



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

COURSE TITLE: LITERATURE AND SOCIETY			
Course Number	English 251-L03	Spring 2021	
Faculty / Department	Faculty of Arts/Department of English		
Instructor Name	Dr. Katherine Zelinsky	Email:	zelinsky@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	<p>Please email me only when necessary. I will not respond to emails that contain questions about the assignments or course expectations that I have addressed in class or in group emails. Please note that all course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email.</p>		
Office Location	N/A		
Office Hours	Wednesdays: 9:00-10:00		
Class Dates/Times/Location	1:00-3:45 p.m. Zoom meetings on Mondays + asynchronous learning		

Course description:

This section of “Literature and Society” will explore representations of gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity, and social class in selected literary works. We will look at the ways in which writers incorporate these identity categories into the fabric of the text’s structural, characterological, and thematic elements. We will also examine how these representations provide insights into and commentaries on the social, cultural, and historical contexts of the readings. There is no prerequisite for the course.

This course will take place **online** via Desire2Learn (D2L) and in scheduled Zoom meetings on Mondays. You will also be provided with powerpoint slides on the readings. In order to engage fully with the course materials and to hone your reading and analysis skills, students are highly encouraged to attend the Zoom sessions, to read the assigned texts, and to read additional materials such as the powerpoint slides and group emails on D2L. **The synchronous zoom meetings on Mondays will not be recorded.**

Course Learning Outcomes:

This course is designed to help students to:

1. develop and refine their ability to read literary texts closely and carefully, with attention to language, patterns, and details
2. develop and expand their understanding of literary language (figures of speech) and of how texts are constructed
3. sharpen their ability to read critically
4. write well-argued, organized, fluent and grammatical essays
5. conduct library research online and to cite sources properly
5. engage with the scholarly community in the writing of a research paper
6. work collaboratively with peers in a group project

Texts and Readings:

Selected Readings on D2L. The readings include a selection of short stories and poems by such writers as Kate Chopin, Alice Munro, Lee Maracle, Liliana Heker, Li-Young Lee, and Kristen Roupenian. The readings are included under the Content link in our D2L course site. Links will be provided to the readings.

Technology Requirements:

In order to engage successfully in their learning experience in this online course, students are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- a computer with a supported operating system, with the latest security and malware updates
 - a current and updated web browser
 - Webcam (built-in or external), or a headset with a microphone
 - current anti-virus and/or enabled firewall software
 - broadband internet connection
- (Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker, and microphone)

Assignments and Evaluation:

Analytical/Close Reading Essay (25%), Tuesday, May 25
Analytical/Close Reading + Research Essay (25%), Wednesday, June 9
Group Presentation (25%). Monday, June 14
Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam (25%). (The exam will be online)

Descriptions of Assignments:

Analytical/Close Reading Essay:

For this paper, you will be required to provide a close, detailed, and well-argued reading of some aspect of one of the course works discussed on Zoom or in an asynchronous recorded format. You will be asked to connect your analysis to one or two of the following: gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity, social class. I will provide you, in advance, with a selection of topics for this assignment. The required length for this paper is 1200 words or approximately 4 double-spaced pages. The paper must have a title and be double-spaced. You will be expected to use the latest MLA format (8th edition) for in-text quotations, and you will be required to include a Works Cited page in MLA format. You will be assessed on your ability to read the text that you select closely and perceptively, to organize your ideas around a central argument, and to provide sufficient textual support for your analysis. Your paper will also be assessed for grammar, sentence structure, spelling, word choice, paragraphing, and overall organization. **You are not allowed to consult secondary sources for this assignment. This assignment must be submitted to the dropbox by noon on the due date.**

Analytical/Close Reading + Research Essay:

This assignment asks you, again, to provide a close, detailed, and persuasive analysis of some aspect of one of the course works discussed in Zoom meetings or asynchronously. You must connect your discussion to

one or two of the following categories: gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity, social class. I will provide you with a selection of essay topics. You must choose a different text than the one which you chose for your first essay. The required length is 1300-1350 words or approximately 4 ½ -5 double-spaced pages. The paper must have a title and be double-spaced. You will be required to use MLA formatting (8th edition) for in-text quotations from your selected work as well as for quotations from the critic's work. You will also need a Works Cited page. In addition to providing a close reading and analysis, you will be asked to incorporate some aspect of one literary critic's analysis of the same text, relevant to your argument, into your discussion. There are a number of ways to engage with a critic, but for this class, consider including a very brief summation of the critic's argument and show how it supports and/or differs in some way from your own reading of the text. Remember to refer to the critic sparingly; you are the primary reader. The critical work must be from a scholarly source, such as a peer-reviewed academic journal, an article in a collection of essays, or a chapter from a book. You will be assessed for the clarity and strength of your argument, grammar, sentence structure, spelling, paragraphing, word choice, and overall organization. **This assignment must be submitted to the dropbox by noon on the due date.**

Group Presentation:

For this project, you will be expected to choose one text that we have discussed on Zoom and focus on a **minor detail** such as an item or image, a line or two from the text, or a seemingly incidental scene, character, or event, which you will connect to one or two of the following: gender, race/ethnicity, sexuality, social class. **Students' choice of the textual detail must be approved by me well in advance of the due date.** If you choose to discuss the same text on which you have written one of your papers, you must choose a detail and formulate an argument that you have not addressed previously. You must have a clear, specific, focused argument based on a close analysis of the detail, its importance to the text, and its relation to one of the above identity categories. You are required to present synchronously in class on Monday, June 14th. There will be 4 students per group, and each group will submit a one-page overview of their presentation to the dropbox by noon on June 15th. Presentations must be 8 minutes in length. **This is not a research project, so DO NOT consult secondary sources.** Students in each group will be assigned a common grade, except in circumstances when group members do not contribute equally to the planning and write-up of the presentation.

Final Exam (Registrar-Scheduled), take home/online

The final exam will consist of 20 multiple choice questions and an essay.

Students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period, June 21, 2021-June 23, 2021.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>

All Assignments must be completed in order to qualify for a passing grade.

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.

Conduct:

Students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains an inclusive, respectful and productive learning environment that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar.current/k.html>

Email Policies and Etiquette:

Course instruction, such as summaries of what was covered in Zoom sessions, will not be provided by email. Student emails shall not serve as a substitute for classes missed. Please exercise politeness and discretion if you are considering emailing the Instructor(s). That means using appropriate salutations such as Dear Professor Zelinsky or Dear Katherine. I will do my best to respond to emails within 24-48 hours. I will not, however, respond after 5:00 p.m. or on weekends.

Zoom Meetings

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet on Mondays for a “live” conference so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss some of the course materials and expectations. To help ensure that Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others or on any social media platform. Zoom links and passwords are intended only for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed, or published without the instructor’s permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect. When entering Zoom, be aware that you play a role in helping to create an effective, safe, and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the Instructor explaining why, so the Instructor may consider whether to grant an exception and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your Zoom sessions, visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their Instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam if necessary. Students will be advised if the Instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. If a session is recorded, it will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Grading System:

The following grading system will be used in this course. I will use a combination of percentages and letter grades.

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

There is no D- Grade.

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.

The interpretation of the undergraduate university grading system can be found at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.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.

“Plagiarism” occurs when a Student presents the ideas, expression of ideas or work of another individual as the Student’s own. Work may include algorithms, code, composition, data, methods, design, formulae, images, indigenous oral teachings, art and ceremonies, organization of ideas, and scientific and mathematical concepts.

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/welcome.html>

Grade appeals:

Consult the following University Calendar link and request advice from the English Department office, SS 1152 or email adveng@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:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6-1.html>

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

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6.html>

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 <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6-2.html>

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.

***RESEARCH ETHICS (if applicable)**

If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb>) before beginning the assignment.

***INSTRUCTOR'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

***FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

***COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

***MEDIA RECORDING (if applicable)**

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students:

https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

***Media recording for lesson capture**

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose. Although the recording device will be fixed on the Instructor, in the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent to include the identifiable student content to making the content available on University approved platforms.

***Media recording for self-assessment of teaching practices**

The instructor may use media recordings as a tool for self-assessment of their teaching practices. Although the recording device will be fixed on the instructor, it is possible that student participation in the course may be inadvertently captured. These recordings will be used for instructor self-assessment only and will not be used for any other purpose.

***Media recording for the assessment of student learning**

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

***OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

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. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. 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

“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.