



Course Title: Power Plays			
Course Number	English 251.04	SPRING 2020	
Faculty / Department	Faculty of Arts/Department of English		
Instructor Name	Dr. Jane Chamberlin	Email	gjechamb@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	I will return emails within 24 hours on all business days.		
Office Location	Virtual only	Telephone No:	
Office Hours	Tuesdays, 1:00 – 2:00 PM or by appointment		
Class Dates/Times/Location	Mondays, 1:00 – 3:45 PM (Zoom) Wednesdays, 1:00 – 2:20 PM (Zoom)		

Course description:

Stories are the perfect way to explore our complicated relationships with power. It's a very human force that plays out in politics, race, language and love – so we're constantly engaging with power. We want it, we hate it, we mock it, we rate it. In this course we'll explore short stories and one novel, reading between the lines and thinking about the complicated power lines that keep us together and hold us apart. As we read, we'll discuss the elements of narrative – plot, setting, perspective, character, theme, language – and we'll think about how the form of a text adds to its meaning. You'll come out of this class having improved your skills in close reading, critical thinking, and persuasive writing.

Texts and readings:

Normal People – a novel by Sally Rooney (available at the UCalgary bookstore in mid-May)

The following short stories and essays will be available through links on D2L:

“The Pilot” by Joshua Ferris

“The Embassy of Cambodia” by Zadie Smith

“Bullet in the Brain” by Tobias Wolff

“Blood of a Mole” by Zdravka Evtimova

“Elliott Spencer” by George Saunders

“Secret Agent” by Alix Ohlin

“The Truth About Stories” by Thomas King (audio file; link provided on D2L)

“How Should One Read a Book” by Virginia Woolf (link provided on D2L)

Assignments and Evaluation:

Assignment	Value	Details
Essay 1	20%	Persuasive essay based on a close reading of a text. 1000 words.
Essay 2	25%	Persuasive essay about the relationship between form and content in a text. 1000 words.
Group presentation	20%	A 10-15 minute live or recorded presentation incorporating visuals, explaining one of the elements of narrative and how it creates meaning in a text.
Six weekly online assignments, including: discussion board posts, quizzes, reflective writings, brief activities	10%	These assignments will be graded as complete/incomplete. The grade will be based on the number of satisfactorily completed weekly assignments. Some assignments will enable students to choose their topic or medium. A... six satisfactory assignments B ... five satisfactory assignments C ... four satisfactory assignments D ... three satisfactory assignments F ... one/two satisfactory assignments
Final examination	25%	This open-book exam will include short-answer questions and essay questions. It will cover all texts and concepts discussed in the course. Students will have a choice of essay topics.

Course Format:

The course will be taught online, using Zoom for live class meetings. The live meetings will be held on Mondays from 1:00 to 3:45 PM, and on Wednesdays from 1:00 to 2:20 PM. These Zoom meetings will be recorded so that you can refer to them later. You will also be given an online assignment to do each week, such as posting comments about a reading, commenting on an informational video, or writing a personal reflection piece about a text.

Technology

Online class meetings will be held using Zoom. You are encouraged to attend online classes in real time whenever possible, but some of you may have constraints such as living in different time zones, or bandwidth/connectivity issues. With those constraints in mind, virtual class meetings will be recorded and posted on D2L. You'll be encouraged to participate during the live sessions – verbally, through the Chat

feature, or through other digital tools. We will also be dividing into small groups to discuss texts and ideas. Resources referred to during class meetings will be posted in D2L.

Additional Regulations:

- The final examination will be open book, and will be a registrar-scheduled exam.
- **Students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period June 19-23, 2020. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>**
- Assignments will be submitted through D2L.
- All assignments must be completed to pass this 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 [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.

Grading system:

- Grades will be calculated by converting the student's percentage grade as per the chart below. All assignments, except the six weekly assignments (worth a total of 10%), will be graded with percentage marks. The six weekly assignments will be graded as complete/not complete, and the grade will be determined by the number of assignments satisfactorily completed (see details above).

90 + %	A+	4.0	67 – 69 %	C+	2.3
85 – 89 %	A	4.0	64 – 66 %	C	2.0
80 – 84 %	A–	3.7	60 – 63 %	C–	1.7
77 – 79 %	B+	3.3	55 – 59 %	D+	1.3
74 – 76 %	B	3.0	50 – 54 %	D	1.0
70 – 73 %	B–	2.7	0 – 49 %	F	0

F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System

Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
B	3.00	Good performance
B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject. The Faculty of Law utilizes a "D" grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.
F	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.
I	0.00	Incomplete. Sufficient work has not been submitted for evaluation, unable to adequately assess. May also be used when a final exam is not submitted.
CR		Completed Requirements. Carries no weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable

- The University of Calgary's four-point Grading System, as described in the Calendar;) will be used in this course. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>. The grades convert as follows:

A+ / A (4.0); A- (3.7); B+ (3.3); B (3.0); B- (2.7); C+ (2.3); C (2.0); C- (1.7); D+ (1.3); D (1.0); F (0)

Please note that, according to the University Calendar (F.1) <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html>, 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, the course instructor will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.

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.

Technology in the classroom

Because this course is offered online, students will be expected to use electronic devices – computers, if possible – to participate in the course and do online work. During live Zoom sessions, students are expected to focus on coursework and refrain from perusing sites not relevant to the class. We will discuss the rules of etiquette for online courses in the first week.

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.

English Department Website:

For more information about courses, programs, policies, events and contacts in the Department of English, please go to our website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/english>. 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.

Find The English Pages research guide here:

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 by emailing karen.preddy@ucalgary.ca. 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://www.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://www.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> .

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

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! Call 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: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/ombuds/role>

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://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. . 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/m-1.html>.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STATEMENT ON PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT

According to the University Calendar; <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.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.