

**Carleton University
Fall 2015
Department of English**

English 1100B: Literature, Law, and Criminality



Tues. and Thurs. 8:30-9:50
Location: 520 SA (*please confirm on Carleton Central*)

Instructor: Dr. David Stymeist
Office: 1819 DT
Office Phone: TBA
Email: dstymeist@yahoo.ca
Office Hours: Weds. 1-2, or by appointment.

***Preliminary Outline- subject to change**

Course Description

In this course we are going to look at how writers represent characters “breaking bad” into a life of vice and lawlessness. Crime and punishment is a hotly debated issue that dominates our

cultural imagination and our public media. Not surprisingly, authors from Shakespeare to the writers of the *Breaking Bad* series have turned their attention to excavating the roots of crime, its social and personal motivations, its impact on individuals and societies, and ultimately its consequences for both perpetrators and victims. This course serves as an introduction to the study of literature through the thematic lens of crime, justice, and criminality

Book/Text List:

Dashiell Hammett, *Red Harvest*.

Margaret Atwood. *Alias Grace*. (based on two Ottawa valley murders in the 1840's)

William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*.

HBO Series: *Breaking Bad*.

Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *Crime and Punishment*.

Robert Browning, "Porphyria's Daughter."

Crime Ballads (old and new: "Stagger Lee," Nick Cave's Murder Ballads, etc).

Lynn Crosbie, "Fredo Pentangeli" (*Godfather Series*) and "The Black Dahlia."

Edgar Allan Poe. "The Tell-tale Heart."

[Dashiell Hammett's *Red Harvest*, Margaret Atwood's *Alias Grace*, William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, and Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *Crime and Punishment* will be available at Haven Books, 43 Seneca Street (613-730-9888)]

Required Assignments

Short Essay	1000 wds	25%
Research Essay	1800 wds	35%
Participation & Attendance		10%
Final Exam (2 hr.)		30%

Class Schedule (Subject to Change)

Sept. 3 Course Introduction

Sept. 8, 10 Crime Ballads

Sept. 15, 17, 22 Dashiell Hammett, *Red Harvest*.

Sept. 18 Last day of registration for fall term and fall/winter courses

Sept. 24 Robert Browning, "Porphyria's Daughter."

Sept. 29, Oct. 1, 6, 8 William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*.

Oct. 13, 15, 20, 22 Margaret Atwood. *Alias Grace*.

October 26-30 Fall break. No classes.

Nov. 3, 5, 10, 12 Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *Crime and Punishment*.

November 6 Last day to submit Formal Examination Accommodation Forms to the Paul Menton Centre for December examinations.

Nov. 17, 19 HBO Series: *Breaking Bad*.

Nov. 24, 26 Lynn Crosbie, "Fredo Pentangeli" (*Godfather Series*) and "The Black Dahlia."
Edgar Allan Poe. "The Tell-tale Heart."

Dec. 1 Exam Review.

Dec. 3 Last Day of Class.

December 7 Last day for academic withdrawal from fall term courses

December 9 – 21 Final examinations in fall term courses

Course Regulations

Class participation marks will include participation in class discussion, response to written comments on graded assignments, consistent attendance, and full reading preparation for each assigned text. As consistent attendance is expected in this class, students are required to attend an absolute minimum of 50% of the classes; students failing to meet this minimum requirement will not have their assignments graded.

All assignments must be handed in on the date specified unless cleared previously with the professor. Papers must be handed to me in person or to the drop box in the English department office (1812 Dunton Tower) on the due date. If you choose to use the drop box, you must be prepared to incur any late penalties that may accumulate due to the unlikely occurrence of the paper's loss or misfiling.

Late papers and projects will be penalized 2% per day that the assignment is overdue. Papers without medical extension will not be accepted after two weeks of the due date. No faxes or emails of essays will be accepted. Please keep a copy of your assignment in case of loss by any cause. Students can expect to receive graded feedback in a timely manner; the instructor reserves the right to limit commentary on late essays. Students are required to submit all major assignments (both essays and exam) in order to pass the course as a whole.

Class etiquette: Turn off cell phones during class time. Text messaging is not allowed during class.

Grading System:

Assignments in this course will be graded using the letter grading system: A-, A, A+ (Excellent); B-, B, B+ (Good); C-, C, C+ (Satisfactory); D, D+ (Minimal pass); F (Failure). Percentage conversion: A+ (90-100%), A (85-89), A- (80-84), B+ (77-79), B (73-76), B- (70-72), C+ (67-69), C (63-66), C- (60-62), D+ (57-59), D (53-56), D- (50-52), F (0-49).

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 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. For more information please go to: <http://www2.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

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

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 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):
<http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/academic/students/>