

**Carleton University
Fall/Winter 2014-2015
Department of English**

ENGL 2802C: Canadian Literatures

Wednesday, 18:05 – 20:55

Dr. Collett Tracey Phone: 520-2600 ext. 2328

Office: 1910 Dunton Tower

Office Hours: TBA or by appointment

Email: ctracey@connect.carleton.ca

Preliminary Outline (subject to change)

In this course we will consider the ways in which Canadian literatures have developed since their beginnings. We will focus on a variety of novels, short stories, sketches, songs and poetry in order to grapple with the issues that have informed and shaped our literary landscape. We will also work towards a deeper understanding of how vulnerable and rich our literary heritage is with a view to convincing students of the need to engage with it from a personal as well as academic perspective. This will be facilitated through large and small group discussions, seminars and debates. This course is writing attentive, therefore time and opportunities will be committed to helping students improve their writing skills.

Required Texts:

Montgomery, L.M. *The Blue Castle*
Hemon, Louis. *Maria Chapdeleine*
Findlay, T. *The Wars*
Engel, M. *Bear*
Ross, S. *As For Me and My House*
Moore, B. *The Luck of Ginger Coffey*
Bennet & Brown, *Anthology of Canadian Literature*

WHAT IS A “WRITING-ATTENTIVE” COURSE?

Students will write at least one examination.

Students will write a minimum of two graded writing assignments per term, in which they are expected to do the following:

- develop an argumentative thesis across an essay
- develop complex ideas using correct and effective expression according to academic English practice

- use and cite evidence from primary texts appropriately
- develop literary skills through close critical analysis of texts from a variety of genres
- develop fluency in genre-specific literary terms of analysis

Students will 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.

COURSE PROCEDURES, GRADES, AND GRADING

First Paper, due last day of class in fall term, 25%

Second Paper, due last day of class in winter term, 25%

Final Exam, 25%

Seminars, 25%

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS, COURSE POLICIES, and CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

Students are expected to:

- attend all classes, showing up on time and staying for the duration of the class and bringing with them the text(s) assigned for that day's class. If you miss a class it is the student's responsibility to get the notes you miss from another student.
- have read the assigned material for that day.
- be prepared to discuss the texts in a thoughtful manner. Critical reading, writing and analytical skills cannot be learned from a book alone, and asking questions about the readings and contributing to class discussions will undoubtedly help you to better understand the material, hone your critical reading and interpretative skills, and prepare you well for upper-year classes where participation will account for part of your final grade.
- take notes during my lectures and class discussions about the texts: the final exam will be based on lectures and issues raised during class discussions, so it is important that you take good notes summarizing the important points raised during class
- use WebCT on a regular basis so that you are up to date with any readings, assignments, handouts, or announcements that are posted. I cannot stress how important it is that students use the resources provided for them on WebCT.
- **(I strongly recommend you familiarize yourself with this policy):** Please ensure that you turn off all cell phones, mp3 players, and other electronic equipment BEFORE class begins. It is incredibly disrespectful, distracting and frustrating for professors to watch students send and receive text messages during lectures, and students who are caught using their cell phones will be asked to leave class. Laptop computers are to be used ONLY to take lecture notes, and any student who is caught using the computer to play games, go on Facebook,

watch videos on youtube, check email, surf the internet, and/or any other activity that is not related to taking notes will be asked to leave the class. If such issues are a common problem, only students with PMC approved laptops will be able to bring them to class. Please show respect to both your professor and fellow students.

- Attendance will be taken at every class and absences will be noted. Students who miss **4 or more classes per term (25%) will NOT be permitted to write the exam**, and as a result, **will not be able to pass the course**.

- The best way to get in contact with me is by email at ctracey@connect.carleton.ca. I will respond to emails in a timely fashion (usually within 48 hours, though it could be longer on weekends) and especially to those that ask clear, precise and specific questions.

- I am also available to meet with students to discuss any aspect of the course during my office hours, and if you are unable to make it to my office hours, we can reschedule a time to meet that is convenient to both of us. Please remember that the T.A. is also an excellent resource, and you are encouraged to make use of the T.A.'s office hours.

- In the unlikely event that I need to cancel a class due to illness, personal/family emergency, etc., I will do my best to post an announcement as soon as possible to CULearn. It's a good idea to check for such announcements before coming to class, but if you can't check, such announcements will be posted to the classroom door.