

**Carleton University**  
**Fall 2020**  
**Department of English**  
**ENGL 1010 D: Writing Essays about Literature**

**Preclusions: Precludes additional credit for ENGL 1020.**

**Location:** Online  
*Format: Asynchronous*

**Instructor:** Adam Benn  
**Email:** adam.benn@carleton.ca

**Office:** DT 1906  
**Office Hours:** Wednesday online office hours 5-8pm

**I. Course description:** This writing intensive course introduces students to the literary essay. In this course, we will read five short stories, and familiarize ourselves with literary strategies for developing interpretive and thoughtful papers. Students will learn to develop an argumentative thesis, express difficult or complex arguments, cite and integrate evidence, and satisfy the requirements for university-level papers. Classes will be divided into workshops and lectures in order for students to develop their writing skills.

**II. Preclusions: ENGL 1020**

**III. Learning Outcomes:** Through an approach that blends practice with analysis, students will learn the steps of essay construction from topic choice to final revision. The lectures and assignments will be divided among theoretical discussions of writing principles, workshops to implement these ideas and improve students' grammar and writing skills. Additionally, we will spend time performing close readings of passages in texts, learning the basics of literary analysis, and how to formally write about literature.

**IV. Texts**

Lectures and course materials (on CULearn and through the Library) will be posted in their entirety in the first few weeks of the semester, but they can be read according to the course calendar below. Additionally, the short stories we are reading for the semester are listed here and freely available online:

Donald Barthelme, "The Balloon"  
Italo Calvino, "The Daughters of the Moon"  
Eden Robinson, "Dogs in Winter"  
Toni Morrison, "Sweetness"  
John Barth, "Night-Sea Journey"

**V. Course calendar**

The dates for assignments, readings, and lecture topics are listed below. Materials will be posted online via powerpoint, video lectures, and readings.

- Week 1:** Introduction to Literary Analysis. Read “The Balloon”
- Week 2:** Essay basics. Writing exercise due Sept 20.
- Week 3:** Literary terms, style, and voice.
- Week 4:** Essay Structure. Read “Daughters of the Moon”
- Week 5:** Quotation integration. Writing exercise due Oct 11.
- Week 6:** Methods for reading texts. Short essay due Oct 18.
- Week 7:** Research Skills. Read “Dogs in Winter.”
- Week 8:** Texts and their context. Writing exercise due Nov 8.
- Week 9:** Literature reviews, analysis, and integrating research. Read “Night-Sea Journey”
- Week 10:** Writing style and analysis. Writing exercise due Nov 22.
- Week 11:** Style, Analysis, Voice. Read “Sweetness”
- Week 12:** Revision and editing. Research essay due Dec 6.
- Week 13:** Review.

## **VI. Evaluation**

Short-Essay: 20%  
Research essay: 30%  
Writing workshops: 20%  
Take home exam: 30%

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

## **VII. Statement on Plagiarism**

### **PLAGIARISM**

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or 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 or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- 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, or suspension from a program. For more information please go to: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

### **VIII. Requests for Academic Accommodation**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

**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 click [here](#).

**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 click [here](#).

**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). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

### **Survivors of Sexual Violence**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

### **Accommodation for Student Activities**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. 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.

<https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>