

**Carleton University  
Fall/Winter 2017-2018  
Department of English**

**ENGL 1000A LITERATURE, GENRE, CONTEXT:  
Caught in the Web of History**

**Precludes additional credit for ENGL 1009, ENGL 1100, ENGL 1200, ENGL 1300, ENGL 1400 and FYSM 1004**

**Lecture: Monday 2:35-4:25 p.m.  
Tutorial 01- Tuesday 1:30-2:30 p.m.  
Tutorial 02 - Wednesday 1:30-2:30 p.m.**

**Location:**

**Lecture: Fall - 236 Tory Building; Winter 208 Tory Building  
Tutorials: Group 01 – Fall: 212 Residence Commons; Winter: 303 Southam Hall  
Group 02 – Fall: 201 Paterson Hall; Winter: 615 Southam Hall  
(Please confirm on Carleton Central)**

**Instructor: Dr. P. Whiting  
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Office Phone: 520-2600 ext. 6702  
email: [Patricia Whiting@carleton.ca](mailto:Patricia_Whiting@carleton.ca)  
Office Hours: Tuesday 12:00-1:00, or by appointment**

We all like to think that we're the authors of our own lives and that the choices we make determine what happens to us. And while it's obvious that our choices are often inflected by influences outside ourselves, such as family, gender, race, and social class, it's less obvious that the choices themselves are the product of something greater than any of these, something we're rarely aware of and can't do anything about, something as invisible and ubiquitous as the air we breathe...the historical moment into which each of us is born.

Literature deals uniquely with history, serving as a gateway to worlds that are sometimes long gone, sometimes still remembered. Literature makes no distinction between the great and the small where history is concerned; it chronicles the lives, thoughts, actions, and dreams of kings and peasants, young and old, people who lived and people who never were. The contemplation of history in any form relies on intelligence; history in literature relies equally on imagination...there's no other point of entry.

In this class, we'll be reading novels, short stories, essays, poetry, and plays whose protagonists, antagonists, and commentators behave, like us, as individuals whose choices are governed by their perceptions and who occasionally come to see that they are part of something much bigger. With this as the overriding theme, the aim of the course is to raise students' high school modes of reading, writing, and thinking to the level of close reading and critical thinking required at university. Composition is a central component of the course, and frequent formal and informal written assignments will be aimed at sharpening students' skill in this area.

## **ENGL 1000 is designated a Writing Attentive course, which means:**

● Students will spend a significant amount of class time learning, and improving university-level forms of thinking and writing, particularly essay-writing skills that will concentrate on the following:

- establishment and refinement of literary-critical skills through close analysis of texts from a variety of genres
- generation and proof of an argumentative thesis across an essay
- establishment and refinement of sophisticated ideas and opinions using proper, correct and effective academic English style
- use and citation of primary literary texts in appropriate and convincing ways
- development of fluency in and facility with genre-specific literary terminology
- introduction to the fundamentals of secondary research (including critical evaluation, use, and citation of academic sources)

## **EVALUATION**

Workshop participation (oral and written) 10%

In-class (lecture) quizzes (best 5 of 6) 10%

Essay #1 (400 words) 10%

Essay #2 (750 words) 10%

Essay #3 (1500 words) 15%

In-class, open-book essay 10%

December exam (2 hours) 15%

Final exam (3 hours) 20%

## **READING LIST**

Dickens, Charles. *Hard Times* (Broadview)

Hansberry, Lorraine. *A Raisin in the Sun* (Samuel French)

Kogawa, Joy. *Obasan* (Puffin)

Shakespeare, William. *Richard III* (Signet)

Tobar, Hector. *The Tattooed Soldier* (Picador)

These texts are available at the University Bookstore.

**In addition, web links will be provided for e-texts of required poetry and short fiction. You must bring hard copies of the e-texts to lectures and tutorials on the days they are assigned.**

**Please read this carefully:**

**1. Attendance:** You are required to show knowledge of texts, as well as lecture and tutorial material in all assignments and tests. Thus, it is not a good idea to miss classes. You are expected to complete the scheduled readings before you come to class, come prepared to discuss what you've read, and bring the relevant text(s) to lectures and tutorials. If you have to miss a class because of illness, be sure to get the notes from a classmate because you are still responsible for class material.

**2. Classroom Conduct:** Cell phones must be turned off during class, and laptops are to be used only for note-taking only in the lectures. Unless a student has a documented accommodation, laptops are not permitted in the tutorial groups (see below).

**3. Tutorials:** The tutorials are an integral part of ENGL1000. The participation mark will be based on weekly short assignments and exercises to be handed in at some point during each tutorial. These assignments and exercises may be based on the day's readings, on lecture material, or on material covered in the tutorial. Exercises and assignments won't be graded or returned but will be marked as follows: C - completed; N - not completed; CN - completed, no credit (when work is handed in but shows no substantive knowledge or understanding of the subject of the exercise). Each student will begin with 100 points. Every N will result in the loss of 10 points. Every CN will result in the loss of 5 points. Each student may miss one tutorial per term without penalty. At the end of the year, the remaining points will comprise your participation grade.

**PLEASE NOTE: Unless you have a documented need for special accommodations, NO LAPTOPS WILL BE PERMITTED IN TUTORIAL GROUPS.**

**4. Papers:** Late papers must be accompanied by valid medical documentation in order not to be penalized. Late papers will receive a penalty of 2% per day.

Papers more than a week late will receive a grade of 0. Rewrites of papers are not an option. Essays must conform to the stated word count requirement, must answer the essay question, and must discuss only texts read in this course. Papers that are too short or too long by more than 50 words may be penalized. Paper topics are distributed only in class, not via CULearn or e-mail. Please see Writing Spec Sheet for more details.

**Note: If one of your assignments is lost, misplaced, or not received by the instructor, you are responsible for having a backup copy that can be e-mailed immediately upon request.**

**5. Extensions:** Extensions on papers may involve a penalty. All extensions must be arranged by e-mail 24 hours in advance of the due date, when the terms of the extension will be fixed. No exceptions will be made to this policy.

**6. In-Class Assignments and Scheduled Examinations:** In-class assignments and scheduled examinations must be written on the scheduled dates and may not be made up without a valid doctor's certificate. Failure to write the midterm or the in-class essay will result in a 0 for that assignment.

The Fall exam period is December 10-22 (including Saturdays and Sundays) and the Winter exam period is April 14-26 (including Saturdays and Sundays). The Registrar generally releases the examination schedules in October and February. Do not purchase plane tickets until you know your exam schedule. Exams will not be rescheduled for students who take on other commitments during the exam period.

**7. Collaboration:** Although you are encouraged to talk with each other about assignments and to review each other's work, all assignments written for evaluation are to be the original work of individual students.

**8. Plagiarism:** See statement on Academic Integrity in the Undergraduate Calendar

<http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/academicintegrity/>

**Please note that I hand over ALL cases of suspected plagiarism to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences for investigation.**

**9. Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). Requests made within two weeks will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website

<https://carleton.ca/pmc/> for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

**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/academic/students/>

**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/academic/students/>

## WRITING SPEC SHEET

**FORMAT:** Type your papers, double-spaced, in 12-point font that yields approximately 250 words per page. If you make corrections to hard copy, please make them in ink, above the lines and not in the margins. Accidents can happen, so be sure to keep copies of your written work.

**TITLE:** Essays should be accompanied by a title page that contains the title of the assignment in the centre of the page, with your name, my name, the course code, and the date, double-spaced in the bottom right-hand corner. If you prefer not to use an extra sheet of paper, the title-page information may be included at the top of page one. The latter method will take up essay space, so make sure that the word count conforms to the requirements of the paper. The word count must be included either on the title page or at the end of the essay.

**PROTOCOL:** Papers will be collected at the beginning of the class on the day that they are due; however, papers may be submitted at the Drop Box in the English Secretariat. In order to be accepted, papers must be date-stamped with the due date, which means they have to be in the drop box by 8:00 a.m. on the morning after the due date. **IF YOU USE THE DROP BOX, YOU MUST PUT MY NAME ON THE FRONT SHEET. OTHERWISE, THE ESSAY MAY GO ASTRAY. PAPERS THAT GO ASTRAY FOR THIS REASON WILL BE COUNTED AS LATE PAPERS.**

**PLAGIARISM:** Plagiarism is a serious matter and can be grounds for expulsion from the University. Plagiarism often occurs because a student is not sure where to draw the line between common knowledge, paraphrase, and direct quotation -- and indeed, the distinctions are sometimes hard to make. The rule of thumb is this: All direct quotations have to be contained by quotation marks and their sources cited (see note on bibliographical form below); all paraphrases have to be clearly indicated as such, and their sources also cited. When in doubt about whether a point that you are making is common, shared knowledge in the public domain or the "intellectual property" of another author, either see your TA or me for clarification or err in the direction of documentation.

**E-MAIL PROTOCOL:** You are encouraged to e-mail your TA or me your thesis statements up to 48 hours before a paper is due. Please identify the course in the subject line; otherwise, your e-mail may be deleted without being read. Please do not send attachments. Copy your thesis statement onto the e-mail.

**I DO NOT ACCEPT PAPERS BY E-MAIL. YOU MAY E-MAIL AN ESSAY TO ME ONLY UNDER ALL THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES AND CONDITIONS:**

1. If you have printer problems at the last minute
2. If you e-mail me the finished essay by the beginning of the class on the day it is due.
3. If you come to that class and inform me of the problem.
4. If you bring a hard copy of the essay to my office within 24 hours of the due date.

**BIBLIOGRAPHICAL FORM:** Please use MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation style.

**INTERNET SOURCES:** Internet sources such as Wikipedia and Sparknotes are far too general for serious academic work and often contain mistakes. Furthermore, the kind of uncited cutting, pasting, paraphrasing, and borrowing from the internet that is acceptable in high school is an instructional offense at Carleton. The safest bet is never to consult such sources with regard to the texts for this class. I am always willing to talk with you about your writing or other concerns you may be having. If my posted office hours are impossible, we can arrange a mutually convenient time -- just ask!

**THE LAST WORD:** There are many mistakes that SPELLCHECK won't pick up. Be sure to proofread your essays carefully and to use a dictionary to check spellings of which you're unsure. This sentence from an actual essay made it through Spellcheck:

Richard III was not the real air to the thrown.

## EVALUATION OF ESSAYS

Your essays will receive a grade based on the following criteria:

1. A thesis statement that effectively conveys the paper's argument, the scope of which reflects an accurate reading of the question and the space requirements of the assignment. In other words, your essay must answer the question, and the argument you undertake must be provable within the word count specified on the question sheet.
2. Development of the argument that conveys a university-level of engagement with the topic and the essay writer's thorough knowledge of the text(s) being discussed.
3. Support of the argument through relevant textual evidence that genuinely furthers the essay's thesis.
4. Correct incorporation of evidence according to MLA documentation practice.
5. Correct and effective expression of the argument, according to academic English practice. This refers to sentence structure, paragraphing, grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

The essays will receive a numerical grade that corresponds to the guidelines set out by the Faculty of Arts:

- 90-100 – A+
- 85-89 – A
- 80-84 – A-
- 77-79 – B+
- 73-76 – B
- 70-72 – B-
- 67-69 – C+
- 63-66 – C
- 60-62 – C-
- 57-59 – D+
- 53-56 – D
- 50-52 – D
- Below 50 – F

## FALL SYLLABUS

**\*Asterisk indicates that a 15-minute quiz will take place at the end of the lecture on these dates.**

Sept. 11 – Introduction  
No tutorials this week

Sept. 18 – “Shooting an Elephant”; “The Ghosts of Mrs. Gandhi”  
Tutorial: Introductions and Discussion

Sept. 25 – “The Yellow Wallpaper”; “A Jury of Her Peers”  
Tutorial: Writing about literature: Where to begin: Elements of fiction

Oct. 2 – “My First Goose”; “Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?”; **ESSAY #1 DUE in lecture**  
Tutorial: Critical thinking

Oct. 9 – **THANKSGIVING - NO CLASS**

\*Oct. 16 – Gender Poems  
Tutorial: Elements of poetry and sight-reading; Thesis statements

Oct. 23-27 – FALL BREAK

Oct. 30 – Gender Poems  
Tutorial: Thesis statements

Nov. 6 – *Hard Times*  
Tutorial: Development and support

Nov. 13 – *Hard Times*  
Tutorial: Incorporating quotations

\*Nov. 20 – *Hard Times*  
Tutorial: Explication of evidence

Nov. 27 – *A Raisin in the Sun*  
Tutorial: Writing workshop

\*Dec. 4 – *A Raisin in the Sun*  
Tutorial: Discussion; **ESSAY #2 DUE IN TUTORIAL**

Dec. 8 – *A Raisin in the Sun*  
Tutorial: Taking exams; study groups

**December exam TBA**

## WINTER SYLLABUS

Jan 8 – War Poems  
Tutorial: Logical fallacies

Jan. 15 – War Poems  
Tutorial: Conciseness and precision

\*Jan. 22 – War Poems  
Tutorial: Good usage

Jan. 29 – *Richard III*  
Tutorial: Common punctuation errors

Feb. 5 – *Richard III*  
Tutorial: Common mistakes in grammar

\*Feb.12 – *Richard III*  
Tutorial: Introductions and conclusions

Feb. 19-23 – WINTER BREAK

Feb. 26 – IN-CLASS ESSAY (open book)  
Tutorial: Paraphrasing and summarizing

Mar 5 – *Obasan*  
Tutorial: Library tutorials

March 12 – *Obasan*  
Tutorial: Writing workshop

\*Mar. 19 – *Obasan; The Tattooed Soldier*  
Tutorial: Writing workshop

Mar. 26 – *The Tattooed Soldier*  
Tutorial: TBA

Apr. 2 – *The Tattooed Soldier*  
Tutorial: TBA; **ESSAY #3 DUE IN TUTORIAL**

Apr. 9 – Review  
No tutorials this week.

**FINAL EXAM TO BE ANNOUNCED**