

Carleton University
Fall 2026 Preliminary Course Outline
Department of English

ENGL 1100 A: Literature, Law, and Criminality

Prerequisites: Prerequisites additional credit for ENGL 1000 (no longer offered), ENGL 1200, ENGL 1300, ENGL 1400, ENGL 1600, ENGL 1700, FYSM 1004.

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***** This is a preliminary syllabus only—texts and assignments are subject to change. A complete version will be available closer to the start of the term. *****

Course description: This course examines representations of law and legality in creative literature from antiquity to the present day, exploring questions of morality and ethics, power and equity, natural and human justice, and the efficacy of juridical systems throughout the ages.

Learning Outcomes: Students will learn to: identify and discuss key themes and issues in creative literature; identify and discuss formal features of representative works of fiction by a range of writers from around the globe; place creative works within their historical, cultural, and political contexts.

Required Texts: (Available through the Carleton University Bookstore)

Kafka, Franz. *The Trial*. Penguin, 2015 (New: \$16.99).

Lee, Harper. *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Harper, 2002 (New: \$21.00).

Melchor, Fernanda. *Hurricane Season*. New Directions, 2020 (New: \$25.95)

Shakespeare, William. *The Merchant of Venice*. Oxford, 2008 (New: \$12.50).

Sophocles, *Antigone*. Norton, 2023 (New: \$25.89).

Wright, Richard. *Native Son*. Harper, 2005 (New: \$22.00).

Evaluation:

Attendance: 10%

Midterm Exam: 35%

Final Exam: 55%