

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
COURSE OUTLINE

ENGLISH 302A/B-01

Fall 2017/Winter 2018

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Contemporary Theory

Fall 2017: Mon/Wed 14:00 – 15:15, Room: SA 129

Winter 2018: Mon/Wed 14:00 – 15:15, Room: ST 127

Instructor: Dr. S. Forlini

Office: SS1120

Phone: 403-220-5483

E-mail: sforlini@ucalgary.ca

Office hours: M11:30-13:30

Course description: An examination of the claims and assumptions of a range of contemporary critical practices, such as formalism, structuralism, deconstruction, feminism and gender studies, new historicism, psychoanalytic criticism, and cultural and ideological critique. Includes sustained engagement with original theoretical texts. Prerequisite: Two half-course equivalents of English.

Texts and readings:

Required:

Rivkin, Julie and Michael Ryan. *Literary Theory: An Anthology*. 3rd Ed. Oxford: Blackwell, 2017.

Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*. (1818 version required, Broadview Edition recommended)

Lang, Fritz. *Metropolis*, 1927. (TFDL)

Dick, Kirby and Amy Ziering Kofman's *Derrida*. Zeitgeist Films, 2002. (TFDL)

Selected short stories, poems, essays (in public domain) available online for in-class exercises

Recommended:

Culler, Jonathan. *Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford UP, 2011. (TFDL reserves)

Assignments and Evaluation:

Short Essay (5-7 pages) 15%

In-Class Midterm 20% (December 6)

Essay (7-10 pages) 15%

Final 30% (cumulative, Winter Term exam period)

Attendance and Participation (over Fall and Winter terms) 20%

Essay Assignments: There are 2 essay assignments in this course, the first (Short Essay, 10%) in the Fall term and the second (Essay, 15%) in the Winter term. The instructor will post detailed instructions (including due date) on D2L at least 2 weeks before the due date. The assignment requirements will also be discussed in class, and students are welcome to discuss their essays with the instructor during office hours.

In-Class Midterm: This in-class test is worth 20% and will take place during the last class of the Fall term. It will test students' understanding of all course materials, including assigned readings, lectures, and class discussions.

Attendance and Participation: Attendance will be taken every class and is worth 5% per term. Participation will be graded largely based on a **discussion log** in which each student will record his/her brief (1-2 pages) synopsis of in-class discussions/exercises (6 entries/term). Logs must be submitted on the last day of each term and will be worth 5% per term.

Note that this course includes a closed-book Registrar-scheduled exam in the Winter Term. Students must be available for examinations up to the last day of the examination period (April 16-26, 2018).

Class Policies:

- Students must complete all assignments (essays, discussion log) and exams (midterm and final) in order to qualify for a passing grade in this course. There will be no extra-credit assignments.
- Students are expected to come to lectures having read required readings in advance (as specified in the schedule of readings) and to be prepared to participate actively in class discussion.
- Students are welcome to use portable word processing devices (tablets, laptops) in class. However, students who mis-use these devices (surfing inappropriate or offensive material, using social networking sites, emailing, texting, playing music, etc.) may be asked to leave class and/or may be prohibited further use of such devices in class. Students are not permitted to use cell-phones during class time.
- Lectures may not be recorded unless permission is granted by the instructor.
- Assignments must be submitted in hard copy at the start of class on the day that they are due. Electronic submissions are not normally accepted.
- Assignments must adhere to MLA style guidelines (most recent edition). It is the student's responsibility to learn these guidelines if they do not already know them, as this will not be covered in class. Please refer to *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, and/or the online outline of MLA format at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>
- Late assignments will be penalized with the loss of 5% per day that they are late, including weekends.

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. Assignments cannot be returned by staff in the Department office.

Grading system:

The following grading system is 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 |

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.

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.

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 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 <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:

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>

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>.

Student Accommodations:

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

The student accommodation policy can be found at: 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.

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_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."

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.