

**Carleton University
Fall 2017
Department of English**

**ENGL 1010C: *Writing an English Essay*
Preclusions: ENGL 1020**

**Day(s) of the week / Time(s) of lectures: M/W 10:05-11:25 a.m
Location: *Please confirm location on Carleton Central***

**Instructor: Matthew Scribner
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Office: 1906 Dunton Tower
Phone: TBA
Office Hours: Tuesdays 12pm-2pm**

This course will teach you how to write by writing about stuff other people have written by writing yourself!

We will talk about how to construct a literary essay—and yes, there’s more to it than the five-paragraph essay! We will read a sample of prose (fiction and nonfiction), poetry, and drama, and learn the nuances of writing about each. We will talk about how to make a good argument and how to back it up with relevant evidence. We will focus on writing about primary sources, but also practice with some secondary sources.

Writing literary essays is a great skill that will help you write other forms of nonfiction. That said, this course is intended for students who are doing a major or minor in English.

We will have lectures on various topics, and focus on the most important skills through in-class workshops. Writing is about practicing skills, not memorizing grammar. That said, we will address common writing mistakes regularly.

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- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;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, suspension from a program, suspension from the university, or even expulsion from the university. For more information please go to:

<http://www.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity>

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 see the Student Guide <http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf>

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 see the Student Guide above.

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 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 requiring accommodation. **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 (www.carleton.ca/pmc) for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exams.

Other Carleton Services:

Please note that the following university-wide services are available to you: Writing Support Services, 4th Floor, MacOdrum Library, 613-520-2600x1125, <http://carleton.ca/csas/writingservices/> (offers assistance with developing and improving writing skills); Academic Advising Services, 302 Tory Building, 613-520-7850; Career Development Services, 401 Tory Building, 613-520-6611, <http://carleton.ca/sacds/>; The Centre for Student

Academic Support, 4th floor of the MacOdrum Library, 613-520-2600 x1125; Research Help Desks at MacOdrum Library, 613-520-2600 x2735, <https://library.carleton.ca/services/research-help> (offer assistance with digital research and using the library); the Office of Student Affairs or Health and Counseling Services, 613-520-2600 x2573; www.carleton.ca/studentaffairs or www.carleton.ca/health (offer assistance coping with stress or crisis).

Please note as well that you are warmly invited to access Departmental Academic Advising. The English Department's Undergraduate Supervisor will offer advice about your program of study as an English Major or Minor and check your fulfillment of program and university requirements for graduation. To make an appointment for academic advising, contact the Undergraduate Supervisor, Professor Birkwood, at susan.birkwood@carleton.ca.

Please note: Student or professor materials created for this course (including lectures, hand-outs, assignments, quizzes, drafts, essays, and examinations) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Etiquette

Please give the person who is speaking in class—whether it is the instructor or one of your peers—your full attention.

You may use a laptop to take notes, but please, do not surf the web, check social media, or do other distracting things in class. Please do not use cellphones in class, even to take notes.

Discussion is encouraged, but (obviously) please disagree without being disagreeable.

EVALUATION

Short Essay Outline: 5%	Due October 2 nd
Short Essay Draft: 10%	Due October 18 th
Short Essay: 10%	Due November 6 th
Note-taking assignment: 5%	Due November 20 th
Long Essay: 20%	Due November 29 th
In-Class Assignments: 20%	
Take-Home Exam: 30%	Due the last day of the exam period

Please bring a pen and paper to every class for in-class assignments. And keep a copy of *The Elements of Style* with you, always.

Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day late. Please contact the instructor *ahead of time* if you require some accommodation. There will be no make-ups for in-class assignments missed without prior accommodation.

COURSE BOOKS

Available from Haven Books, 43 Seneca St., Ottawa, ON, K1S 4X2. Regrettably, Haven Books is not wheelchair accessible: please contact me if this presents a problem.

William Strunk Jr. and E.B. White, *The Elements of Style*: 4th Edition
The Modern Language Association of America, *MLA Handbook*: 8th Edition

All readings are available from these two books or from cuLearn. More readings may be added, but you will receive plenty of notice.

The readings are all short. Feel free to read ahead.

September

- 6th: Welcome and Introduction
- 11th: Thinking about fiction
- 13th: Close reading and formal analysis example:
Reading: E.T.A. Hoffman, “The Sandman” (cuLearn)
- 18th: Coming up with a thesis topic
- 20th: Thesis workshop
- 25th: Making an outline
Reading: Strunk and White, pages 15-19 (pages, not chapters)
- 27th: Outline workshop

October

- 2nd: Short literary essays (Short essay outline due)
Reading: Strunk and White, pages 19-33
- 4th: Team analysis
Reading: Katherine Mansfield, “The Garden Party” (cuLearn)
- 9th: THANKSGIVING
- 11th: Introductions and conclusions
Reading: George Orwell, “Politics and the English Language”
- 16th: Introductions and conclusions workshop
- 18th: Quotation and citation (Short essay draft due)
Reading: **MLA Handbook** Part 1, pages 3-19
- 23rd: READING WEEK
- 25th: READING WEEK
- 30th: Types of essays

November

- 1st: Using the library
- 6th: Research workshop (Short essay due)
- 8th: Marshaling evidence
Reading: Strunk and White, pages 34-38
- 13th: Evidence workshop

15th: Analysis: poetry

Reading: Elizabeth Bishop, “Casabianca”

20th: Focus on Grammar (Note-taking assignment due)

Reading: Strunk and White, pages 39-65

22nd: Style

Reading: Strunk and White, pages 66-85

27th: Long essay workshop

29th: Analysis: drama (Long essay due)

December

4th: Take-home essay workshop

6th: Self-evaluation

Note: Though Friday, December 8th has a Monday schedule, we will not have class on that day. We will discuss an optional make-up class at some point during the semester.