

**Carleton University
Winter 2017
Department of English**

ENGL 2103B: *Introduction to the Novel*
Prerequisite(s): second-year standing

Tuesdays 8:35– 11:25
Location: 3101 Canal Building

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Office Hours: TBA

Ghosts, monsters, freaks, outcasts, post-humans. Empire, war, capitalism, migration. Progress and ruin, education and alienation, liberation and captivity, exploitation and revolution. Gender, sexuality, cultural memory. This course introduces you to a set of novels that will have you thinking about all of these themes. We'll focus on three sub-genres: the novel of education (also called the *bildungsroman*), characteristically focused on individual growth and accommodation to the social world; the gothic novel, focused on the inverse of those very things; and the speculative novel, focused on the dystopian futures of human reason and progress. We'll explore the ways that types of fiction may be distinguished by their representation of space and time, their positioning of the self in relation to the social world, their theories causality and of knowledge. At the same time, we'll address the blending and transmutation of genres, as the novels on our reading list anticipate and echo each other across centuries and continents.

Required texts:

Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre* (Penguin ISBN 978-0-14-241969-4)
Adele Wiseman, *Crackpot* (McClelland & Stewart ISBN 978-0-7710-8886-5)
Horace Walpole, *Caste of Otranto* (Oxford University Press ISBN 978-0-19-282351-9)
Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (Broadview ISBN 9781554811038) *please buy this edition*
Larissa Lai, *Salt Fish Girl* (Dundurn ISBN 978-0-88762-32-0)

These texts are available at Octopus Books, 116 Third Avenue, 613-233-2589. You may pick them up in person or order them via the bookstore's website, and have them sent to your home (at extra cost). See www.octopusbooks.ca

Assignments and Evaluation

Two take-home writing assignments 2 x 15% due: Feb. 3rd and Mar. 24th
Analysis of a passage from one of our texts, chosen from a selection of passages I will give you.
Evaluation will be based on: attention to details of language and technique in the passage; an

argument about how these shape meaning; commentary on the function of the passage in relation to the novel as a whole. I will also expect precise thesis statements and well-constructed paragraphs. Please hand in your assignment electronically, using our CULearn course page, not email.

Mid-term test 25% Feb. 28th, in class

The test will include identification questions, short answer questions about genre, and an essay about one of the first three novels studied. There will be no make-up mid-term tests for those who miss class.

Final exam 35% (t.b.a.: April exam period)

Our final exam will include identification questions, passage analyses, and two essay answers. You must complete all term work—the two take-home writing assignments and the mid-term test—in order to write the final exam.

Attendance and Participation 10% every week

Attendance is mandatory. An attendance sheet will be signed during class. Students who miss six classes will not be permitted to write the final exam.

Participation points are earned in a number of ways, ideally through all of the following: coming to class with the assigned text in hand; doing the assigned reading before class, with care and attention; contribution of comments and questions during class; active listening to me and to your classmates; wholehearted participation in in-class exercises.

Class Rules and Regulations

Basic preparation for class: Do not simply skim the texts; read attentively. Note the elements you find interesting. Think about connections to other texts or to issues we have been discussing in class. Bring questions.

Classroom etiquette: All cell phones must be put away. Laptops are permitted for note-taking only (no browsing, no social media, etc.) and any student found to be using a laptop for another other purpose will lose the privilege of bringing the laptop to class. Listen attentively to the lecture and to the observations made by other students. Have a sense of taking turns when it comes to contributing to discussion: don't rely on others to carry the conversation, and if you enjoy contributing, be careful not to dominate.

Email etiquette: The best way to speak with me is in person during my office hours or right after class. Email may be used for brief messages. Please use the subject line ENGL2103. If you have a substantive question about an assignment or the course material, see me during my office hours. It may be possible to arrange an appointment for another time if you are unavailable during my office hours.

Submission of assignments: **Please submit your two take-home writing assignments electronically on our CULearn course page.** Go to the “Topic” entitled “Handing in assignments electronically.” If you have not done this before and need some instructions, look for “Student Support” just before putting in your login information on CULearn. Or, once you are on our CULearn course page, look at the black bar at the very bottom and click on “Student Support,” then choose “Assessments,” then “Submitting a Text-Based Assignment.” Keep a back-up of all assignments and ensure that the course code, my name, and your name appear on the top left of the first page.

Penalties for late assignments: Assignments must be submitted electronically on CULearn before 5pm on the day they are due. Late assignments may be submitted via CULearn up to five days late. There is a penalty of 1% per weekday (this includes the day they are due if they are submitted after 5pm) and a grace period over the weekend. The maximum penalty is 5%. Essays will **not** be accepted after this five day/-5% period unless proper medical documentation is provided. Please keep a backup copy of all your assignments.

Exams and airplane ticket bookings: The Registrar’s Office does not set specific exam dates until well into the term. Be in town during the final examination period.

Grades: Grades for written work will be based on insightfulness, presentation of focused ideas supported by textual evidence, effective organization of ideas, clarity of expression, correct use of MLA style, spelling and grammar. The following percentage equivalents will be used when calculating your final grade for this class:

A+=90; A/A+=88; A=85;A-/A=83; A-=80

B+/A-=79; B+=77; B/B+=75; B=73; B-/B=72; B-=70

C+/B-=69; C+=67; C/C+=65; C=63; C-/C=62; C-=60

D+/C-=59; D+=57; D/D+=55; D=53; D-/D=52; D-=50

F=0-49 (a numerical grade will be assigned for any paper receiving an F)

Plagiarism: Plagiarism means passing off someone else’s words or ideas as your own or submitting the same work in two different academic contexts. The most common forms of plagiarism include unacknowledged copying from secondary sources (including sections as short as sentences and paragraphs, even when you have changed a word), purchasing papers online or from essay-writing services, or having another person write a paper for you. Do not take these risks. The consequences of plagiarism are severe and are issued by the Dean and the University Senate. In order to avoid plagiarism, you must clearly and correctly provide the specific source of any quotation, borrowed phrasing, or idea you pick up from the internet, from a published source, or from other people.

Academic accommodations policy: If you need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations due to pregnancy, religious obligation, or disability, the processes to be followed for an accommodation request are:

- Pregnancy obligation: Write to me with any requests for academic accommodations during the first two weeks of class or as soon as possible after

the need to accommodations is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website at <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/>

- 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 visit the Equity Services website at <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/>
- Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that I receive your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due. If you only require accommodations for the formally scheduled final exam, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by the deadline published on the PMC website: <http://carleton.ca/pmc/students/dates-and-deadlines/>

Learning services at Carleton:

The Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS) offers help with writing at a university level, according to the requirements of specific disciplines. You can make an appointment for free one-on-one tutoring in relation to a specific assignment you are working on. Ask for a tutor specializing in literary studies. The Centre also offers students learning support strategies including academic skills workshops and information sessions, study rooms, a tutor referral service, and peer helpers. Visit the Centre on the 4th floor of the MacOdrum Library or contact them directly to make an appointment: www.carleton.ca/csas, 613-520-3822, csas@carleton.ca.

Career Services and Co-operative Education: career development, employment preparation, experiential learning opportunities for Carleton students. The Career and Resource Centre is located at 401 Tory 613-520-6611. The Co-op and Employer Centre is at 1400 Carleton Technology and Training Centre 613-520-4331. For information on the co-op program for English students see carleton.ca/english/2015/co-op-program-english-students

Reading Schedule

January 10	Introduction
January 17	<i>Castle of Otranto</i>
January 24	<i>Jane Eyre</i> (read to end of ch. 24)
January 31	finish <i>Jane Eyre</i>

*first take-home writing assignment due **Feb. 3rd** *

February 7 *Frankenstein* (read to end of ch. 7 in Vol. II)

February 14 finish *Frankenstein*

February 21 No class, February break

February 28 *Crackpot* (read to p. 161, end of ch. 4) + **mid term test** in second half of class

March 7 *Crackpot* (read to p. 345, end of ch. 9)

March 14 finish *Crackpot*

March 21 *Salt Fish Girl* (read to p. 146)

 *second take-home writing assignment due **Mar. 24th***

March 28 finish *Salt Fish Girl*

April 4 Review