Course learning outcomes:

By the end of this course, students should be able to demonstrate the following:

- Skills Regarding Analyzing Literary Texts

- Apply different strategies of literary analysis to generate interpretations of literary works
- Describe how literary texts reflect and respond to cultural trends and events
- Attend to details and appreciate the value of digging deeply into a text
- Skills Regarding Writing About Literary Texts
 - Formulate a strong thesis regarding literary texts
 - Persuade readers of your thesis with textual evidence
 - Search for and locate books, articles and reference material through print and electronic databases and resources
 - Follow proper documentation and adhere to academic integrity (including avoiding plagiarism)

Texts and readings:

Atwood, Margaret. *Oryx and Crake*. Penguin Random House, 2009

Dimaline, Cherie. *The Marrow Thieves*. DCB, Cormorant Books, 2017

Lessing, Doris. *The Fifth Child*. Harper Collins, 1995.

Watts, Peter. *Starfish*. Tor, 1999.

The texts listed here will be available through the University of Calgary bookstore. Additional readings will be linked in D2L. See the course schedule and D2L for additional information.

Learning technology requirements:

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2l.ucalgary.ca).

Assessments and Evaluation:

Weight	Assessed Components	Due
15%	Reading Assignment Close reading of relevant passages in assigned readings 4-6 pages, due at the start of class	July 12, 2022
15%	Midterm	July 19, 2022
20%	Cultural Context Assignment Research and description of cultural context for an assigned reading 5-8 pages, due at start of class	July 28, 2022
30%	Research Essay Analysis of a two or more texts, at least one of which is a text read during the class on a selected topic, supported by scholarly research 7-10 pages, due at the start of class	August 4, 2022
20%	Registrar scheduled Final Exam	TBD

There are no extra credit assignments in this course. See the Policy for Late Assignments below regarding submission of late work.

There is a registrar-scheduled final exam for this course. Students are advised to be available for the entire examination period, which is August 12-15, 2022.

Attendance expectations:

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to be fully present and engaged in class activities and discussions. If students miss a class session, they should refer to the syllabus and documents on D2L to determine what content they missed and contact the instructor with any additional questions.

Submission of Assignments

All assignments for the course will be uploaded to the D2L dropbox for the course before the indicated deadline. Acceptable formats are .doc, .docx, and .pdf for written text (other formats for other types of assignments will be listed in the assignment). Please include your name and ID number on all assignments and format the file name of all documents uploaded to D2L as: Last name_Assignment title_Term. **Note:** It is your responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that you submit the proper version (particularly in courses requiring electronic submission).

Policy for Late Assignments

Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss a partial letter grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late. Assignments that are late because of technical difficulties that you as the end user experience will be considered late; it is a good idea to give yourself time to manage any technology problems that may arise.

You have one free pass for one late assignment during the term for which you will not be penalized the late penalty, but only one. After that late assignment free pass is used, all other assignments will be docked for the late assignment. The late pass cannot be applied to tests or quizzes and the assignment for which it is used must be submitted before the last day the class meets during the semester. Assignments for which the late pass is used will receive a grade but no comments.

Conduct:

Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at:

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

Policy on use of electronic devices:

The use of laptop and mobile devices in class is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources

that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's [Internet and email use policy](#). Electronic devices are not permitted during the Final Examination.

Grading System:

Assignments will be assessed a letter grade and the final grade for the course will also be represented as a letter grade and converted where necessary using the Department of English Grading System.

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

Students must reach the minimum percentage threshold for the grade range to receive that letter grade. For example, to receive an A- a student must have surpassed the minimum threshold of 80.00% in the course.

Academic Integrity:

This course, like all courses at the University of Calgary, holds students to high standards of honest and responsible scholarship. Please consult the [Academic Integrity website](#) for a detailed description of university policies, which will be enforced in this course. Cases of suspected academic misconduct will be referred to the Associate Dean of Arts for a ruling.

Plagiarism is a type of academic misconduct. Plagiarism occurs when a student presents the ideas, expression of ideas, or work of another person as their own. Another equally serious form of plagiarism occurs when a student submits something they have written themselves for credit in two or more courses without first securing written permission from all those course instructors. Consequences for plagiarism include failure on the assignment, failure in the course, and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense.

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](#) must be completed. It is the student's responsibility to initiate this process with the instructor. The University also has regulations governing the [deferral of final examinations](#).

Grade appeals:

To pursue a Reassessment of Graded Term Work or a Reappraisal of an Academic Assessment,

Consult the [University Calendar](#) and request advice from the English Department at engl@ucalgary.ca. Please note that mere dissatisfaction with a grade is not sufficient grounds for an appeal.

English Department Website:

For more information about courses, programs, policies, events and contacts in the Department of English.

Scribe and Muse Club for English Students:

The [Scribe and Muse Reading and Writing Club](#) fosters and champions reading and writing through community service, leadership, and engagement. Our email address is smecuofc@gmail.com.

Writing support:

[The Student Success Centre](#) offers both online and workshop writing support for U of C students.

Academic regulations and schedules

Student Academic Accommodations:

The Student Accessibility Services website is available [here](#). University accommodation policies can be found at the following links:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6-1.html>

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6.html>

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6-2.html>

Program Advising and Student Information Resources is done through the Faculty of Arts Students' Centre. Office location: SS102; phone: 403-220-3580; email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca
Website: <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>

Instructor's Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors, including presentations, posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams, remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with usual classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty and teaching assistants. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

Sexual violence policy:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Sexual-and-Gender-Based-Violence-Policy.pdf>

Other important information:

- [Wellness and Mental Health Resources](#)
- [Student Success](#)
- [Student Ombuds Office](#)
- [Student Union \(SU\) Information](#)
- [Graduate Students' Association \(GSA\) Information](#)
- [Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points](#)
- [Safewalk](#)

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):

Please participate in [USRI Surveys](#) toward the end of the course. The feedback they provide helps us evaluate teaching, enhance student learning, and guide students as they select courses.