

Carleton University
Winter 2019
Department of English

ENGL 6004W
The Production of Literature: Approaches

Mondays 2:35-5:25 / DT 1808

Instructor: Professor Sarah Brouillette
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Office: DT 1904

Office Hours: Mon 1:15-2:15 or by appointment via email

This course is designed to allow for exploration of various approaches to the production of literature. The production of literature is the theme of the PhD in English at Carleton, but both MA and PhD students are welcome in this class, as are graduate students from other departments. The focus for Winter 2019 is approaches that are in the Marxist tradition, or that are compatible with a Marxist understanding of why literature exists and what work it does (and doesn't do) in the world. Students will be introduced to some of the classics in the tradition as well as to a selection of more contemporary issues and revolutionary thinkers.

Course texts:

There is nothing to buy. All course texts will be available to download via cuLearn.

Assessment:

leading discussion	30%
research essay	40%
research essay proposal	10%
mini-presentation in last class	10%
participation	10%

*participation will be measured variously, not only by speaking in class

Schedule:

7 Jan / Introduction / Why Materialism?

- Karl Marx / Friedrich Engels, "Social Being and Social Consciousness"
- Friedrich Engels, "Against Vulgar Marxism" and "On Realism"

14 Jan / Choose Your Fighter: Lukács or Brecht

- G. Lukács, "Realism in the Balance"
- Bertolt Brecht, "A Short Organum for the Theatre"
- G. Lukács, "The Ideology of Modernism"
- Bertolt Brecht, "Against Georg Lukács"

21 Jan / Literature as Bourgeois Socioclect

- Etienne Balibar and Pierre Macherey, "On Literature as an Ideological Form"
- Raymond Williams, "Literature"
- Jodi Melamed, from *Represent and Destroy*

28 Jan / Some Limits of "Political" Literature

- Walter Benjamin, "The Author as Producer"
- Theodor Adorno, "Commitment"
- Herbert Marcuse, "The Affirmative Character of Culture"

4 Feb / Base and Superstructure

- Fredric Jameson, "On Interpretation"
- Raymond Williams, "Base and Superstructure in Marxist Cultural Theory"

11 Feb / Who Reads?

- Friedrich Engels, from *The Condition of the Working Class in England*
- Richard Altick, from *The English Common Reader*
- Wendy Griswold, from *Regionalism and the Reading Class*

25 Feb / Networking

- Jane Tompkins, from *Sensational Designs*
- Pierre Bourdieu, from *The Field of Cultural Production*
- visit from Carleton PhD student John Coleman to talk about race and wealth in contemporary publishing

4 March / University English

- John Guillory, from *Cultural Capital*
- Wendy Brown, "Neoliberalized Knowledge"
- Annie McClanahan, review of *Undoing the Demos*

11 March / World Literature and the Otherness Industries

- Graham Huggan, “A Short History of the Booker Prize”
- Dobrota Pucherová, “‘A Continent Learns to Tell its Story at Last’: Notes on the Caine Prize”
- Ignacio M. Sánchez Prado, “The Idea of the Mexican Woman Writer: Gender, Worldliness, and Editorial Neoliberalization”

18 March / On Creative Writing

- Eric Bennett, from *Workshops of Empire*
- Juliana Spahr and Stephanie Young, “The Program Era and the Mainly White Room”
- Juliana Spahr, “Building a Better (Socialist) MFA System”

25 March / Poetry and Communism I

- Jasper Bernes, Joshua Clover, and Juliana Spahr, “Period Style and the Art of the Present”
- Anne Boyer, “Not Writing,” “No,” “Difficult Ways to Publish Poetry” and “Questions for Poets”

1 April / Poetry and Communism II

- Wendy Trevino, *Brazilian Is Not a Race*

8 April / Student mini-presentations

- Your Marxist interpretations of any literary text / object / phenomenon

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 serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts 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 a final grade of "F" for the course.

The policy can be found at: <http://carleton.ca/fass/wp-content/uploads/Academic-Integrity-Sept-2017.pdf>

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>