

**Carleton University
Fall 2019
Department of English**

ENGL 6003F: Theories and Foundations in the Production of Literature

Mondays, 11:35 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.

Location: DT 1808

Instructor: Travis DeCook

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Office: DT 1803

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1- 2p.m.

Course description

This course is a survey of foundational theoretical texts from the fields of book history, manuscript and print culture studies, sociology of literature, media studies, and cultural theory. The goal is to acquaint students with a variety of ways in which scholars have thought about and researched the production of literature. 'Production' here is conceived broadly as the cultural and material ways in which literature comes into being, is transmitted and received. The course explores such topics as the modern concept of culture; constructions of cultural value; the material form of literary texts; media transitions from manuscript to print and print to digital; and theories of authorship.

Method of Evaluation

Discussion leadership: 40%

On two occasions you will lead discussion one or more of the readings assigned for that week, which means a short presentation (roughly 10-15 mins) plus 2-3 discussion questions.

Essay: 60%

You will write one paper engaged with the course materials, which can include analysis and assessment of arguments and/or attempts to devise similar methodologies. The due date is 4 December.

Assigned Readings

All course readings will be available online via Carleton Library E-Reserves (Ares), cuLearn, or on the internet (links are listed below).

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- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;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/registrar/academic-integrity/>

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

Please contact your instructor 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: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please contact your instructor 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: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

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 its 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: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

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. Please contact your instructor 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>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Schedule (subject to change)

09.09: Introductions

09.16: Cultural Materialism I

- Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction"
- Raymond Williams, "Culture is Ordinary"
- Raymond Williams, "Culture," from *Keywords*

09.23: Cultural Materialism II

- Janice Radway, from *A Feeling for Books* (Ares)
- Pierre Bourdieu, "The Field of Cultural Production: or, the Economic World Reversed"

09.30: The History of the Book I

- Robert Darnton, "What is the History of Books?"
- Fredson Bowers, "Bibliography, Pure Bibliography, and Literary Studies" (Ares)
- D. F. McKenzie, "The Book as an Expressive Form" (Ares)

10.07: The History of the Book II

- Jerome McGann, "The Socialization of Texts" (Ares)
- D.F. McKenzie, "The Broken Phial" (Ares)
- Ina Ferris, "Bibliographic Romance: Bibliophilia and the Book-Object"

10.14: Thanksgiving (no class)

10.21: Reading Week (no class)

10.28: Authorship

- Roland Barthes, "The Death of the Author" (Ares)
- Michel Foucault, "What is an Author?"
- Sean Burke, *The Death and Return of the Author* (Prologue; Introduction) (Ares)

11.04: Authorship II

- Walter Benjamin, "The Author as Producer" (cuLearn)
- Pierre Macherey, "Creation and Production" (cuLearn)
- Andrew Wernick, "Authorship and the Supplement of Promotion" (cuLearn)

11.11: Print Culture / "Traditional" Culture

- Walter Ong, "Writing Restructures Consciousness," from *Orality and Literacy* (Ares)
- D. F. McKenzie, "The Sociology of a Text: Orality, Literacy and Print in Early New Zealand" (Ares)
- Germaine Warkentin, "In Search of 'The Word of the Other': Aboriginal Sign Systems and the History of the Book in Canada" (Ares)

11.18: Early Media Shifts

- Peter Stallybrass, "Books and Scrolls: Navigating the Bible" (Ares)
- Elizabeth Eisenstein, "Defining the Initial Shift; Some Features of Print Culture" (Ares)
- Adrian Johns, "The Book of Nature and the Nature of the Book" (Ares)

11.25: Print, the Nation, and the Public Sphere

- Benedict Anderson, from *Imagined Communities* (Ares)
- Jurgen Habermas, "Social Structures of the Public Sphere" (Ares)

12.02: Institutionalizing English

- Terry Eagleton, "The Rise of English" (Ares)
- Gerald Graff, from *Professing Literature: An Institutional History* (Ares)
- Gauri Viswanathan, "The Beginnings of English Literary Study" (Ares)

12.06: Class and Taste

- Pierre Bourdieu, from *Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste*
- Jane Tompkins, from *Sensational Designs: The Cultural Work of American Fiction, 1790-1860* (pp. 20-37) (Ares)

Links for Readings

Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction"

<https://www.marxists.org/reference/subject/philosophy/works/ge/benjamin.htm>

Raymond Williams, "Culture is Ordinary"

<http://artsites.ucsc.edu/faculty/gustafson/film%20162.w10/readings/williams.ordinary.pdf>

Raymond Williams, "Culture," from *Keywords*

<http://faculty.georgetown.edu/irvinem/theory/Williams-Keywords-Culture.html>

Pierre Bourdieu, "The Field of Cultural Production," in *Poetics* 12.4-5 (1983), 311-56

Robert Darnton, "What is the History of Books?" in *Daedalus* 111. 3 (Summer, 1982), pp. 65-83

Ina Ferris, "Bibliographic Romance: Bibliophilia and the Book-Object"

<http://www.rc.umd.edu/praxis/libraries/ferris/ferris.html>

Michel Foucault, "What is an Author?"

http://www.open.edu/openlearn/ocw/pluginfile.php/624849/mod_resource/content/1/a840_1_michel_foucault.pdf

Bourdieu, *Distinction: A Social Critique of the Judgement of Taste*, pp. 1-7, 56-63

https://monoskop.org/images/e/e0/Pierre_Bourdieu_Distinction_A_Social_Critique_of_the_Judgement_of_Taste_1984.pdf