

# **ENGL 6003F: Theories and Foundations**

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**Professor** Grant Williams  
**Office Hours** Zoom: By  
Appointment  
**Day of the Week** Wed. 2:35-5:25  
PM

**Email** grant\_williams@carleton.ca  
**Email Turn** 6-24 hours  
**Around**  
**Place** Southam Hall 506

**Carleton's Netiquette Guidelines:** While any online study groups or chat spaces that you may set up outside of Brightspace are not part of this course (and so beyond the scope of my responsibility as an instructor), I think that the following guidelines may help with your community building outside of class <<https://carleton.ca/online/online-learning-resources/netiquette/>>.

## **Type of Learning**

ENGL 6003 is "**in person.**" This means that it is a seminar that meets face to face once a week in Southam Hall 506.

## **Course Description**

We might say of the "Death of the Author" what Mark Twain said of himself after reading the newspaper: "the report of [his] death is an exaggeration." This course studies issues of authorship by surveying foundational theoretical texts from an array of fields, including book history, manuscript and print cultural studies, media studies, digital humanities, philosophy, sociology, and especially cultural and literary theory. The readings will be grouped according to historical periods and thematic clusters. The course's goal will be to acquaint students with the important questions and debates that have impacted and continue to influence how writers, scholars, philosophers, and historians conceptualize what it means to author a text and be an author. Our modus operandi from week to week will leverage comparative analysis and so the recurrent question we will ask ourselves concerns the way in which one writer's views on authorship differ from another writer's.

## **Learning Outcomes**

The overarching goal of the course is to become conversant with different ways of talking about authors and text creation and to participate in the debates and controversies over authorship.

## Textbooks and Readings

The readings will be made available at no cost through Carleton's library and can be accessed by Carleton's new learning management system Brightspace.

Evaluation	Due date	% of Grade
Participation (Weekly Question and Discussion)	Before each seminar	20
Main Presentation and Discussion	Throughout term	10 + 5
Case Study Day	Last Class	15
Essay or Take-home Exam	Dec. 23	50
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>

## Participation and Engagement

For this course, you will receive your participation and engagement mark through completing a detailed and well-conceived question before each seminar. During the seminar, you will share your question with the seminarians, connect it to the readings due that day, and lead a short discussion with it. You can expect the discussion to last 5 to 10 minutes. I will take your 10 best questions to calculate your grade out of 20. Please put time and energy into crafting your questions.

## Main Presentation and Discussion

You will give a presentation 15-20 minutes in length and then will lead a discussion a discussion of at least 20 minutes in length. The discussion will be organized around three well-articulated and organized questions. The presentation will deal with a combination of the readings for that day along with the issues informing the day's general topic. Please discuss with me what you are going to do well in advance of the presentation date. If you wish, you don't need to read from your paper, upon which the presentation is based. But you still need to submit a paper—not notes—because I will be grading your paper out of 10 and your three questions out of 5.

## Case Study Day

You will present on a case study (20-30 minutes in length) and field questions afterwards (10 minutes). The case study will apply the ideas, concepts, or theories of one or more readings to a literary case—either text, historical, or sociological scenario—that exemplifies in some way a major issue about authorship. If you wish, you don't need to read from your paper, upon which the presentation is based. But you still need to submit a paper—not notes—because I will be grading your paper out of 15.

## Essay or Take-home Exam

All seminars are designed to fuel your main paper for the course and build up your comprehensive understanding for a final exam. Whichever option you choose, the final assignment will be graded on your knowledge of and engagement with the course readings. Comparative analysis will be built into both assignments. That is to say, the course teaches and values comprehensive knowledge of the topics, authors, and readings.

## Final Standing in Course

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.

## 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.” According to the Department examples of plagiarism include the following:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- 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;
- 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/>

## Special Information Regarding Fall 2021 Pandemic Measures

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) and mandatory self-screening prior to coming to campus daily.

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the mandatory [symptom reporting tool](#). For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be recorded in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the [COVID-19 website](#).

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food or drinks are permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the [University's COVID-19 webpage](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact [covidinfo@carleton.ca](mailto:covidinfo@carleton.ca)

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#). Failure to comply with Carleton's COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.

## **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**

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 accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form: 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>