

**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
COURSE OUTLINE**

**ENGLISH 201.L10, APPROACHES TO LITERATURE: “LET’S GET REAL”
WINTER 2017**

Instructor: Alex Howard

Email: ahoward@ucalgary.ca

Class date, time, and location: TR 12:30 – 1:45pm in SS 109

Office hour: R 2:30 – 3:30pm in SS1024 or by appointment

Course description

What makes a story feel “real” to us? Which narrative strategies have authors developed to make particular stories feel realistic – or, on the other hand, why might an author choose to call attention to the sheer improbability of their fictions? In this course, we will consider how these questions inform prose genres like the short story, the novel, and the autobiography. Through in-class discussion and structured writing assignments, this course will give you a strong foundation in the skills of critical reading, research, and effective writing.

Required texts

- Douglass, Frederick. 1845. *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*. Edited by Ira Dworkin. Penguin, 2014.
- Woolf, Virginia. *Mrs. Dalloway*. 1925. Edited by Jo-Ann Wallace. Broadview Press, 2012.
- Morrison, Toni. *Beloved*. 1987. Vintage Books, 2004.
- Additional works of short fiction will be available for download in .pdf format from D2L.

Assignments and evaluation

Assignment	Weight	Due date
In-class Top Hat discussion questions	10%	Weekly
Reading the OED reflection	15%	2 February
Close reading paragraph	15%	16 February
Thesis paragraph peer review workshop	2%	16 March
Final essay	33%	Comments requested: 23 March Rubric only: 30 March
Registrar-scheduled final exam	25%	TBA

In-class Top Hat discussion questions: 10%

- Once a week between Weeks 1 and 13, students will be invited to use Top Hat to respond to one online discussion question during class time (ie. between 12:30 – 1.45pm).
- For each week that students participate, they will receive 1% towards a maximum participation grade of 10%. Discussion questions will be marked for completion.
- Students will have 13 total opportunities to respond to a discussion question. As a result, each student can miss up to 3 weekly questions and still receive a participation grade of 10/10.

Reading the OED reflection (300 words/ ~1 pg): 15%

- Using the Oxford English Dictionary Online, students will research the history of a word of their choosing; then, they will write a brief reflection analyzing their findings.
- Reflections will be marked using a rubric to be distributed in advance.

Close reading paragraph (300 words / ~1 pg): 15%

- Students will write a brief paragraph analyzing one of three passages provided by the instructor.
- Close reading paragraphs will be marked using a rubric to be distributed in advance.

Thesis paragraph peer review workshop: 2%

- Please bring two (2) hard copies of a draft thesis paragraph to class on 16 March.
- One copy will be used to complete the peer review exercise, and one will be marked for completion.

Final essay (1400 words/ ~4-5 pgs): 33%

- Students who wish to receive summary comments on their essay **in addition to** a graded rubric are invited to submit their papers on Thursday 24 March.
- Students who are content to receive **only** a graded rubric may submit one week later, on Thursday 30 March.
- Essay prompts will be provided by the instructor.
- Essays will be marked using a rubric to be distributed in advance.

Final exam: 25%

- The final exam will take place during the winter term exam period and will be scheduled by the registrar. Students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period (April 15-26).
- The exam will be cumulative. It will not be open-book.

Formatting and submission requirements

- All assignments should adhere to MLA style guidelines.
- Assignments must be submitted to the instructor in hard copy at the beginning of the class when they are due. Digital copies will not be accepted without the prior consent of the instructor.
- Please make every effort to take assignments directly to the instructor, either in class or during their office hours. If it is not possible to do so, take your assignment to SS 1152 and submit it to the English department's dropbox. Your assignment will be date-stamped and placed in your instructor's mailbox. It is your responsibility to keep a copy of all assignments in case of loss by any cause. Assignments will be returned in class and cannot be returned by departmental staff.

Submission and grading policies

- Students may receive a passing grade in this course without completing all of the above assignments.
- No extra-credit assignments will be given.
- Assignments submitted after the deadline without further documentation or the prior consent of the instructor will be penalized 3% per business day for a maximum of six business days. Weekends count as one business day. Therefore, papers submitted one week past the due date will have a maximum of 18% deducted in late penalties.

- After one week has passed, all late assignments will receive a grade of zero. No assignments will be accepted one week past the assignment deadline without the prior consent of the instructor.
- Students who wish to request that their papers be remarked must compose a 300-word written statement outlining the error before submitting the paper to be graded again. Papers must be resubmitted within two weeks after they are first returned. Whether it goes up or down or remains the same, the resulting grade will replace the student's original grade.

Grading system

- The following grading system will be used in this course:

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

- Although the A+ is solely an honorific that entails no additional points in the four-point system, I will use this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.
- 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.

Academic integrity policy

- Academic work is work, and submitting someone else's work as your own is unethical and unfair. To protect the integrity of our work, students, faculty, and staff at the University of Calgary agree to abide by the same set of rules governing plagiarism and academic misconduct.
- Please note that the University's academic calendar defines plagiarism as "submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not." According to these regulations, 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.

- Before submitting your assignments this term, please familiarize yourself with these rules as they are defined in the University's Statement on Plagiarism, Cheating, and Academic Misconduct (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5-1.html>).
- When in doubt, always include a citation. You are also encouraged to contact your instructor with questions or concerns about academic integrity.

Email policy

- The instructor will respond to all emails sent from students' University of Calgary accounts within 2 business days.
- Please check your university email account and D2L regularly; I will use both to communicate with the class.

A note on respectful discussion

During class discussions, we will encounter difficult or contentious material. Some of our course texts will invite you to engage with literary treatments of class, racism, slavery, religious belief, gendered violence, trauma, and sexuality. Please remember that we all bring different experiences of the world into the classroom, and do your best to approach class discussions with patience and respect for your peers. Rudeness, derogatory language, or personal attacks are not permitted. If you would like to discuss strategies for confronting personally difficult material further, I hope you'll get in touch with me by email, after class, or during my office hours.

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.

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.

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.

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>

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/>

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.

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.

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:

<https://gsa.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Email-Etiquette.pdf>

Library and Research Support:

Christie Hurrell, Interim Librarian for English, offers research support to students, including strategies for finding articles, books, and other library materials. Contact: christie.hurrell@ucalgary.ca. Find The English Pages research guide here: <http://libguides.ucalgary.ca/english>

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."