

COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 253.03, L03: Novel Fall 2022

Class Schedule (Mondays and Wednesdays/09:30-10:45 am/On Campus)

Instructor	Elias Schwieler
Email:	elias.schwieler@ucalgary.ca
Web Page:	D2L ENGL 253 03 (access via MyUofC portal)
Office Hours:	10:45-11:45 Wednesdays and by appointment.

Course description:

The course explores the novel genre, with emphasis on close reading and critical writing skills. Includes the study of at least one text by an Indigenous author. It centers around the theme "crossing" in a selection of novels, spanning the 19th to the 21st century. Crossing begins by opening a possibility: to meet or to pass by, to encounter in a spirit of collaboration or conflict. Like an X on a map, crossing marks both a place and a process, an intersection and a journey. Crossing entails navigating borders between states on scales ranging from the personal to the geopolitical. As the embodiment of movement, crossing creates opportunity and transition, continuity and contact, collision and negation. Crossing implicates objects, channels, and traces in the passage of bodies and ideas.

In its capacious fluidity, crossing describes incursions and excursions of all kinds. It can testify to migration and exile, to shifting formations of gender and sexuality, to appropriation and accommodation of cultures. At the same time, it can denote an act of cancelation or erasure: a literal crossing out. The act of crossing two pen strokes forms an X that stands as a symbol of identification or denial, affirmation or rejection. Conversely, "crossed wires" as an admission of confusion can lead to unexpected or dangerous outcomes, as can roads or tracks that cross, and the confrontations they enable.

As a cultural-political phenomenon, crossing can be a transgression that breaks down boundaries of style and genre in fiction. In forming junctions, engendering hybridity, and inevitably leading to entanglement, crossing is transient and provisional, inviting us to think beyond the ostensible stability of the categories it connects and bypasses as well as on the spaces in-between.

Commented [DS1]: It should be ENGL 253.03 L03

Commented [DS2]: Are you holding separate office hours for every class? If so, what you've got here is ok. But in general we are expected to hold one regular office hour per week per course we an teaching. So: if you have two classes this term, it would be two regular hours per week.

Commented [DS3]: You should start with the calendar description, before getting into the theme of your specific course.

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

By close reading and critically writing you will engage with the theme crossing in the novels to develop skills to analyze and write about literature. You will also develop the ability to reflect on the relationship and intersection between fiction and reality, and what we can learn about ourselves, and how to live, by critical reading and writing.

Course learning outcomes:

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

- Critically read and analyze literary texts;
- · Write logically, clearly, and persuasively;
- · Relate secondary sources to primary texts;
- Situate their own scholarly analysis within larger academic discourse, both in relation to other students' ideas, and the wider academic world;
- Critically evaluate a literary text in terms of plot, themes, and structure.
- Articulate the importance of literary texts in relation to the course theme of crossing.

Texts and readings:

Atwood, M. The Handmaind's Tale
Brontë, C. Jane Eyre (e-text on D2L)
Erdrich, L. The Future Home of the Living God
McCarthy, C. Blood Meridian or the Evening Redness in the West
Morrison, T. Beloved
Woolf, V. A Room of One's Own (e-text on D2L)

Any edition of the novels is allowed.

Additional texts will be made available on D2L.

Learning technology requirements:

This course is presented on campus, with classes occurring on Mondays & Wednesdays, from 09:30 am to 10:45 am Mountain Time. Students are expected to complete assignment-related objectives asynchronously. There is a D2L site for this course, which contains additional required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see D2L.ucalgary.ca).

Assessments and Evaluation:

Close Reading Paper 1 (25%)

Commented [DS4]: It's not a requirement, but often people include the specific edition, so students know which copy to buy (so common pages are possible in discussion). If students can buy any edition, then you can say that here too.

For this essay, students will practice their close reading skills with reference to texts covered in the course and related academic criticism. This essay of 750 words will incorporate 1 secondary scholarly source, which will support and help build the student's own argument. Each essay will be accompanied by an MLA formatted bibliography listing both the primary and secondary texts consulted. The close reading paper is submitted electronically on D2L.

Group Presentation (15%):

For this project, each group will choose one text from the course readings and discuss it in terms of how it explores the course theme "crossing," and how that exploration fits with related criticism. The group will be required to integrate one appropriate critical secondary source into their analysis. Students should use visual materials, such as PowerPoint, which must support and highlight the group's central argument. The presentation must be 10-12 minutes in length (no longer). Each of the group members must actively present something during the presentation. There will likely be 4 to 5 students per group. Students in each group will be assigned a common grade.

Close Reading Paper 2 (35%):

Considering our own interpretations in the context of larger academic and critical conversations is an important step in formulating strong arguments. For this essay, students will pursue their chosen lines of inquiry with reference to texts and authors covered in the course and related academic criticism. This essay of 1250 words will incorporate 2-3 secondary scholarly sources, which will support and help build the student's own argument. Each essay will be accompanied by an MLA formatted bibliography listing both the primary and secondary texts consulted. The close reading research paper is submitted electronically on D2L.

Final Exam (25%):

The final exam marks the culmination of all our work in English 251. It consists of a closed-book exam on the course topic. The course will have a registrar scheduled examination during the regular exam period. The registrar schedules all examinations; the instructor has no control over when ours will be held. The exam period runs between December 10 and December 21. The exam will follow the university regulations for examinations in campus courses.

TOTAL: 100%

All assignments have to be handed in to receive a passing grade on the course. Students need not receive a passing grade on any particular assessment to be eligible for a passing grade in the course.

No assignments will be accepted one week past the assignment deadline without the prior consent of the instructor. No feedback will be given on late assignments.

There are no opportunities for extra credit available.

Attendance and participation expectations:

Students are expected to attend class regularly and to be fully present and engaged in class activities and discussions.

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

Grading System:

Assignments on the course are graded based on the percentage values as stated in the below table:

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

Students must reach the minimum percentage threshold for the grade range to receive that letter grade (e.g., to receive an A- a student will 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:

<u>The Student Success Centre</u> 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/policies/files/policies/sexual-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
- <u>Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points</u>
- <u>Safewalk</u>

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.