

**Carleton University: (late) Summer 2021**  
**Department of English**  
**ENGL 3501A: Literatures and Cultures 1900-Now**

**Prerequisites:** third-year standing or permission from the department of English  
**Precludes additional credit for ENGL 3502** (no longer offered)

**Time:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 am – 2:30 pm (lectures will be posted at these times)

**Location:** online (Brightspace)

**Format:** asynchronous

**Instructor:** Dr. Esther Post

**Email:** [estherpost@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:estherpost@cunet.carleton.ca)

**Office hours:** via Zoom; TBD and by appointment

### **Course Description:**

This asynchronous online course will provide a survey of literature from the early twentieth century until the present, with a specific emphasis upon the attendant cultures from which significant literary works emerged. We will explore the major literary cultures of the past century, including realism, modernism, the Harlem Renaissance, post-colonialism, post-modernism, Indigenous literary cultures, 2SLGTBQ+ cultures, and post-postmodernism. We will consider how these cultures are reflected in short fiction and analyze how the content, form, style, and themes of our texts respond to historical and social norms and events.

### **Course Format:**

This course is fully online (at Brightspace) and fully asynchronous; however, students must remain up to date with the readings, lectures, and assignments (see more info highlighted below). At each scheduled class time, I will post recordings of lectures and accompanying Powerpoint slides for each assigned text and the specific topic for that class. Lectures will be recorded in small segments, usually around 20 minutes each. While classes are scheduled for three hours, I will NOT be posting a three-hour lecture for each class, as I will allot time for students to take notes while listening to my recorded lectures and to post to discussion forums so that we may try to digitally replicate the actual classroom experience of lively discussions, debates, and participation from students.

**\*\*\*Please note:** A six-week summer course is often quite intensive, and if my home circumstances were different, I would be teaching this course in a synchronous format to keep students on track with the readings. However, since my husband is working from home and I have 2 young children at home 24/7, live lectures are not a realistic circumstance for me. **It is imperative that students keep up to date with the readings, lectures, and assignments, complete the assigned readings before our scheduled class time, and meet assignment**

**deadlines.** Ideally, students will use our scheduled class time to view lectures so that they can stay up to date.

### **Technical Requirements:**

Students will need a computer with high-speed Internet access to view videos, lectures, and slides, to post to discussion forums, and to submit assignments. Ideally, students will have a webcam and mic to meet with the instructor and/or other students.

### **Readings:**

With the exception of one short novel/novella and a few poems, all of our readings will be short stories and will be available online and/or through ARES. The novella is Kate Chopin, *The Awakening*; the text is about 100 pages in book format, but it is also available free online at <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/160/160-h/160-h.htm>. If you'd prefer a hard copy, you may purchase it for around \$10 or less at Chapters-Indigo or Amazon, for \$1.99 (used) at abebooks/Canada/, or any other bookstore of your choice.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the course, students will be able to

- identify and differentiate between the major literary movements of the past century
- connect our fictional texts with the literary, cultural, historical, and geographical contexts from which they emerge
- conduct close, critical, and analytical readings of literature
- communicate ideas and arguments in a clear writing style

### **Evaluation:**

Discussion Forum Posts: 7 X 5 (ongoing, see dates below) = 35%

Passage Analysis (3 pages; due by Sunday, July 25 by midnight): 10%

Essay outline (1-2 pages; due by Tuesday, August 3 by midnight) : 10%

Final essay (8 pages; due by Monday, August 16 by midnight): 20%

Final exam (formally scheduled as a “range exam” for a 5-day period; date TBD): 25%

**Please note:** 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

**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.

**Please note: all course materials, including recorded lectures, Powerpoint slides, assignments, and discussion prompts are copyright of the instructor and are made available only to students registered in the course. Any reproduction or distribution of any of the course material is strictly prohibited.**

### **Assignment Submission Policies:**

- All assignments MUST be submitted as Word documents. Those submitted as PDFs,

shared Google files, or any other form will NOT be accepted, nor will they be graded.

- Please note that as a Carleton University student, you have free access to Microsoft Word 360 (<https://carleton.ca/its/help-centre/get-microsoft-office-for-students/>).
- All essays and other written assignments must be double spaced, formatted in Times New Roman font 12, with one-inch margins on all sides, and must conform to MLA style and documentation guidelines. Please consult the MLA style and documentation guidelines at [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/mla\\_style/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html).

### **Late Policies and Due Dates:**

- Deadlines for the 8 discussion forum posts are firm (see dates highlighted in blue on the schedule below); forums will be closed to posts at midnight for each due date; late posts will not be accepted or graded.
- Due dates for the Passage Analysis, Final Essay Outline, and Final Essay are firm (see dates highlighted in purple for each assignment on the schedule below). Given the unprecedented circumstances due to COVID, there will be no late penalties; however, assignments which are submitted 5 days past the due date will be given a grade, but no comments/feedback. **Please note that the university has mandated that all final term work (including your final essay) is due by Mon. Aug. 16, 2021; assignments submitted after Aug. 16 will not be accepted without prior approval for a formal deferral from the Registrar's Office.**

**Plagiarism:** There will be a policy of ZERO TOLERANCE for 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/secretariat/wp-content/uploads/Academic-Integrity-Policy.pdf> and <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

## **COURSE EXPECTATIONS and CLASSROOM NETIQUETTE**

- Students are expected to have read the assigned material before our scheduled class time
- **Brightspace:**
  - You will be required to use Brightspace on a regular basis, as all relevant documents related to our course, including the syllabus, assignment instructions, lectures, etc. will be uploaded to this page. **Most importantly, treat this syllabus as your bible for this course**, as it provides all necessary information in terms of reading and assignment schedules, submission policies, etc.
  - You should also **frequently check the announcements** on our course page at Brightspace, as this is where I will post important announcements and information
- **“classroom” netiquette/discussion forums/chats:** I will be discussing this in more detail in my intro lectures, but these are some of the most important principles:
  - Always remember that there are real people behind screens and be respectful
  - No harassing, racist, homophobic, sexist, or transphobic language will be tolerated
  - Avoid using all caps, as it often comes across as shouting at and/or bullying
  - Emoticons can be helpful to convey tones, but avoid using them too much
  - Avoid dominating discussions online so that everyone gets the chance to participate
  - Always read over your posts before sending them
  - Be careful when using humour or sarcasm and ensure that your tone is properly conveyed
  - Keep an open mind, so that you are prepared to have your thinking challenged
  - Debates are certainly welcome, but again, ensure that you are respectful of others’ opinions

### **Contact with the instructor:**

- The best way to get in contact with me is by email ([EstherPost@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:EstherPost@cunet.carleton.ca)). I check email at least once a day, and will respond to emails within 48 hours, though it could take longer on weekends.
- When emailing, please be professional. Do not use text speak, do not begin your email with an informal greeting such as “hey!”, and identify yourself by your full name as well as the course code. Remember you are not sending an informal text message to a friend, but a formal email to your professor.
  - Emails should be reserved for clear, precise questions; they should not be used to ask questions such as, “what should I read for next week?” or anything else that simply requires you to read the syllabus.
- My office hours will be offered by Zoom for one hour per week (day and time TBD). Otherwise, I am available to meet with students at another time by request. Please email me if you would like a meeting or have any questions or concerns

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 click [here](#).

**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/sexual-assault-support-services>

### **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. 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>

## Reading Schedule (\*subject to revisions)

\*please note: all short stories will be indicated on the final syllabus posted to Brightspace by July 1, 2021 and will be available online and/or through ARES

Dates	Topic	Readings	Assignments due
<b>Week 1:</b> Tues. Jul. 6 and Thurs. Jul. 8	<b>Tu:</b> Intro to course, overview of syllabus and assignments; <b>overview of major literary cultures from 1900-the present</b>  <b>Th:</b> Realism, Romanticism, and Early Modernist Literature	<b>Tu:</b> This syllabus; Instructions and grading rubrics for assignments; review plagiarism policies and plagiarism contract; begin reading Chopin  <b>Th:</b> Kate Chopin, <i>The Awakening</i> (short novel/novella)	<b>*due by Sunday, July 11 at midnight</b>  <b>Plagiarism contract</b> (please note: no assignments, including discussion posts, will be marked until this contract is submitted)  <b>DFP</b> (Discussion Forum Post): intro to yourself  <b>DFP 1: Chopin</b>
<b>Week 2:</b> Tues. Jul. 13 and Thurs. Jul. 15	<b>Modernist Literature</b>  <b>Tu:</b> modern short fiction  <b>Th:</b> cont'd	<b>Tu:</b> Virginia Woolf, "The Mark on the Wall"; James Joyce, "Araby,"; Katherine Mansfield, "Bliss"  <b>Th:</b> William Faulkner, "A Rose for Emily"; Ernest Hemingway, "Hills Like White Elephants" and "A Clean, Well-Lighted Place" (short stories)	<b>*due by Sunday, July 18 at midnight</b>  <b>DFP 2:</b> modernist short fiction
<b>Week 3:</b> Tues. Jul. 20 and Thurs. Jul. 22	<b>Tu: The Harlem Renaissance</b>  <b>Th: Post-Colonialism</b>	<b>Tu:</b> James Baldwin, Zora Neale Hurston, W.E.B. Du Bois ( <b>short stories TBD</b> ); Countee Cullen, Langston Hughes ( <b>poetry TBD</b> )  <b>Th:</b> Salman Rushdie, "Good Advice is Better than Rubies," "At the Auction of the Ruby Slippers," and "Chekov and Zulu"; Chinua Achebe, "The Sacrificial Egg" (short stories)	<b>*Passage Analysis (10%): due by Sunday, July 25</b>  <b>*due by Sunday, July 25 at midnight</b>  <b>DFP 3:</b> the Harlem Renaissance  <b>DFP 4:</b> post-colonial short fiction

<p><b>Week 4:</b> Tues. Jul. 27 and Thurs. Jul. 29</p>	<p><b>Postmodern Literature</b> <b>Tu:</b> postmodern short fiction  <b>Th:</b> cont'd</p>	<p><b>Tu:</b> Donald Barthelme, "Me and Miss Mandible"; John Barth, "Lost in the Funhouse"; Robert Coover, "The Babysitter" (short stories)  <b>Th:</b> Angela Carter, "Reflections" and "The Company of Wolves"; Jeanette Winterson, "The Poetics of Sex" (short stories)</p>	<p><b>*due by Sunday, Aug. 1 at midnight</b>  <b>DFP 5:</b> postmodern short fiction</p>
<p><b>Week 5:</b> Tues. Aug. 3 and Thurs. Aug. 5</p>	<p><b>Tu: Indigenous Literature</b>   <b>Th: 2SLGBTQ+ Literature</b></p>	<p><b>Tu:</b> Thomas King, "Borders"; Daniel Heath Justice "Tatterborn"; Leslie Marmon Silko, "The Man to Send Rain Clouds"; Patricia Riley, "Damping Down the Road" (short stories)  <b>Th:</b> Ivan Coyote, "No Bikini"; Calvin Gimpelevich, "You Wouldn't Have Known About Me"; Z.Z. Packer, "Drinking Coffee Elsewhere" (short stories); Danez Smith, "the 17-year-old and the gay bar," "sometimes i wish i felt the side effects," and "and even the black guy's profile reads 'sorry, no black guys'" (poems)</p>	<p><b>*Essay outline: (10%) due by Tuesday, Aug. 3 at midnight</b>  <b>*due by Sunday, Aug 8 at midnight</b>  <b>DFP 6:</b> Indigenous literature  <b>DFP 7:</b> LGBTQ+ literature</p>
<p><b>Week 6:</b> Tues. Aug. 10 and Thurs. Aug. 12</p>	<p><b>Tu: Post-Postmodern Literature</b>  <b>Th:</b> cont'd; course review and exam prep</p>	<p><b>Tu:</b> David Foster Wallace, "The Depressed Person,"; Zadie Smith, Dave Eggers, Jonathan Safran Foer and/or Jonathan Franzen (short stories) <b>TBD</b>  <b>Th (FINAL CLASS):</b> cont'd and Course Review/Exam Prep</p>	<p><b>*Final essay (20%): due by Monday, Aug. 16 at midnight</b>  <b>*due by Sunday, Aug. 15 at midnight</b>  <b>DFP 8:</b> post-postmodern fiction</p>