



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
ENGL 253.01 L01
SPRING 2021

Instructor	Dr. Kirsten Inglis
Email:	kainglis@ucalgary.ca
Web Page:	D2L (access via MyUofC portal)
Office Hours:	Via Zoom, Wednesdays, 9-10am
Synchronous Class Times:	Wednesdays, 1-3:30pm

Course description:

Calendar Description:

The study of the conventions of a genre, with emphasis on close reading and critical writing skills. Includes the study of at least one text by an indigenous author.

This course introduces students to the conventions of short fiction. We will trace the historical development of the short story and we will consider its manifestations in various cultures and literary traditions (all texts will be read in English, either as the original language of composition or in translation). Students will learn to read closely and analyze carefully the short fiction assigned for class. Students will develop a technical vocabulary for the study of literary texts and will learn to approach texts through various theoretical and contextual lenses. The development of critical reading and effective writing skills will be a central component of this course.

Online Course Delivery:

This course will take place online via Desire2Learn (D2L) and Zoom. To best succeed in the course, students are encouraged to participate in all synchronous Zoom sessions and complete all asynchronous learning tasks using the D2L learning environment.

There will be approximately 7 synchronous Zoom sessions throughout the term; Wednesdays from 1:00-3:30pm. Asynchronous modules will be required for completion on Mondays in preparation for synchronous classes on Wednesdays. Synchronous Zoom classes will not be recorded, and it is the student's responsibility to attend and participate in these sessions.

When unable to participate live due to time difference or unforeseen circumstances, students should inform the instructor in advance and propose and implement an alternative participation activity (e.g. submit a brief reflection on the day's assigned reading; collate and

submit course notes from classmates; and / or actively contribute to the follow-up online discussion).

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the elements of short fiction and its historical development.
2. Close read short fiction in a variety of forms and genres. This process begins by understanding that a text is constructed, and not a transparent reflection of reality.
3. Employ a range of technical terms and critical tools with which to interpret short fiction.
4. Write strong, well-supported, clearly written academic essays with effective and persuasive analytical arguments.
5. Understand what constitutes plagiarism and use proper documentation in their written work.
6. Develop 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.
7. Engage with other scholars by responding to critical texts.

Learning Resources:

Textbook

- **REQUIRED:** *The Broadview Anthology of Short Fiction*, Fourth Canadian Edition. Edited by Laura Buzzard; Marjorie Mather. Broadview, 2020. (Print or eBook available)
- **Recommended:** Weinstock, *The Mad Scientist's Guide to Composition*, Broadview, 2019. (Print or eBook available)

Online Resources

- Supplementary assigned readings will be provided via D2L as links to websites or library resources, or as PDF files in accordance with copyright compliance regulations
<https://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>
- A detailed schedule of readings will be circulated during the first week of classes. Generally 3-4 short stories will be assigned reading for each class.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2l.ucalgary.ca). Students may be required to watch films or videos via services like CBC Gem, YouTube, or the university library.

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;

- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Assignments and Evaluation:

Attendance 5%

Discussion Board Participation 10%

Essay 1 25%

Essay 2 30%

Final Exam 30%

Attendance 5%

- Attendance will be taken using Zoom or TopHat during synchronous classes.
- Attendance will be graded as follows:
 - Attended 6-7 classes: A
 - Attended 5 classes: B
 - Attended 4 classes: C
 - Attended 3 classes: D
 - Attended 2 or fewer classes: F
- **Students may miss one class without penalty. For this reason, there will be no excused absences or 'make up' exercises for the attendance component.**

Discussion Board Participation 10%

- Students will be assigned 6 discussion prompts over the course of the term.
- Students will write a formal discussion post of at least 200 words in response to a question or prompt provided, and they will respond to a classmate's post in a reply of at least 100 words.
- Students **MUST** complete the discussion post and response during the specified timeframe. Discussion forums will lock at 11:30pm on the due date and there will be **NO opportunity to make up these posts. For this reason, students are encouraged to post well in advance of the deadline to avoid last-minute technology issues.**
- Discussion posts will be contractually graded for completion at the end of the term, on the following criteria (*fully complete* means to the required word count and directly answering the question(s) asked. Vague summaries of the text will not be considered 'fully complete' answers):
 - A Grade: Student fully completes all 6 posts and responses, using correctly cited textual examples.
 - B Grade: Student fully completes 5 posts and responses, using correctly cited textual examples.
 - C Grade: Student fully completes 4 posts and responses, using correctly cited textual examples.

- D Grade: Student fully completes 3 posts and responses, using correctly cited textual examples.
- F Grade (30%): Student fully completes 2 posts and responses, using correctly cited textual examples.
- F Grade (20%): Student fully completes 1 post and response, using correctly cited textual examples.
- F Grade (0): Student fully completes 0 posts and responses, using correctly cited textual examples.

Essay 1 (750 words) 25%

- Students will write a 750-word comparative essay on an assigned topic. This paper will not require the use of secondary sources.
- Specific guidelines will be distributed in class.

Essay 2 (1200 words) 30%

- Students will write a 1000-word essay on one of the assigned topics, incorporating specific textual examples from primary reading(s) and secondary (research) sources.
- Specific guidelines will be distributed in class.

Registrar-scheduled Final Exam 30%

- The exam will be open book and will be scheduled by the registrar's office.
- It will be written in D2L during a specified period of time.
- The exam may include short and long answer questions.
- The exam will be cumulative (cover all material from the beginning of the semester).

Additional Regulations:

- This course will have a Registrar scheduled final exam, and the exam will be Open Book, written in D2L.
- **Students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period June 21-23, 2021.** <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>
- There are no extra-credit assignments for this course.
- Unless otherwise specified in assignment instructions, all assignments are to be submitted to the D2L dropbox for this course. Assignments will be due on or before MIDNIGHT of the due date. Assignments submitted after this time will be subject to the following late penalties:
 - Assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized with the loss of a third of a grade (for example, an A- to B+) for each business day [not class] that the assignment is overdue.
 - Assignments submitted after the due date will be graded but will not have feedback provided.

- No assignments will be accepted one week past the assignment deadline without the prior consent of the instructor.
- It is your responsibility to keep a copy of all assignments in case of loss by any cause.
- You do not have to complete all assignments in order to receive a passing grade in the course.

CONDUCT

Students, employees, and academic staff are 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>

USE OF INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN CLASS

The use of laptop and mobile devices 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, which can be found at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf>

Email: I will not provide summaries of class via email, nor will I respond to emails that ask for information provided in the course documents. I will provide specific guidelines on email procedure for classes with Teaching Assistant(s). Please use appropriate salutations and signatures in your emails. I will respond to emails within 48 (business) hours. This means I do not respond to emails after 5:00 p.m. or on weekends.

GUIDELINES FOR ZOOM SESSIONS

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the **Code of Conduct**). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters.

Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#)). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session. Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

Synchronous Zoom classes will **not** be recorded.

Grading system:

- In this course, all assignments and exams will be marked on 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> 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)
- Written assignments will receive letter grades. Reading quizzes and the final exam will receive a numerical grade, to be converted using the following scale:

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

- 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 4-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.