

FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH 336.03 Lecture 2

WINTER 2019

Popular Writing: 11:00 am – 12:15 pm in SB 105

Instructor: Dr. Dawn Bryan

Office: SS 1028

Phone: 220-4675

E-mail: dawn.bryan@ucalgary.ca

Office hours: Thursday, 12:30 - 2:30 pm

Homepage/course website: For course materials and announcements please see D2L.

**Course description:**

English 336.03 is an introduction to the elements of creative writing as the basis for artistic practice. This course recognizes that writers at every level benefit from a thorough scrutiny of the fundamentals of the theory and practice of creative writing. Students in English 336.03 will undertake a careful study of the building blocks of narrative in order to advance an understanding of their own creative practice. In addition, the class will work together to conduct an inquiry into the definitions, practices, and contexts of the “popular” as it relates to the practice of creative writing.

Please note that this class is a reading and writing intensive course, requiring considerable commitment on the part of students.

**Texts and readings:**

Butler, Octavia E. “Bloodchild.” *Bloodchild and Other Stories*. Seven Stories Press, 2005, pp. 3-29.

Bourdieu, Pierre. “The Field of Cultural Production, Or: the Economic World Reversed.” *Poetics*, 12.4/5, 1983, pp. 311-56.

Collins, Lauren. “Real Romance.” *Newyorker.com*, 22 June, 2009,  
<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2009/06/22/real-romance-2>.”

\*Robinson, Eden. *Son of A Trickster*. Vintage, 2018.

Haywood, Eliza. “Fantomina.” *Fantomina and Other Works*, edited by Alexander Pettit et. al, Broadview, 2004, pp. 41-71.

\*King, Thomas. *Cold Skies*, Harper Collins, 2018.

Ligotti, Thomas. “Purity.” *Teatro Grottesco*. Virgin Books, 2008, pp. 3-21.

\*McNamara Michelle. *I’ll Be Gone in the Dark*. Harper, 2018.

\*Rowel, Rainbow. *Carry On*. St. Martin’s Press, 2015.

Roberts, Nora. “Mind Over Matter.” *California Dreams*. 1987. Silhouette Books, 2014, pp. 9-29; 232-249.  
---. *The Liar*. Putnam’s & Sons, 2015, pp. 2-15.

\* Books marked with an asterisk are available through the campus bookstore. Other readings are available through D2L



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The draft must be <u>no more than 1200 words (four to five pages double spaced) in length</u>.</li> <li>So that classmates have time to read the draft, it must be submitted to the appropriate forum in D2L one week before the start of the workshop at which it is to be critiqued.</li> <li>Please name the file with <u>your</u> last name and the assignment name.</li> </ul>	is to be critiqued (see schedule)
25% (Part 1 @ 15% + Part 2 @ 10%)	<p><b>Bookwork</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In weeks that students are not scheduled to attend a workshop, they are instead responsible for “bookwork:” a series of reflections on popular writing, as exemplified by the course readings.</li> <li>On days that a group is scheduled for “bookwork,” the instructor will post a question in D2L that pertains to that week’s reading (see schedule).</li> <li>Over the term, the instructor will pose five “bookwork” questions to each group, but students need answer only <u>four (4)</u>.</li> <li>Each “bookwork” answer will take the shape of a <u>400 word “mini-essay</u>, with a thesis statement and support drawn from the text in question. The best answers will be clearly written and will provide a persuasive interpretation of a given course reading in relation to the class’s expanding consideration of popular writing.</li> <li>Instructor will grade these “mini-essays” twice over term, two per due date.</li> <li>Submit to D2L by the due dates. Please name the file with <u>your</u> last name and the assignment name.</li> </ul>	<p>Part 1: <b>Tuesday, Feb 26</b> (midnight)</p> <p>Part 2: <b>Tuesday, April 9</b> (midnight)</p>
30%	<p><b>Capstone Assignment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This capstone assignment will be a <i>significantly</i> expanded revised and polished version of the story or chapter prepared for workshop.</li> <li>This version should thoughtfully respond to the best of the feedback provided by classmates and instructor.</li> <li>The draft should also be <u>no more than 2000 words in length (roughly eight pages)</u>.</li> <li>Submit to D2L by the due date. Please name the file with <u>your</u> last name and the assignment name.</li> </ul>	Due to D2L <b>Thursday, 11 April</b> (midnight)

This course has NO Registrar Scheduled Final Exam.

Please note the following information pertaining to assignments and evaluation in this course:

- All assignments must be completed in order to receive a passing grade. The instructor is unable to accept extra-credit assignments.
- Unless otherwise specified, assignments are due as electronic copies to D2L. Please upload as word or pdf files. Label the file with your last name and the name of the assignment. Do not create a title page, but on the first page include the following information: your name, the instructor’s name, the course number and section, the date, and a brief, descriptive title. Please include page numbers in your document.

- Assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized with the loss of a third of a grade (an A- to B+) for each business day [not class] that the assignment is overdue. No assignments will be accepted one week past the assignment deadline without the prior consent of the instructor.
- Please make every effort to submit assignments directly to the instructor as directed.

**Grading system:** In this course, all essays, exams, and presentations will be assigned a letter grade alongside an equivalent percentage grade. The exact conversion of letter to percentage grade is at the instructor's discretion but will reflect the conversion scale below.

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.

This course employs the following guidelines for grading creative work.

**A: Consistently exceptional work**

Outstanding or superior performance that shows a comprehensive understanding of subject matter. The work is moving toward a publishable level. The use of language is precise, original, imaginative and compelling; if applicable, the content of the work is treated in a fresh, new way, and the form chosen is the best possible. Writing in this range employs every element of the genre with sophistication and elegance.

**B: Consistently good work**

Good, clearly above average performance. The work demonstrates originality, control, and generally exact and thoughtful use of language, but could use more refinement or development, and more revision. It shows at least in part a heightened awareness of language and image, and an original perspective or point of view.

**C: Consistently average work**

The work is satisfactory, but relies on ordinary, even somewhat predictable use of language. Work in this range is formally not innovative, although the writing will be competent, even promising. The material will definitely need more work, more layering, more texture. Image and sound but may verge on clichéd and predictable.

**D: Minimal pass**

The work shows some effort but is carelessly constructed. Use of language will be undistinguished and clichéd, ideas ordinary, even predictable.

**F: No credit**

Work shows no effort or flippant treatment of the assignment; no work has been done at all.

**Electronic device and Internet use:**

Students may use computers and other electronic devices for course-related activities only (e.g. note-taking). Be aware that the use of electronic devices may be distracting to other members of the class. Please be courteous in your use of such items. Gaming, inappropriate browsing, and texting are NOT acts of courtesy, and students who are a distraction to others will be asked to cease the activity or leave the classroom.

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**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-5.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](mailto: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>

**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: [maboym@ucalgary.ca](mailto:maboym@ucalgary.ca).

Find The English Pages research guide here:

[https://library.ucalgary.ca/sb.php?subject\\_id=52619](https://library.ucalgary.ca/sb.php?subject_id=52619)

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:****ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available

at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.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](mailto: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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto: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](http://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/>

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see

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



## 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.