

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

ENGLISH 399.03 - Detective Fiction

Winter, 2013

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Office hours: 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and after class, Wednesday. By appointment, please.

Important Dates:

Tuesday, January 8: Winter Term begins

Sunday, February 17 to Sunday, February 24: Reading Week – No lectures

Friday, March 29: Good Friday – No lectures

Tuesday, April 16: Winter Term ends

Course Description:

This section of English 399 gives an historical survey of the development of detective fiction from its origins to the present. Expect to meet renowned writers (and detectives) of the *genre*, including Edgar Allan Poe (C. Auguste Dupin), Arthur Conan Doyle (Sherlock Holmes), Agatha Christie (Hercules Poirot), and Dashiell Hammett (the Continental Op), as well as some up to the minute writers, including Megan Abbott.

Required Texts:

Abbott, Megan. *Queenpin*. Toronto: Simon & Shuster, 2007. Print.

Christie, Agatha. *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*. Harper Collins, 2011. Print.

Connelly, Michael. *The Poet*. Grand Central, 2004. Print.

Mansfield-Kelley, Deanne and Lois Marchino, eds..*The Longman Anthology of Detective Fiction*. Longman, 2004. Print.

Recommended Texts:

- A reputable dictionary, for example, *The Oxford Concise*, or *The Random House* dictionaries.

Schedule of readings and assignments: You will receive this in the first week of term.

Assignments and Evaluation:

You may choose Option A or Option B. You must submit a signed contract indicating which option you have chosen when you submit the first assignment. **Failure to do this will result in my assigning to you the default position of Option A and a short story.** You may not opt out of your decision once you have submitted the signed contract.

A	B	Assignment
20%	25%	Book review (about 2 pages, double spaced)
15%	20%	First in-class test (analysis of short passages and short answers - 90 minutes)
40%	30%	Original short story, OR a 15 minute analytical presentation
25%	25%	Second in-class test (analysis of short passages and short answers - 90 minutes)
100%	100%	

There is no final examination in this section of English 399

Grading system: I assign marks in letter grades for all assignments according to the following grading scheme:

90%+	4.0	A+	Outstanding.
85-89%	4.0	A	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject.
80-84%	3.7	A-	
77-79%	3.3	B+	
74-76%	3.0	B	Good - clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-73%	2.7	B-	
67-69%	2.3	C+	
64-66%	2.0	C	Satisfactory - basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-63%	1.7	C-	
55-59%	1.3	D+	
50-54%	1.0	D	Minimal pass - marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49%	0	F	Fail - unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Please Note:

1. I *welcome* questions. If you have any questions at all, do please ask.
2. You must complete all the assignments and exams in order to be eligible for a passing grade in this course.
3. Please submit your assignments to me punctually at the beginning of the class in which they are due. If for some reason you are unable to deliver them to me in class, please deliver them to the English Department office (11th floor Social Sciences) where they will be date stamped before they are delivered to my mailbox.
4. Please keep a copy of your essays in case of loss by any cause.
5. I will give you plenty of notice for each assignment. I only give extensions to the class as a whole, or to individuals in exceptional circumstances.
6. The penalty for late papers is half a letter grade for each day (not class) that the paper is overdue. For example, an A paper due on Tuesday and submitted on Friday will be assigned a grade of B. I do not mark papers overdue by nine or more days: I simply assign a grade of F. (Note that an assignment not completed before this period must still be submitted --- see 2. above).
7. I do not accept assignments electronically and only return assignments in class.
8. I have zero tolerance for plagiarism (Latin, '*plagiarius*', kidnapper, literary thief). Using any source whatsoever without clear documentation is a serious academic offense, one that I do not tolerate. The possible consequences to you include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. We will discuss this in the first class on essay writing. Please read the statement on plagiarism on page 5 of this document.

Blackboard and email: it is your responsibility to read email from me and to check our Blackboard pages regularly for updates.

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/content/subscribe-and-muse-reading-and-writing-club>
Our email address is smrwc@ucalgary.ca.

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>.

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>

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>

Guidelines on e-mail Etiquette:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/it/help/articles/email/etiquette>

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>.

Academic accommodation:

It is a student’s responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation and if you have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Your academic accommodation letters should be provided to your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the commencement of this course. Students who have not registered with the Disability

Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/>

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 Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@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>

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.

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