

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY**  
**WINTER 2020**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**  
**ENGL 1010H**  
**WRITING ESSAYS ABOUT LITERATURE**

Precludes additional credit for ENGL 1020.

**LOCATION AND TIME: SA 415 WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY 11:35-12:55**

**Instructor:** Adam Benn

**Office:** Dunton Tower 1906

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Email:** adam.benn@carleton.ca

Email is the best way to reach me. I will answer emails within 48 hours.

**Course Description and Objectives:**

**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.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

All texts are free online or at the library

Donald Barthelme, "The Balloon"

Italo Calvino, "The Daughters of the Moon"

Eden Robinson, "Dogs in Winter"

Toni Morrison, "Sweetness"

John Barth, "Night-Sea Journey"

**EVALUATION:**

Short-Essay: 10%

Long Essay: 30%

Quizzes and Workshops: 30%

Final Research Essay: 30%

**Submissions:** A) Essay assignments should be submitted at the on CULearn at the required time of submission. Assignments are NOT to be slipped under my office door. Emailed assignments will not be accepted without prior written agreement of the professor. 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 submitted immediately upon request; B) Workshop exercises are to be written and submitted in the class during which they are assigned.

**Due Dates and Late Policies:** A) Essay assignments are not accepted after the due date without accompanying medical or other appropriate documentation. There will be no individual exemptions from or exceptions to this rule. If non-emergency situations develop, familiarize the professor with them BEFORE they occur whenever possible. Also, be aware that late essay assignments may not be

marked in time or contain as many comments as papers submitted on time, meaning students may not be able to implement advice and commentary for subsequent assignments; B) Workshop exercises will not be accepted after the assigned class.

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.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MY CLASS**

### **Missed Classes**

You are responsible for knowing the material and announcements presented during lectures whether or not you attend class. Please arrange with another student to get missed notes and announcements.

### **Classroom Expectations and Behaviour**

Please do not disrupt other students' ability to participate in class (e.g., do not arrive late or leave early, begin packing your belongings before class ends, chat while others are speaking etc.).

### **Technology Notes:**

Laptop computers and other portable technologies should be used in class only as learning-facilitation tools

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
Jan 8	Intro	
Jan 10	Essay basics	
Jan 15	Literary analysis	<b>Quiz 1.</b> Discussion of "The Balloon"
Jan 17	Literary terms	"The Balloon" Discussion cont'd
Jan 22	Literary style and voice	
Jan 24	Outlines and Thesis Statements	Read "The Daughters of the Moon"
Jan 29	Outline And Thesis cont'd	<b>Quiz 2</b>
Jan 31	Structure and Organization	Short Essay Workshop
Feb 5	Body Paragraphs	Short Essay due
Feb 7	Introductions and Conclusions	
Feb 12	Intro and Conclusion Workshop	Workshop Exercise
Feb 14	Quotation Integration	
Feb 19	NO CLASS	Read "Dogs In Winter"
Feb 21	NO CLASS	Read "Dogs In Winter"
Feb 26	Research Skills	<b>Quiz 3</b>
Feb 28	Research Skills Workshop	
March 4	Quotation Integration Workshop	Workshop exercise. Read "Sweetness"
March 6	Beyond the Page: Critical and Historical Contexts	<b>Quiz 4</b>

March 11	Critical contexts continued	
March 13	Effective Style	Read “Night-Sea Journey”
March 18	Analysis review	<b>Quiz 5</b>
March 20	Style, Voice, Analysis combined	
March 25	Analysis and Style workshop	Workshop Exercise
March 27	Revision and Editing	
April 1	Revision and Editing Workshop	Workshop Exercise
April 3	Exam Writing	
End of April		Final Research Essay due

### **General Explanation of Grading Criteria**

Below is a general summary of elements that will factor into the grade for each of the essays you submit. The list for each grade provides an idea of the “do’s and don’t’s” associated with that letter grade; students should assume that they must meet all the positive expectations and avoid all the negative ones to achieve the mark in question.

#### **A-range Grades: Excellent**

(Paper exceeds standard expectations for first-year essays):

- Arguments are always clear, explained and proven via cogent textual analysis
- Ideas are original and imaginative not derivative of lecture material
- Overall structure and paragraph structure are logical and well linked
- Style and language are sophisticated
- Grammar is free of any flaws
- Documentation is correct throughout
- Technical expectations (length, formatting etc) are completely met

#### **B-range Grades: Good**

(Paper meets standard expectations for first-year essays):

- Arguments are generally clear and well explained with fairly cogent textual analysis
- Ideas are not totally original/imaginative, but derivative ideas are handled well
- Overall structure and paragraph structure essentially logical and linked, but with some flaws
- Style and language are handled fairly well but with some flaws
- Some grammar errors are evident
- Documentation is almost always correct
- Technical expectations are completely met

#### **C-range Grades: Adequate**

(Paper meets some but not all standard expectations for first-year essays):

- Some unclear, unexplained and unproven arguments, with limited cogent textual analysis
- Ideas are usually derivative and not always handled well
- Overall structure and paragraph structure are loose, sometimes illogical and not well linked
- Flaws are evident in style and language use
- Many grammar errors are noticeable
- Documentation errors occur with relative frequency
- Some technical expectations are not met

#### **D-range Grades: Poor**

(Paper only meets a few of the standard expectations for first-year essays):

- Arguments are generally unclear, unexplained and unproven without cogent textual analysis
- Ideas, if present, are generally derivative and ill-handled
- Overall structure and paragraph structure are scattered, often illogical and poorly linked
- Significant flaws in style and language use exist
- Problems with grammar are evident throughout
- Documentation is largely incorrect or missing
- Many technical expectations are not met

### **F-range Grades: Failure**

(Paper fails to meet the standard expectations for first-year essays):

- Arguments, if present, are confused and unproven with only superficial textual analysis
- General lack of ideas driving the paper to conclusion
- Overall structure and paragraph structure difficult or impossible to discern
- Major flaws exist in style and language use
- Systematic grammar errors are present throughout
- Documentation is incorrect or absent
- Majority of technical expectations are not met

## **OTHER UNIVERSITY POLICIES (AKA THE FINE PRINT)**

### **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 acknowledgement 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 serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts 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 a final grade of “F” for the course. The policy can be found at:

<https://carleton.ca/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/Academic-Integrity-Policy.pdf>

### **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**

Please contact your instructor 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: <https://carleton.ca/equity/contact/form-pregnancy-accommodation/>

### **Religious obligation**

Please contact your instructor 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: <https://carleton.ca/equity/focus/discrimination-harassment/religious-spiritual-observances/>

### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, visit the Paul Menton Centre Website: [carleton.ca/pmc](http://carleton.ca/pmc)

### **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 its 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/focus/sexual-violence-prevention-survivor-support/>

### **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. Please contact your instructor 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>