

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

ENGLISH 691.01

Graduate Pro-seminar

FALL 2015

Instructor: Aruna Srivastava

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Class: Mondays 1:00-2:45 pm

Office hours: By appointment and Mondays 3.00pm-4.00pm. You will usually be able to find me before class as well. Contact Carole Taylor to make an appointment: carole.taylor@ucalgary.ca or 220-5484.

Course description: This course is designed to offer students new to graduate studies or new to the University of Calgary an introduction to a variety of scholarly and professional skills. The aim is to ensure you have the training to help you succeed academically and professionally, particularly in your program here. To this end, guests with a range of expertise will meet with us most weeks to present their area of research or their research methodologies, to help you develop specific skills (grant writing for example, or advanced library research), or guide you through useful practices (such as proposal writing and conference presenting).

Texts and readings: Students should have available for their use (either in print or online) the most recent MLA guide (7th edition), and a good handbook of English grammar and usage. The Purdue University Online Writing Lab (OWL) has links to citation styles (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/10/>) and a good number of resources on grammar and writing, especially useful for teaching: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>. You will be asked, as part of your graduate-student life here, and part of this course, to attend various workshops and events that will assist you in professional development, now considered an essential part of your career as a graduate student.

Assignments and Evaluations: *This is a credit/fail course.* You should expect to be given reading and/or assignments by some of our guest instructors, for instance in library research or proposal writing, and every student is expected to complete a portfolio, comprised at a minimum of:

1. A final proposal for SSHRC and/or other scholarships (such as the GAC competition in February).
2. A conference proposal for Free Exchange or another conference Call For Papers you find for a 2015-16 conference.
3. Brief (2 pages minimum) documentation of your consultation with a librarian about your research.
4. The certificate for the TCPS2 Core Tutorial on Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (you are exempt from this if you already have your certificate of completion; provide a copy). At many universities this is a requirement for new faculty and for graduate students: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/research-services-office-rso/ethics-compliance/tcps2-core-tutorial>
5. To submit a reflective journal about the work of 691, the guests you have encountered during the term, insights from your first term here in the department, notes and reflections on readings assigned throughout. There is no length limit for this assignment; use it if you wish as a kind of sounding board for your first-term experience. Journals in the past have ranged from a scant 5 pages to about 20. This is an informal piece of writing.
6. If you wish, you can include in your portfolio a discussion with me (group or individual) about any element of the course. Schedule this directly with me.

Instructors responsible for specific assignments will communicate to me when assignments have been satisfactorily completed, but be sure to submit your entire portfolio at the end of term, at which point I will compile and submit the credit/fail grade for each student. *Students must complete all required assignments and attend classes in order to receive a pass in this course.*

Please make every effort to take assignments directly to the instructor who has assigned it. If it is not possible to do so, take your assignment to SS 1152 and put it in the dropbox. Submit your work at the end of term through the D2L dropbox. Attendance and participation are essential for all graduate classes. Therefore, if you must miss a class, please let me know in advance by e-mail. I am happy to discuss any concern with you, so do not hesitate to keep in touch. I am frequently in the graduate office during the week: do drop in, or make an appointment.

Tentative Schedule:

Sept. 14: Introduction and marking workshop (at 2.30pm)
Sept. 21: Library/ Research Skills (TFDL 440A): Melanie Boyd
Sept. 28: SSHRC Proposal Writing (required for all students new to program): Susan Bennett
Oct. 5: More on funding and scholarships: Clara Joseph
Oct. 12: Thanksgiving Holiday; no class
Oct. 19: Murray McGillivray on book and manuscript history (visualization studio) (to be confirmed)
Oct. 26: Archives and Archival Research (TFDL 520D): Annie Murray with Jason Wiens and Donna Coates
Nov. 2: Digital Humanities; establishing your professional presence online: Karen Bourrier.
Nov. 9: Topic to be determined
Nov. 16: Creative writing and community engagement: Larissa Lai and others TBA
Nov. 23: Conference proposals and tips for presenting: panel with David Sigler and others TBA.
Nov. 30: Establishing a teaching philosophy: Faye Halpern (to be confirmed)
Dec. 7: Final class and conclusions?

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>

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/graduate>. 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: maboyle@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 Department of English's graduate website for courses, departmental deadlines, and other related program information at <http://english.ucalgary.ca/node/245>. Consult the Faculty of Graduate

Studies Calendar for university and faculty regulations, dates, deadline, fees, and schedules, student, faculty and university rights and responsibilities. The homepage for the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar is <http://grad.ucalgary.ca>.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact the Graduate Office at 403 220 5484 or visit us in Social Sciences Tower 1148 in the first instance.

For program planning and advice, contact the Graduate Program Administrator at enggrad@ucalgary.ca to make an appointment with Dr. Aruna Srivastava, Graduate Program Director.

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:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their 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/>

Contact for the Graduate Student Association: <http://gsa.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.