

Course Outline

COURSE: FYSM 1502 Q - First Year Seminar: Law and Literature

TERM: Fall/Winter 2008/09

CLASS: Day & Time: Monday & Wednesday - 1005-1125
Room: Fall & Winter: B243 LA (Loeb)

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Dianne George

CONTACT: Office: C 598 LA (Loeb)
Office Hrs: Thursday – 1:00-2:00 pm
Telephone: 613-520-2600 x. 2084
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This is a Web CT Course

ALL CELL PHONES MUST BE CONCEALED AND NEITHER VISIBLE NOR AUDIBLE DURING CLASS

"Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre, 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 require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by November 7, 2008, for December examinations, and March 6, 2009, for April examinations." With regard to accommodations for religious obligations and pregnancy, please see http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/accom_policy.html

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine relationships between law and literature. In particular, the course will explore injustice in the lives of individuals, primarily because of their place in society, and how law contributes to their plight. All the readings are contemporary and Canadian in order for students to learn some aspects of Canadian laws that form the topics of fiction. The understanding of injustice will be informed by different theorists, in particular, Martha Nussbaum and Judith Shklar both of whom have taught and written about law and literature.

THE PURPOSE OF THE COURSE IS TWOFOLD:

1. To learn the content of the course.
2. To develop the skills you will need in future courses:
 - a) to read and follow and argument
 - b) to write for a specific purpose, eg. an analysis
 - c) to research online and in the library
 - d) to speak in class by debating and presenting
 - e) to work in groups but to submit individual work for each assignment

REQUIRED READING

1. BOOKS

All books have been ordered for you through MOTHER TONGUE BOOKS,
1067 Bank St., phone 730-2346:

Nussbaum, Martha. *Poetic Justice*
Sklar, Judith, *The Faces of Injustice*
O'Neill, Heather, *Lullabies for Little Criminals*
Boyden, Joseph, *Three Day Road*
Kogawa, Joy, *Obason*
Atwood, Margaret, *Alias Grace*

3. COURSEPAK

A small number of course materials will be compiled for you and made available from Allegra Print and Publishing, 1069 Bank St., 730-3000.

GRADING

All assignments must be submitted in class the day they are due unless permission has been granted for late submissions. Permission for late submissions will be given for up to seven days with a valid excuse. Thereafter, the assignments will be graded but marks will be deducted for each late day.

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| 1. | CLASS PARTICIPATION | 20% | This mark is based upon: attendance, evidence that the assigned material has been read, taking part in discussions, taking part in other learning activities in class and two short research assignments. |
| 2. | An analysis of an argument | 20% | |
| 4. | Two short essays | 40% | |
| 5. | Oral presentations | 20% | |

All components must be completed in order to get a passing grade)