

**Carleton University  
Winter 2020  
Department of English**

**ENGL 1100A: Literature, Law, and Criminality**

**Prerequisites:** this course precludes additional credit for ENGL 1000, ENGL 1200, ENGL 1300, ENGL 1400, ENGL 1600, FYSM 1004

Fridays 8:35 – 11:25 am

**Location:** Please confirm location on Carleton Central

**Instructor:** Dr. Sarah Waisvisz

**Email:** sarah.waisvisz@carleton.ca

**Office:** Dunton Tower 1914

**Office Hours:** TBA

**I. Course description:**

Through the study of four different literary genres – the graphic novel, the novel, drama, and short fiction – we will explore how literary attention to human rights violations, war, tyranny, and atrocity can lead to books and works of art that testify to the events and resist dominant narratives about what occurred. Why is it important that writers take up and take on difficult topics? What consequences do these works of art have on society and on how we remember (or don't remember) those historical traumas?

**II. Prerequisites:**

This course precludes additional credit for ENGL 1000, ENGL 1200, ENGL 1300, ENGL 1600, FYSM 1004.

**III. Learning Outcomes:**

The aim of this course is to provide you with opportunities to enhance your academic reading abilities (including reading critically, engaging in “close reading,” and reading long texts) and your abilities to write critically about literature. Moreover, the course aims to provide an opportunity for students to consider the importance of art and culture in our contemporary society, and to think about how works of literature can reflect, comment on, and influence society, politics, and the legal system.

**IV. Texts:**

Required Reading: the 3 primary texts will be available for purchase at OCTOPUS BOOKS on Third Avenue, just off of Bank Street. You MUST obtain a copy of these works and bring them to class with you.

*Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood.* By Marjane Satrapi Pantheon, 2004. (a graphic novel)

*Maus I: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History.* By Art Spiegelman. Pantheon, 1986. (a graphic novel)

*The Marrow Thieves.* By Cherie Dimaline. Dancing Cat Books, 2017. (a novel)

*The Rez Sisters.* By Thomson Highway. Fifth House Publishers, 1988. (a play)

*The Dew Breaker.* By Edwidge Danticat. Vintage, 2004. (a collection of linked short stories)

**V. Course calendar:                      Fridays 8:30-11:30 AM**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT/ READINGS DUE</b>
<b>Fri. Jan. 10</b>	First class. Introductions to the course etc.
<b>Fri. Jan. 17</b>	Guest lecturer on literature, human rights, and the work of culture and law.
<b>Fri. Jan. 24</b>	<i>Persepolis</i>
<b>Fri. Jan. 31</b>	<i>Persepolis</i>
<b>Fri. Feb. 7</b>	<i>Maus I.</i> 1 <sup>st</sup> essay due in class.
<b>Fri. Feb. 14</b>	<i>Maus I.</i>
<b>Fri. Feb. 21</b>	<b>No class. Winter Break.</b> Read: <i>The Marrow Thieves.</i>
<b>Fri. Feb. 28</b>	<i>The Marrow Thieves</i>
<b>Fri. March 6</b>	<i>The Marrow Thieves.</i>
<b>Fri. March 13</b>	<i>The Rez Sisters</i>
<b>Fri. March 20</b>	<i>The Rez Sisters.</i> 2 <sup>nd</sup> essay due in class.
<b>Fri. March 27</b>	3 stories from <i>The Dew Breaker</i> :
<b>Fri. April 3</b>	Last class. Term work due. Take-home exam handed out in class.
<b>Sat. April 25</b>	Due Date for take-home exams.

**VI. Evaluation:**

NB: 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.

Your grade in this course will be based on several formal written evaluations, as well as your active participation in classroom discussions, activities, and writing assignments.

**15 %** Regular Attendance and completion of in-class assignments and activities, solo and in groups

**15 %** Online Participation on CU Learn: each week you will be responsible for submitting 2 questions you have related to that week’s assigned reading. These will be graded as Pass/Fail and are time-sensitive.

**20 %** Academic Essay # 1 **due Friday, Feb. 14th**, printed out, handed in in class, with MLA style.

**20 %** Academic Essay # 2 **due Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**, printed out, handed in in class, with MLA style.

**30%** Take-Tome “cumulative” Examination: **handed out on April 3rd and due by Saturday April 25.**

NB: Absolutely NO late papers will be accepted

- unless you have met with me and gotten permission **in advance** for submitting late
- unless you have accommodation from the Paul Menton Centre (and we have discussed it)
- unless you have a medical or other crisis, in which case also please let me know ASAP.

NB: Please note that you must submit both Academic Essays AND complete the Take-Home Final Examination in order to pass the course. You cannot pass the course without completing the weekly online-participation or in-class participation work.

## **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/>

## **VII. 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**

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>