

**Carleton University  
Winter 2022  
Department of English**

**ENGL 1010 H  
*Writing Essays about Literature*  
Preclusions: No additional credit for ENGL1020**

**Wednesdays and Fridays / 8:30am-10:00am  
Format: In-person**

**Instructor: Matthew Scribner  
Email: [Matthew.Scribner@Carleton.ca](mailto:Matthew.Scribner@Carleton.ca)  
Office hours: TBD**

## **I. Course description:**

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 is 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, but we will address common writing mistakes regularly.

## **II. Preclusions:**

This course is intended for students who are taking English courses as a major or minor. You cannot have a credit for both this course and for ENGL 1020, which is a fantastic course, but is also too similar to this one. Please take ENGL 1020 instead if you are not in English.

## **III. Learning Outcomes:**

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to do the following:

- Write an effective academic essay on literature topics

- Craft an argument with relevant evidence
- Name and understand genres of fiction
- Use style to emphasize points
- Avoid common grammar mistakes
- Apply critical thinking to controversies and debates
- Read documents to find pertinent details
- Proofread and refine writing

#### **IV. Texts:**

This course has no textbook. However, there will be a selection of digital short stories and plays that will be available to read through Brightspace. You will choose from these when deciding on your essay topics.

#### **V. Course calendar:**

All assignments (except some of the in-class activities) are due on the second class of the week.

Week 1 **January 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>** Introduction to the course

Week 2 **January 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>** Close reading **Song lyric analysis due**

Week 3 **January 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>** Introductory paragraphs and thesis statements

Week 4 **January 31<sup>st</sup>-February 4<sup>th</sup>** Evidence paragraphs **Introduction paragraph due**

Week 5 **February 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>** Concluding paragraphs

Week 6 **February 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>** MLA Formatting and documentation **First paper due**

Week 7 **February 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>** *Break Week*

Week 8 **February 28<sup>th</sup>-March 4<sup>th</sup>** Outlining

Week 9 **March 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>** Academic style **Second paper outline due**

Week 10 **March 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>** Literary theory

Week 11 **March 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>** Secondary sources

Week 12 **March 28<sup>th</sup>-April 1<sup>st</sup>** Grammar **Second paper due**

Week 13 **April 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>** Punctuation

Week 14 **April 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>** Review

#### **VI. Evaluation:**

You will mostly be evaluated on your written work, and how well it is structured and argued. Spelling and grammar are also considerations. A smaller but still significant part of your mark comes from completing regular activities, which are meant as practice for your major assignments.

There will be take-home exam that will involve more essay writing.

Grade breakdown:

Song lyric analysis (5%) Due January 21<sup>st</sup>  
Introduction paragraph (5%) Due February 4<sup>th</sup>  
First paper (15%) Due February 18<sup>th</sup>  
Second paper outline (5%) Due March 11<sup>th</sup>  
Second paper (25%) Due April 1<sup>st</sup>  
Take-Home Exam (35%) Due April 28<sup>th</sup>  
In-Class Activities (10%) Any class, potentially

All essays, as well as the exam, must be submitted to pass the course.

Major assignments may be handed in late, but at a penalty of 7% per day, including weekends. However, each student gets four “extension days” for the entire semester. Contact the instructor before the assignment is due to use these extension days. Students can spread out their extension days across multiple assignments.

There will be in-class activities regularly in class. The total number of in-class activities will be worth more than the assigned 10%: you cannot earn bonus marks, but you can make up missed activities. The purpose here is not to punish people who missed a day of class: it is to underline that regular class attendance is important to get the knowledge and experience to pass the course.

All major assignments will use MLA format. Instruction on MLA format will be given in class and on Brightspace.

Each assignment will have its own page in Brightspace. Please read the instructions carefully. Please submit your work to the appropriate Brightspace page in .doc, .docx, or .rtf format (NOT .pdf or .pages format).

You can save in at least some of the above formats with Pages or even Google Docs, but some instruction will assume use of Word. Additionally, all feedback will be returned in MS Word files. Through Carleton, you can get a license to use MS Office for free at <https://carleton.ca/its/help-centre/get-microsoft-office-for-students/>

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. English Department Statement on 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.” According to the Department examples of plagiarism include the following:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;

- 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;
- 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. Special Information Regarding Pandemic Measures**

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) and [mandatory self-screening](#) prior to coming to campus daily.

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the mandatory [symptom reporting tool](#). For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be recorded in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the [COVID-19 website](#).

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food is permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the [University's COVID-19 webpage](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact [covidinfo@carleton.ca](mailto:covidinfo@carleton.ca)

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the [Student](#)

**Rights and Responsibilities Policy.** Failure to comply with Carleton's COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.

## **IX. 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 accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the **Pregnancy Accommodation Form**.

**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/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 will 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>