

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

**ENGLISH 483 LO1 Literary Theory Since 1800**

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Winter 2015

Classes: Tu/Th 11:00 to 12:15  
Classroom: SH 284  
Professor's office hours: Tuesdays 3:30 to 4:30

**Calendar Description:**

A survey of the major theories of and approaches to literature from 1800 to the present. Prerequisite: ENGL 302 & either 240 or 340.

**Required Texts:**

Andrew Bennett and Nicholas Royle, *An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition

Selected articles, essays and short literary works assigned to accompany each week's readings from Bennett and Royle's book. See the class schedule for titles and sources.

**Assignment Portfolio:**

Class attendance and participation: (due weekly)	10%
Mid-term test (week 6)	20%
Oral presentation / performance: (in class, week 7)	10%
Report on attending a reading or a play (500 - 750 words): (due the week following your attendance of the event)	15%
Essay (10 - 12 typed, double-spaced pp.): (due week 12)	25%
Final examination (take-home, open-book): (week 13)	20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

## IMPORTANT NOTES:

**Students must complete and submit in a timely fashion all of the assignments in order to be eligible for a passing grade for this course. Failure to complete them will result in an automatic failure of the course (F).**

There will NOT be a registrar-scheduled examination in this course. The final examination will be of the take-home, open-book format.

**Late penalties:** Late penalties will be deducted for late assignments. Late penalties can and sometimes do result in a failing grade on an assignment so students will want to start assignments well in advance of the due date. **The late penalty for written work is one mark per day late.** That is, if your assignment merits a 20/25 (80%, A-) but comes in two days late, the mark will drop two marks to 18/25 (76%, B) in order to ensure a level playing field for everyone in the course.

This course will be conducted as a mixture of lecture, class and group discussion, groupwork, workshop, fieldwork, applied readings, exercises (possibly some skit creation, joke-telling, audio recording), and other forms of learning. Students will have hands-on, and some community-based, engagement with literary theory through various exercises and assignments (such as attending and reporting on a literary reading or a play performed during the Winter term). Participation in all learning activities, not just lectures, is compulsory.

NOTE: An important part of intellectual work is being able to speak about it with others. Students will be expected to assume the role of active participants in the construction and dissemination of knowledge rather than that of merely passive consumers of it. This includes participation in discussion and in credit-free assignments and activities carried out in class.

Class participation is premised upon regular, committed class attendance and includes completing the assigned readings in advance and coming to class prepared, avidly participating in all class and group discussions and in-class exercises and activities, demonstrating respectful and open intellectual engagement with the course materials, fellow students and professor. Intermittent attendance (absences from class) will detract heavily from your participation grade. We will have a lot of fascinating material to talk about, work on and play with in this course! Think of a course not as a marks factory but as a community of thinking, responding, living, researching, knowledge-creating beings.

Surfing the web, checking email or social media during class is strictly forbidden, and will also detract from your class participation.

Recent studies have shown that handwritten class notes are markedly superior in terms of acquiring a more thorough understanding of course material and for

retention of material in one's memory. The instructor reserves the right to outlaw the use of phones, tablets and computers in class.

Please do not attempt to read the assigned materials on your phone! You cannot possibly ingest the texts on a screen as small as that of a phone. Just as visual arts courses examine the quality of the paint strokes in a painting or the forms in clay, literary studies are based on engagement with the language of the text. We are not studying course materials for thirteen weeks simply in order to extract "the main idea" or "the general drift" of a text! We will be focussing on what is actually on the page. Bring the assigned readings of the week to class.

Along similar lines, I highly recommend that you annotate and underline the primary course texts (preferably in paper, but you can annotate in ebook and electronic articles in formats such as the Kindle application). Don't try to preserve pristine copies of your texts for resale. As proven in numerous studies of learning processes, reading your underlining and annotations are the best ways of acquiring and consolidating your knowledge of textual material.

In conjunction with our week's study under the heading of creative writing, students will attend a literary reading OR a play performed during the Winter term and write a report on that event. *After all, if it were not for creative writing, there would be no English students, English professors or English Departments, right?* Moreover, one of the supreme pleasures of studying literature is to become engaged with and even involved in the literary communities of Canada, Alberta and Calgary. Support the writers (and actors, dramaturges, set designers, including your peers in the Drama program) who make your chosen field and your studies and possibly your future career possible.

Sources of information for literary readings include the English Department website, in-class announcements, *Swerve Magazine* (published with the Friday edition of the *Calgary Herald*), *FFWD* (free arts and culture newspaper freely available around the city and on campus), *The Gauntlet* (?), and individual theatre's websites. Readings are also held on campus, and plays are performed here by students in the Drama program.

Where appropriate and available, students will be responsible for tracking down assigned articles listed in the reading and class schedule.

There will be no extra credit assignments or opportunities to re-do and resubmit your work. That is simply impossible with current class sizes, and moreover it has been my experience that without such second measures students usually do their best the first time they complete the assignment.

Double-sided printing of assignments is highly encouraged in order to save paper and trees.

Please feel free to use factory recycled paper or even paper that has already been used on one side only. This is not only permissible but admirable. Just draw a line diagonally through the material printed or written on the “wrong” side and make sure your pages are stapled in order.

Please DO NOT use any plastic cover sheets for your assignments. They have an annoying tendency to flap shut while one is trying to read them, and using plastic that is not absolutely necessary contributes to waste and pollution. Just a simple staple in the upper left-hand corner of the page is perfect. (Please staple your work before handing it in. I do not carry a stapler with me to and from class.)

Written assignments are due in class at the beginning of class on their respective due dates, and they must be handed to the instructor. At this point, I cannot accept any electronic submissions (which is too bad as it would save paper and trees). If you absolutely cannot hand me your work in class, then do not shove your professional work under my (or anyone else’s) office door. It can and does get trampled, lost, put under the wrong professor’s door, etc. Instead hand them in via the English Dept. office between 8:30 and 4:30 (the office is closed from 12:00 to 1:00) or the Essay Drop Box just outside the English Department office. NOTE: The English Office is on the 11<sup>th</sup> floor of the Social Sciences Bldg.

#### Grading System:

Course grades are based on the University of Calgary four-point Undergraduate Grading System and the standard percentage conversion chart of the Department of English.

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 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.

**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](mailto: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:**

Melanie Boyd, Librarian for English, offers research support to students, including strategies for finding articles, books, and other library materials. Contact:

[maboym@ucalgary.ca](mailto:maboym@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>.

**Academic Accommodation:**

It is the students’ responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodations and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact them at 403-220-6019. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodations. More information about academic accommodations can be found at [www.ucalgary.ca/access](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access).

**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](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto: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](http://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.