

Carleton University  
Winter 2014  
Department of English  
**ENGL 2103 Introduction to the Novel**  
**SECTION B**

**Time:** Wednesdays and Fridays, 11:35 am – 12:55 pm

**Location:** 180UC (Please confirm on Carleton Central)

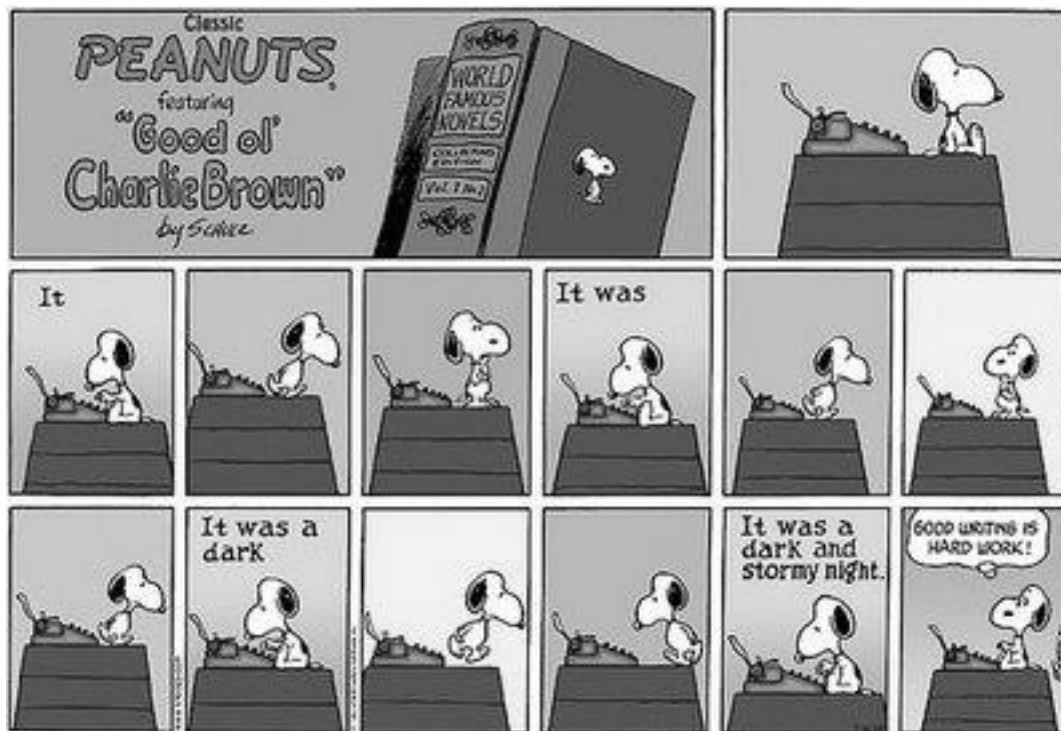
**Instructor:** David Hamilton

**Office Hours:** TBD and by appointment

**Office:** 1921

**email:** david\_hamilton@carleton.ca

**Phone:** TBD



## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides you with an introduction to the novel as a literary form, covering its origins, development, and importance as a social barometer and agent of change. The texts selected for study in this course represent a variety of shifts in the development of the novel, from literary emphasis (e.g., on characterization) to new genres and experimental forms. Whereas the texts illuminate different literary movements, they all contribute to the overall theme of this course which is: how the novel reflects our individual and collective freedoms and social development,

and acts as a metaphor for our own lives by illustrating how we are connected to each other and to all things.

Throughout the course, you will develop a critical view of social power structures, the importance of voice and dialogue, and the dialogic role of the novel in revealing truth and meaning and construction of ourselves and of our reality. Through in-class discussions, we will also explore the interaction of author-characters-readers and how these dialogues contribute to our understanding of literary theory, society and the world.

You will also be introduced to issues in secondary research (such as critical evaluation of, and citation of, secondary materials). A portion of class time will be devoted to developing and improving essay-writing skills.

The first part of each class will focus on lecture material while the second part will be open discussion related to the texts and lecture material.

Since many of the course requirements are initiated, refined, or completed in class, full attendance and participation are expected.

***Please note... this course has a heavy reading load along with weekly journaling assignments.***

## **PRIMARY READINGS**

Moll Flanders (1722) - Daniel Defoe  
Frankenstein (1831) – Mary Shelley.  
Hard Times (1853) – Charles Dickens  
Metamorphosis (1915) – Franz Kafka  
If on a Winter's Night a Traveler (1979) - Italo Calvino

In addition, we will be following the **mandatory textbook** “The Cambridge Introduction to the Novel” by Marina Mackay

The following book is NOT mandatory but you may find it very helpful in your own analysis and enjoyment of novels: How to Read Novels Like a Professor (2008) – Thomas Foster

All of these texts should be available through the Bookstore or through Chapters, or on-line (as in the case of The Story of Burnt Njal).

## **REFERENCES**

The following texts are not mandatory reading; however, English majors may wish to consider purchasing reference books as they will be helpful in your programs.

A Short Guide to Writing About Literature (Canadian edition)      Sylvan Barnet  
Dictionary of Literary Terms      Abrams  
Fit to Print: The Canadian Student's Guide to Essay Writing (seventh edition)      Buckley

## ASSIGNMENTS

There are weekly assignments for your dialogic journal – a journal in which you will write your thoughts, questions, and comments about texts we are reading along with specific questions that I will be asking. Your journals are to be handed in electronically each week... yes, I said each week... and this work is worth 40% of your final mark in the course.

In addition to the weekly journal, there is one term assignment where you will have an option between writing an academic essay or doing something creative.

## ATTENDANCE / PARTICIPATION

You are expected to attend every class and to actively participate in the discussions. Participation includes: bringing the text to class, having read the assigned pages, and contributing to the discussion either by offering ideas or comments, or by listening attentively.

## FINAL EXAMINATION

There is a final examination for this course. It will comprise two sections: multiple choice and an essay. The material on the exam will be drawn from the lecture material, readings, and class discussions.

## METHOD OF EVALUATION

Assignment	Description	Length	Value	Due Date
Dialogic Journal	A weekly journal comprising your thoughts, responses, comments etc about the texts or class material that we encounter	Varies	40%	To be handed in electronically each week
Random Quizzes	12 quizzes, given weekly and on-line. Your best 10 results only will be counted.	12 quizzes on line	10%	weekly
Mid Term Test	Multiple Choice covering quiz material to this point.	In class	10%	Feb 14
Term Assignment	Option (A) Essay – an original analysis and argument of some aspect of an assigned text. OR Option (B) Creative Project - (opening chapter of a novel, creative nonfiction, full lecture) revealing substantial understanding of the novel structure.	(A) 1500 words (B) varies	15%	March 21
Final Exam*	Covers all material from the course. In two parts: (1) Multiple choice; (2) Essay.	3 hrs.	25%	TBA

Further instructions regarding the dialogic journal, quizzes and term assignment will be provided in class.

Note that all essays and assignments must be typed, double-spaced, and follow the guidelines set forth by the Modern Language Association.

Since the essays are worth a good portion of your final mark in this course, significant effort should be made in developing a thesis statement and supporting arguments. Students should take a concept or theme that is not obvious from the primary text, develop a thesis statement around it, and build an **argument** that can be proven through a rigorous analysis of the text. We will review essay preparation in class.

All assignments must be completed to my satisfaction and handed in before students sit the final exam. It is the students' responsibility to become familiar with any dates/regulations which may take precedence over any course outline.

**\*The final exams and airplane ticket bookings:** The final exam period is from April 11 – 26, 2014 (including Saturday). Since the Registrar's Office does not set exam dates until well into the term, you must plan to be available throughout the entire examination periods. Do not purchase plane tickets or plan vacations with departure dates prior to the end of each exam period. Exams will not be rescheduled for students who take on other commitments during the exam period.

## **COURSE PROCEDURES, GRADES, AND GRADING**

**Basic Preparation:** As a matter of course you are expected to: (1) attend all lectures, (2) complete the scheduled readings beforehand, (3) arrive prepared to discuss what you have read, (4) bring the relevant text(s) to class and (5) bring your journals with you, either to add notes as we go along or to use to contribute to the conversation.

**Handing In Assignments:** Weekly dialogic journals are to be handed in electronically to me via CULearn each week. Dates and times to be discussed in class. Any journal that is not submitted by the due date/time will be considered late. It is the students' responsibility to become familiar with any dates/regulations which may take precedence over any course outline.

Recognizing that life happens, you will automatically have **one "pass" week** where you do not have to submit your journal but you do have to let me know by the due date/time if you are taking your "pass".

**Late Assignments / Extensions:** Do not ask for extensions without a medical certificate. If your work is handed in late, so be it. As such, you already have an automatic extension with consequences. For the **weekly journal**, I will note the lateness and this will factor in to your mark for this part of the course. For each day that your **term assignment** is late, I will automatically deduct 2% .

**Confirming Receipt of Assignment:** Upon receipt of your journal / assignment, I will enter “received” in the CULearn gradebook for this class, confirming that I have it. It is your responsibility to check the gradebook the following afternoon to make sure your work has been received.

**Grading Criteria:** Grades for term work will be based on insightfulness, originality, focus, organization of ideas, clarity of expression, scholarly rigor, correct use of MLA style, spelling, and grammar.

**Grade Scale:**

Letter	%	GPA
A+	90-100	12
A	85-89	11
A-	80-84	10
B+	77-79	9
B	73-76	8
B-	70-72	7
C+	67-69	6
C	63-66	5
C-	60-62	4
D+	57-59	3
D	53-56	2
D-	50-52	1
F	0-49	0

**Plagiarism:**

The University Senate defines **plagiarism** as **presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas, or the work of others as one’s own.**

This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else
- using ideas, quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts or ideas without appropriate acknowledgement in an essay or assignment
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works, and/or failing to use quotation marks
- handing in substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs

Plagiarism is a form of intellectual theft. It is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include failure of the assignment,

failure of the entire course, suspension from a program, suspension from the university, or even expulsion from the university. See the Section on Academic Integrity in the Student Conduct Portion of the Undergraduate Calendar.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

**Pregnancy obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website

[http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student\\_guide.htm](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student_guide.htm)

**Religious obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website

[http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student\\_guide.htm](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student_guide.htm)

**Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodation** in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that I receive your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the last official day to withdraw from classes in each term. For more details visit the PMC website:

[http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/acad\\_accom.html](http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/acad_accom.html)

## ENGL 2103 Section B DRAFT Weekly Breakdown

The following outlines the general chronology of the course to give you an idea of how we will cover the material. Depending on class discussion and other factors, there may be a minor discrepancy in relation to the weeks.

### Winter Term

*Please note the following is a general guide only and may be revised in class*

Date	Topic
Jan 8	Introduction to the course; review outline; discuss requirements of the weekly Dialogic Journal and on-line quizzes; Why stories matter
Jan 10	Origins of the Novel; brief history of its development. Moll Flanders
Jan 15	Moll Flanders
Jan 17	Moll Flanders
Jan 22	Modes of Narration: Frankenstein
Jan 24	Frankenstein
Jan 29	Character: Frankenstein
Jan 31	Frankenstein
Feb 5	Plotting: Hard Times
Feb 7	Hard Times
Feb 12	Setting: Hard Times
Feb 14	Hard Times ; <b>Mid-term test. In class.</b>
Feb 19/21	<b>Reading Week – no classes.</b> Please use this time to read ahead.
Feb 26	Time and History: Metamorphosis
Feb 28	Metamorphosis
Mar 5	Genre and Subgenre
Mar 7	Genre and Subgenre
Mar 12	Novel and Anti-Novel: If on a Winter's Night a Traveler
Mar 14	If on a Winter's Night a Traveler
Mar 19	If on a Winter's Night a Traveler
Mar 21	Novel, Nation and Community. <b>Term Assignment due</b>
Mar 26	Novel, Nation and Community
Mar 28	Concludings
Apr 2	Concludings
Apr 4	Extra class time if needed; Exam Review; Return of term assignments