

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH 302A/B-01

Fall 2015 & Winter 2016

COURSE TITLE: Foundations: Introduction to Contemporary Theoretical Practices

Instructor: David Sigler

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Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:00-1:30 and by appointment

Homepage/course website: none beside the Desire2Learn course site

Course description: An examination of the claims and assumptions of a range of contemporary critical practices, such as formalism, structuralism, deconstruction, feminism and gender studies, new historicism, psychoanalytic criticism, and cultural and ideological critique. Includes practice in the application of theory to literary texts. Meets for a large lecture on Mondays and in smaller discussion groups on Wednesdays.

Teaching Assistants:

TA Coordinator: Jess Nicol

email: jknicol@ucalgary.ca

TAs: Will Best - SEM 01- ST055 email: william.best@ucalgary.ca
Keila Aleman Jimenez - SEM 02 - ST059 email: keila.alemanjimenez@ucalgary.ca
Jordan Bolay – SEM 03 – SA107 email: jordan.bolay@ucalgary.ca
Celiese Lypka – SEM 04 – SA109 email: celiese.lypka@ucalgary.ca
Tom Sewel – SEM 05 – SA235 email: tom.sewel@ucalgary.ca
Jaclyn Carter – SEM 06 – SH288 email: jcarte@ucalgary.ca

Texts and readings:

Jonathan Culler, *Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction*, 2nd ed. Oxford UP. ISBN: 978-0199691340.

Vincent B. Leitch et al, eds. *The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*. 2nd ed. Norton. ISBN: 978-0393932928.

Other texts will be posted as .pdfs to the class D2L site.

You will need the text in front of you in class each day, both for lecture and the discussion section.

Assignments and Evaluation:

Paper 1: 10%, due Fall term, graded by TA or instructor

Paper 2: 10%, due Fall term, graded by TA or instructor

Paper 3: 10%, due Winter term, graded by TA or instructor

Paper 4: 10%, due Winter term, graded by TA or instructor

Registrar-scheduled Midpoint exam: 20%, end of Fall term, graded by instructor

Registrar-scheduled Final exam: 24%, end of Winter term, graded by instructor

Reading quizzes: 3% for Fall term, 3% for Winter term, graded by instructor

Contributions to group discussion: 5% for Fall term and 5% for Winter term, graded by TA

This course will seek to change—really multiply—the ways that you read. Although the reading load is relatively light for an English class in terms of the number of pages assigned, the frequency of new ideas and their degree of difficulty will be, I promise, staggering. To do well in this course, you will have to be adventurous, prepared, and consistent, and, because the concepts are cumulative, you will have to keep up all the way along. Here, it's okay to try out new things, even if they don't totally succeed: this course is designed to give you a little flavour of several current approaches to interpretation. That's why you will be writing an array of short papers, each worth very little, and writing different sorts of responses on the exams: we are trying to give you opportunities to work through and test out big, new ideas with relatively little at stake each time.

The four papers will be written to prompts distributed in class and subsequently posted to D2L. Papers should be submitted in hard copy, in class, on the assignment due date. They must be stapled, have a properly formatted works cited list, and show your name, your TA's name, and a page number as a header every page. Your paper may be graded by your usual TA, another TA, the TA coordinator, or the instructor. Late papers will be accepted until a week beyond the deadline, and will be penalized 1/2 a letter grade for every 24 hour period beyond the deadline. Late papers should be submitted by email, as an attachment in MS Word or as a .pdf, to your TA and copying the instructor.

The midpoint and final exams will be scheduled by the Registrar and held in the official exam week at the end of the Fall and Winter semesters. The midpoint exam will be two hours (Students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period; Dec 11-22); the final exam, three (Students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period; April 16-27). The exams will consist of passage identifications, some short answer questions, and one or more longer essay responses asking you to apply the theory we've read in an impromptu reading of a short literary text.

Contributions to discussion: Except for the fact that students must be present to contribute, this grade has little to do with attendance. Showing up to the discussion group every Wednesday and keeping generally mum will earn you a D in participation. We care as much about the quality of contribution as the quantity, so there is no need to dominate the discussion. Earning a "B" in participation means that you have come to class prepared every day, making meaningful contributions and responding to your classmates; the B involves participating in the conversation most days. Students in the middle of the pack earn a B- in participation, making insightful comments in many discussions but staying uninvolved in others. A-range grades in participation are reserved for those who consistently offer true insight, read and discuss rigorously without dominating the room, draw their classmates into thoughtful discussion in an inviting and considerate way, and situate their comments within the larger conversation the class is having. The A participator does this in nearly every class. TAs will be keeping notes about students' contributions to discussion, which will be used for determining participation grades at the end of each semester. Students get a separate grade for Fall and Winter semesters, each worth 5%.

Reading quizzes will be given on a surprise basis during some Monday lectures. Expect three to four of them per semester. These quizzes will test basic facts about the text we are set to discuss, so as to persuade (or inspire) you to keep up with our reading load. No make up quizzes are possible; your late arrival or absence will result in a grade of zero.

We strongly recommend that laptops and tablets be stowed during class time, because you learn more and better when you take notes by hand, and are less of a distraction to those around you. Laptops and tablets are not, however, disallowed—students with a strong preference for electronic note-taking may use a laptop or tablet in class for the sole purposes of consulting electronic texts from the course D2L page or taking notes. Cell phones and other small **electronic devices** must be turned off during class time. Video and/or audio recording of lecture or discussion is prohibited. Visual material from lecture will not posted elsewhere or otherwise distributed.

Desire2 Learn, the University of Calgary's official learning management system, is accessible through the myUofC web portal. The website will have some of our readings, the grade book, and some useful web links.

Grading system:

In this course, all essays, exams, and quizzes will be marked according to the Department of English grading system as outlined here: <https://english.ucalgary.ca/gradingpolicies>.

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

There are no opportunities for extra credit. Students do not need to complete any particular assignment to receive a passing grade for the course.

If you are unhappy with your grade on a paper, first make an appointment with your seminar leader to receive more feedback on your performance. If, after this step, you are still unclear about the assessment of your paper, you must write an email to the TA Coordinator (Jess Nicol) to set up an appointment to review the paper again. When you make an appointment with the TA Coordinator, you must attach a letter outlining your objections to the first assessment. If the matter is not resolved at this level, you may take the assignment to the Instructor of this course. Send an email to dsigler@ucalgary.ca with the essay and rationale for re-grading attached, copying your TA and the TA Coordinator. If the letter demonstrates sufficient grounds for the appeal, the instructor will re-grade the assignment; your grade could be upheld, raised, or lowered. If you believe an error has been made in grading one of your reading quizzes, please bring the graded quiz to the instructor's office hours for a review. Other grading concerns should be brought to the instructor or TA Coordinator during office hours. Note: You must appeal all grades at the Instructor level before you proceed to the University appeal process.

Cases of **academic misconduct**, including plagiarism and cheating, will be referred to the Dean of Students as per University regulations. As per the University Calendar, Section K.1: Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not. Any ideas or materials taken from another source written, electronic, or oral must be fully and formally acknowledged.

1. **Plagiarism** includes but is not limited to:

- (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 is an extremely serious academic offence.

2. **Cheating** is an extremely serious academic offence. Cheating at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other Academic Misconduct** - Other academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

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/scribe-and-muse-english-club>.

Our email address is smecuofc@gmail.com.

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>. Please note that the course outlines posted on the English

Department website constitute the official course outline for purposes of appeals. Students should verify any hard copies against this posted version. For courses which employ numerical grades, the official departmental percentage to letter grade conversion scale is also posted on the department website.

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>

Guidelines on e-mail Etiquette:

<http://www.enough.utoronto.ca/computeruse/eetiquette.htm>

Library and Research Support:

Melanie Boyd, Librarian for English, offers research support to students, including strategies for finding articles, books, and other library materials. Contact: maboymd@ucalgary.ca

Find The English Pages research guide here: <http://libguides.ucalgary.ca/english>

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>

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>.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available

at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf.

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 Arts Students’ Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@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>

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):

"At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference - please participate in USRI Surveys."

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.