

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH 501.18 (L01)
STUDIES IN DRAMA – MARKETS AND THEIR CRISES

FALL 2014

Instructor: Dr Basil Chiasson
Office: SS1125
Phone: +1 (403) 220-4654
E-mail: basil.chiasson@ucalgary.ca
Office hours: Thursdays 12.30-13.30
Homepage/course website: (D2L) <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home/49187>

Course Description

English 501 considers how recent drama has been affected by and responds to the crises of contemporary capitalism. Focusing on English plays since the 1970s, our reading and discussions will be guided by themes such as consumerism, individualism, privatization, market rationality, power, and protest. In treating the plays as both a product of and a response to the increasing marketization of society, and of life, we will reflect upon the ways and extents to which drama is a barometer of our times, embodying and sometimes commenting upon the wider social world, and how it can even create new worlds of thought and experience. In terms of objectives, students will have the opportunity: to become acquainted with and appreciate several post-war British dramas and the historical, social, cultural, and economic contexts which inform and often draw a response from them; to explore the myriad ways in which the keywords for this course—markets and crises—attain significance and meaning in the present, twenty-first century; to engage with their peers in autonomous as well as collaborative, rigorous, and developed discussion and debate; to compose short essays on a regular basis in order to develop a more efficacious writing practice; and to further sharpen their respective reading practice, critical acumen, and interpretive approach. Note that enrollment in English 501 requires one full-course equivalent in English at the 400 level, or consent of the Department.

Texts and Readings

Churchill, Caryl. *Owners*. Available as an e-text (U of Calgary Library database).

_____. *Serious Money*. For purchase at University Bookstore.

Eldridge, David. *Market Boy*. For purchase at Bookstore.

Gupta, Tanika. *Sugar Mummies*. For purchase at Bookstore.

Hall, Stuart, Doreen Massey, and Michael Rustin. "After Neoliberalism: Analysing the Present." *After Neoliberalism: The Kilburn Manifesto*. Eds. Stuart Hall, Doreen Massey, and Michael Rustin. *Soundings: A Journal of Politics and Culture* (2013): 3–20. Available online and as PDF on course website.

Hare, David. *The Power of Yes*. For purchase at Bookstore.

Kelly, Dennis. *Love and Money*. Available as a PDF on course website.

Prebble, Lucy. *Enron*. For purchase at Bookstore.

Ravenhill, Mark. *Shopping and Fucking*. Available as an e-text (U of Calgary Library database).

Stephens, Simon. *Birdland*. For purchase at Bookstore.

NOTE

The schedule for this course will be distributed in the first week of classes. While the texts will not change, the reading schedule may at the Instructor's discretion.

Assignments and Evaluation

6 Bi-weekly Responses to Plays (due on Friday of every other week) 60%

Every other week you will write and submit a thesis-driven response (two full pages of a Word document, double-spaced) to a topic or question pertaining to the cluster of plays read for that given period of time. Topics will be assigned by your instructor.

Course Reflection (due 8 December) 25%

You will submit a journal for this course, a document whose format is for you to determine but which ultimately demonstrates your presence in the course at large. The reflection may include impressions, questions, analytical and refined assertions, etc. It is recommended that you ponder, as the semester unfolds, what shape and direction your reflection might take. Your instructor will elaborate upon and discuss this assignment in further detail as the course progresses.

Participation 15%

Participation will be evaluated according to the following criteria: attendance with text; contributions to general discussions that demonstrate thoughtful and thorough reading; contribution by volunteering to read aloud from the dramatic works; and by attention to the contributions of others (by way of acknowledgment of points made or by way of productive follow up questions or comments).

NOTE

There is no Registrar-scheduled final examination for this course.

Students must complete and submit all assignments in order to be eligible to pass English 501.

Submit your assignments in the Department of English office (11th floor Social Sciences), where they will be date stamped before they are delivered to your instructor's mailbox.

Back up all written work to be submitted.

Plenty of notice will be given for each assignment. Extensions will only be given to the entire class or to individuals in exceptional circumstances.

Your instructor does NOT accept emailed assignments. Assignments will only be returned in class.

Late Assignments

Late essays will be penalized at the rate of 5 points per day of lateness (including both Saturdays and Sundays). Thus, if you hand in a paper one day late and it scores a 9.5/10 (95%), it will be downgraded to a 9 (90%).

Grading System

In English 501, assignments will be given numerical grades—in the form of percentages—according to Undergraduate Grading System (see left column of chart below), as described in the Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-2.html>). Note that the Department has now standardized the percentage conversion scale.

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

NOTE

There is no grade of D-.

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 four-point system, your instructor for this course will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.

Learning Environment

Desire2Learn (D2L) has now replaced Blackboard. For assistance regarding the course website and learning environment in general go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students>, where you will find Student Help and FAQs about D2L. It is your responsibility to consult the course's website pages regularly for updates.

E-mail Protocol and Etiquette

You must have (and use) a ucalgary.ca email address to receive emails from your instructor and to contact him by email. Note that your instructor responds to emails on the basis of their import. You should not expect a response before 9am or after 5pm; you can expect, for standard emails (i.e. inquiries and notifications), a response time of roughly two to three days. For information pertaining to proper email usage see: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/it/help/articles/email/etiquette>.

Laptops and Other Mobile Devices

Laptop computers will be allowed in class only if you use them to take notes or to follow along with classroom- and course-related activity. Those who cause a distraction by using them for any other purpose will be asked to leave the class. Please turn off cell phones during all classes (if you have an emergency situation, please inform the Instructor at the beginning of class.) Mobile devices are not permitted during quizzes or exams.

Important Dates

Our first class: 9 September	11 November: Remembrance Day – no lectures
13 October: Thanksgiving – no lectures	4 December: Final English 501 class
8–10 November: Reading Days – no lectures	5 December: Lectures end

NOTE

Classes fall within 13 weeks for the Fall semester, with 25 classes for this course.

Consult the Academic Calendar at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

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 smec@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>. 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: maboyd@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>.

Academic Accommodation:

It is the students' responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodations and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact them at 403-220-6019. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodations. More information about academic accommodations can be found at www.ucalgary.ca/access.

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>

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.