

**FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH 231 Lecture 03 Fall 2012
Fundamentals of Literary Study: Fiction**

Instructor: Dr. Harry Vandervlist

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Office hours: Tuesday, 3:00-4:00 pm. I can also meet with you by appointment at mutually convenient times: please request appointments in class or via e-mail.

Graduate Teaching Assistants (contact information and office hours will be available on the Course syllabus): Jonathan Flieger, Michael Khmelnsky, Jasmine Elliot, Jessica Nicol

Course description: this course introduces students to university studies in fiction. At the end of this course a successful student will be prepared to offer a truly critical response to fiction. (In this case, critical means thoughtful, based on careful independent reading, well-informed and well-supported.)

To be more specific, the course will help you to do the following:

- to use a shared critical vocabulary to talk about the kinds of stories you read, how they are told, what styles of writing they use, what themes and contexts add meaning to them, and how they offer new ways to think about those themes and contexts.
- to document the evidence for your ideas in the clear, well-established ways created by literature scholars as a support system for better discussions.
- to begin using the resources of the University library system.

In other words, you will be prepared to pursue further studies in literature, or simply enjoy a more developed way of responding to anything you read in future. You should be able to write with more control, clarity and confidence in any of your future courses.

More detail about specific assignments and a weekly reading schedule will be presented in a separate Course Syllabus, available by our first meeting.

What methods will the course use to do this?

You will do the following things in this course:

- “read” the assigned texts (in English courses, this means “close reading,” which requires you to read, re-read and make notes on a text)
- participate in large class lectures as well as in discussions, in-class writing and revision exercises as part of a tutorial group led by a graduate Teaching Assistant.

Texts and readings (available at the Campus Bookstore):

Chesterton, G.K.. *The Man Who Was Thursday: A Nightmare*

Carr, Emily. *Klee Wyck*

Adamson, Gil. *Help Me, Jacques Cousteau*

Deane, Seamus. *Reading in the Dark*

A coursepack of readings will also be available in the University bookstore.

Assignments and Evaluation:

Library research assignment	5%	(pass/fail)
2 in class tests, worth 10% each	20%	(multiple choice)
Take home final examination	25%	(essay format)

These assignments will be graded by the professor

Revision of mock essay	10%
First essay	15%
Final essay	25%

These writing assignments will be graded by your TA

There will be no Registrar scheduled exam in this section of ENGL231.

There are no extra-credit assignments. Students must complete all assignments in order to receive a passing grade on the course.

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 that the assignment is overdue.

Essays and course work must be submitted on the due date, in printed form, unless other specific arrangements have been made. In particular, submitting work by e-mail without prior agreement is not an acceptable alternative to handing in work on time, in class.

Please make every effort to take assignments directly to the instructor. If it is not possible to do so, take your assignment to SS 1152 and put it in the dropbox. Your assignment will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox. **It is your responsibility to keep a copy of all assignments in case of loss by any cause.** Please note that you are responsible for ensuring that computer problems do not interfere with timely submission of work. Keep multiple backups of all your work, at different locations. (Emailing copies of your work in progress to yourself is one easy way to do this.) Computer issues will not be an acceptable reason for late submission. ***Assignments cannot be returned by staff in the Department office.***

Grading system: the following grading system is used in this course.

Letter	Percent	Grade Point
A+	90% or above	4.0
A	85-90%	4.0
A-	80-84%	3.7
B+	77-79%	3.3
B	74-76%	3.0
B-	70-73%	2.7
C+	67-69%	2.3
C	64-66%	2.0
C-	60-63%	1.7
D+	55-59%	1.3
D	50-54%	1.0
F	below 50%	0

Grade assignments each receive a letter grade. The corresponding percentage grade will be recorded in a spreadsheet and assigned a weight reflecting the value of the assignment in the course (e.g. 76% multiplied by .15, for work worth 15% of the overall course grade, etc.). The combined weighted assignment grades yield a final percentage grade. When converting this final percentage grade back into the final letter grade which is submitted to the Registrar, the instructor may use discretion in rounding grades upward or downward, when grades are on the cusp between two grade ranges.

E-mail and electronic submissions policy: The instructor and TAs are happy to reply to short, specific questions via e-mail, and will answer as promptly as possible. However we cannot guarantee that you will have a reply within any specific amount of time. Please keep in mind that email correspondence will not be used as a substitute for discussions in class or during office hours.

***Please include “ENGL231” in the subject line of any email you send. Sometimes student e-mail gets “spam-filtered” and this allows us to check whether any course mail has been sent to the “junk” mailbox. For some reason, Hotmail addresses in particular are likely to be filtered by the U of C system. Your U of C email address is the safest one to use to ensure reliable communication.

Classroom activities are subject to copyright and may not be recorded by any means without written agreement.

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/scribe-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.