

Carleton University Fall/Winter 2017-18

Department of English

ENGL 2802C: Canadian Literatures

Prerequisite(s): second-year standing or permission of the department

Time of Course: Mondays and Wednesdays, 4-5:30 pm

Class Location: Fall 409 SA, Winter 304 SA

(Please confirm locations on Carleton Central)

Instructor: Professor Collett Tracey

Email: Collett.Tracey@carleton.ca

Office: 1910 Dunton Tower

Phone: 613-520-2600 x2328

Office Hours: To be determined.

Overview

In this course we will consider the ways in which Canadian literatures have developed since their beginnings. We will focus on a variety of novels, short stories, sketches, songs and poetry in order to grapple with the issues that have informed and shaped our literary landscape. We will also work towards a deeper understanding of how vulnerable and rich our literary heritage is with a view to convincing students of the need to engage with it from a personal as well as academic perspective. This will be facilitated through large and small group discussions, seminars and debates. This course is writing attentive, therefore time and opportunities will be committed to helping students improve their writing skills.

Required Texts:

Montgomery, L.M. *The Blue Castle*
Findlay, T. *The Wars*
Engel, M. *Bear*
Ross, S. *As For Me and My House*
Moore, B. *The Luck of Ginger Coffey*
Bennet & Brown, *Anthology of Canadian Literature*

Grading:

Class Participation & Seminars 40%

Essay 1: 25%

Essay 2: 25%

Exam: 10%

The Essay:

As a student, you will be encouraged to devise your own essay topics in consultation with me. It should reflect ideas and material relevant to the issues that we will be discussing over the semester. You can base your essay on the works of a particular writer, which might be an in-depth study of a single text or a thematic exploration across more than one text (including, if you wish, texts we haven't studied as long as I agree with them). Alternatively, you can write a thematic essay which takes an idea, topic, or theme and explores it through texts by more than one writer (although writing about more than two primary texts is usually a bad idea). The usual essay rules apply: you are expected to demonstrate a level of engagement and research that goes beyond the content covered in seminars, and the essay must be presented in correct MLA scholarly format (with a consistently used and accurate referencing system and a full, properly formatted bibliography). The essay must be word-processed and paginated, and accompanied by a completed cover sheet.

Grading System:

Grades for term work will be based on insightfulness, originality, focus, organization of ideas, clarity of expression, scholarly rigor, correct use of MLA style, spelling, and grammar.

Writing Attentive:

In English 2802, "writing attentive" means the following:

- Students will write at least one examination.
- Students will write a number of formal essays in which they are expected to do the following:
 - develop a thesis statement across each essay
 - develop complex ideas using correct and effective expression, according to academic English practice
 - develop literary reading skills through close analysis of poetry and/or prose passages
 - use and cite evidence from primary texts appropriately, using the MLA documentation style
 - develop secondary research and citation skills
- A portion of class time will be devoted to developing and improving essay-writing skills and research essay skills

General Expectations, Course Policies and Classroom Etiquette:

Students are expected to attend all classes, showing up on time and staying for the duration of the class. You are also expected to bring the text assigned for that day's class, having read it and being prepared for discussion. If you do have to miss a class it is your responsibility to get the notes you miss from another student. *I strongly prefer that, unless they are absolutely necessary for note-taking, both cellphones and laptops should be turned off during class.* Students must be prepared to discuss the texts in a thoughtful manner.

Critical reading, writing and analytical skills cannot be learned from books alone. Asking questions about the readings and contributing to class discussions will help you better understand the material, hone your critical and interpretive skills and prepare you well for upper-year classes where participation will account for part of your final grade. -

Attendance will be taken on a random basis, and absences will be noted. *Students who miss 4 or more classes per term will not be able to pass the course, as all course requirements must be fulfilled for successful completion of the course.*

Contact:

The best way to get in contact with me is by email at collett.tracey@carleton.ca. I will respond to emails in a timely fashion (usually within 24 hours, though it could be longer on weekends) and especially to those that ask clear, precise and specific questions. - I am also available to meet with students to discuss any aspect of the course during my office hours, and if you are unable to make it to my office hours, we can reschedule a time to meet that is convenient to both of us.

Suggestions:

It is strongly recommended that you take notes on the lectures and discussions, and keep a record of the passages we discuss in class. Writing in the margins of your books and marking off key passages as you read is also a good idea.

Handing In Assignments:

Assignments are due in class on the dates indicated. However, they can be handed in without penalty until 8:00 a.m. the morning after the due date, via the English Department's drop box, located on the 18th floor of Dunton Tower. *Please do not slip the assignment under my office door. Emailed or faxed assignments are not acceptable and will not be marked.* Keep a back-up copy of every assignment you hand in as an insurance policy in the unlikely event that your essay is misplaced.

Late Penalty:

Deadlines must be met. Late essays are not normally accepted (for many reasons, not the least of which is that it is inherently unfair to those who do work hard to meet deadlines). If you have a

valid reason for missing a deadline, and if I know in advance, your essay may be accepted . Except in rare cases for which corroborating documentation can be provided (such as a medical emergency or the death of an immediate family member), assignments which are accepted and handed in after the due date will be penalized by 1/3 of a letter grade per day. For example, a B+ essay due on Monday but handed in on Tuesday afternoon would drop to a B. If it wasn't handed in until Wednesday it would receive a B-, etc. Saturday and Sunday count as 1 day each, so if you find yourself in the position of finishing up your late essay on Saturday afternoon and don't want to lose 1/3 of a grade for Sunday too, email me the completed assignment immediately and submit an identical hard copy to the drop box on Monday.

Extensions:

Requests for extension may be granted in some instances, but only for compelling reasons. Any such request must be made in writing or in person no later than 48 hours prior to the due date of the assignment. Requests for "retroactive" extensions (i.e. requests made on or after the due date of the essay) will not be considered.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism means passing off someone else's words or ideas as your own or submitting the same work in two different academic contexts (self-plagiarism). The consequences of plagiarism are severe and are issued by the Dean and the University Senate. In order to avoid plagiarism, you must correctly attribute the sources of the ideas you pick up from books, the internet, and other people. See the statement on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Request 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:

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).

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.

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.

Note:

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

Calendar

September

Wed	6	Introduction
Mon	11	Pre-Confederation Literature
Wed	13	<i>Roughing It in the Bush</i> (Anthology)
Mon	18th	Atwood <i>Journals of Susanna Moodie</i>
Wed	20	Confederation Poetry
Mon	25	Confederation Poetry
Wed	27	Wiebe, <i>Where is the Voice Coming From</i>

October

Mon	2	Short Stories
Wed	4	Short Stories
Mon	9	Thanksgiving -- No Class
Wed	11	Montgomery, <i>The Blue Castle</i>
Mon	16	Birney, "David"
Wed	18	Introduction to Modernist Poetry
Mon	23	Fall Break - No Class
Wed	25	Fall Break - No Class

	Mon	30	Ross, <i>As For Me and My House</i> Introduction to Seminars
November			
	Wed	1	Ross, <i>As For Me and My House</i>
	Mon	6	Ross
	Wed	8	Ross
	Mon	13	Little Mags & Presses & Montreal
	Wed	15	Modernist Poets & Poetry
	Mon	20	Poetry cont'd
	Wed	22	Kogawa
	Mon	27	<i>Speakers for the Dead</i>
	Wed	29	Livesay
December			
	Mon	4	Richler
	Wed	6	Last Class -- Review -- <i>Paper Due</i>
January			
	Mon	8	Orientation
	Wed	10	Findley, <i>The Wars</i>
	Mon	15	Findley
	Wed	17	Findley
	Mon	22	Findley
	Wed	24	Findley
	Mon	29	Purdy
	Wed	31	Cohen
February			
	Mon	5	Moore, <i>The Luck of Ginger Coffey</i>
	Wed	7	Moore
	Mon	12	Moore
	Wed	14	Moore
	Mon	19	Winter Break
	Wed	21	Winter Break
	Mon	26	Ondaatje "The Cinnamon Peeler", "Time Around Scars"
	Wed	28	Wallace, "The Woman In This Poem"

March

Mon	5	Dionne Brand
Wed	7	Engel

Mon	12	Engel
Wed	14	Engel

Mon	19	Engel
Wed	21	

Mon	26	Engel
Wed	28	Poetry

April

Mon	2	Poetry
Wed	4	Essay Workshop

Mon	9	Last day of class - <i>Final Paper Due</i>
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