

School of Liberal Arts



English 101
Introduction to the Study of Literature
Winter 2023

3 Credits

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR	Kirsten Madsen, B.A., M.F.A.	OFFICE HOURS	By Zoom, on request
OFFICE	n/a	CLASSROOM	Online class
E-MAIL	kmadsen@yukonu.ca	CLASS TIME	Thursdays 2-5 PM (Zoom sessions will be held 2 – 3:30 PM)
TELEPHONE	(867) 668-8770 (Liberal Arts office)	CRN	202301 20279
		DATES	Jan 5 – April 13, Final Exam TBA
Liberal Arts office: Ayamdigut Campus A2501, liberalarts@yukonu.ca, 867-668-8770			

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to literary genres including fiction, poetry and drama. Students learn the fundamentals of university-level literary study and explore major themes suggested by the selected texts.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite(s):

Successful completion of English 100

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

For information about course transferability please refer to the BC Transfer Guide at <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or contact the School of Liberal Arts office at (867) 668-8770.

Students are reminded that it is always the receiving institution that determines whether a course is acceptable as an applicable, equivalent course or if it may be transferred to their program for credit. Find further information at: <https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit>

LEARNING OUTCOMES

With conscientious effort, upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to

- recognize the basic conventions of the four main genres of literature (short fiction, poetry, the novel, and drama)
- perform post-secondary level analysis of literary texts, including analysis related to issues of class, gender, race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation
- apply standard literary terminology in their discussions of works of literature
- recognize literary devices and motifs, and explain how these contribute to a literary work
- present ideas in well-organized, thoughtful, and polished essays, and do postsecondary level research into literary subjects

COURSE FORMAT

Delivery format

This course is delivered in a blended format, combining Zoom lectures and discussions once a week with online delivery and writing tasks on Moodle. There will be Zoom discussions most weeks during class time Thursdays 2:00 – 3:30. Access to a computer (with audio and video capability) and internet access is important. For the most part English 101 involves online readings, Zoom discussions, online discussions, and written assignments.

Expectations

Each week there will be readings to do, taking approximately 2 hours. We will then discuss these readings for an hour or so in class each week. Participation in Zoom discussions, break-out rooms, and chats are part of our Yukon literary salon and your course grade. There will also be weekly journal and Moodle discussion posting to write alongside longer assignments such as essays throughout the term.

You will need to visit the course Moodle site weekly prior to class time and participate in online activities and discussions as assigned and scheduled.

Reading and preparation should be done prior to scheduled class discussion forums online each week. Meetings with the instructor to discuss individual work and progress will be held over Zoom. Consultation with the instructor and use of the Writing Centre are strongly recommended.

EVALUATION

Attendance and Participation

Discussion and participation are particularly important in English 101 and students are expected to attend Zoom classes and contribute to the discussion, and also to participate in online discussions regularly by weekly deadlines. Students are expected to contribute to the learning community through constructive discussion of readings as well as peer review.

Assignments

The written assignments for this course consist of **two literary analysis essays** of five to seven pages. In addition, each student will produce a short **comparative literature presentation**. Each student will also submit **reading journal** entries for assigned readings as well as contribute to **weekly discussion forums** on Moodle.

You will also be graded on contributions to **in-class discussions** during the term.

Quizzes, Tests and Exams

There will be a mid-term exam during the term as well as a final exam.

Assignments		
Essay #1	15%	60%
Essay #2	30%	
Comparative literature presentation	15%	
Reading Journal & Short Writing Assignments on Moodle		10%
Class Participation & Contributions to Learning Community		10%
Midterm		10%
Final Exam		10%
Total		100%

***Note on Submitting Assignments and Late Assignments**

Assignments are to be uploaded to our Moodle course site by 11 PM on the due date in Microsoft Word format. Be certain to click the submit button and accept the submission statement. After the due date, the paper will be considered late and will be deducted 5% every day for a maximum of 3 days. After this point, assignments will no longer be accepted.

***A note on sources**

All sources for essays in this class must be cited. Sources from online essays or websites such as freecollegeessays.com will fail. If you have questions about a source you're considering using, ask me! Be sure to cite any texts you refer to properly and reference your sources in APA style (if you're more comfortable with another citation convention, check with me first).

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS

All readings and class resources will be posted on Moodle. Students may need to purchase a copy of a play or short novel TBA.

Assignments will be submitted on Moodle in Microsoft Word. Access to a computer (with audio and video capability) and internet access is important.

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Students may officially withdraw from a course or program without academic penalty up until two-thirds of the course contact hours have been completed. Specific withdrawal dates vary, and students should become familiar with the withdrawal dates of their program. See withdrawal information at www.yukonu.ca/admissions/money-matters

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates: www.yukonu.ca/admissions/important-dates

Refunds may be available. See the Refund policy and procedures at www.yukonu.ca/admissions/money-matters

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when a student submits work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, without citing the source from which the material is taken. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of work, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, MLA, etc.). Except with explicit permission of the instructor, resubmitting work which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the University.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures (updated bi-annually) for further details about academic standing, and student rights and responsibilities: www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability,

chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website at www.yukonu.ca/policies/academic-regulations)

It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations by contacting the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): LearningAssistanceCentre@yukonu.ca.

TOPIC OUTLINE – A Yukon Literary ‘Salon’

Week / Module	Readings and Assignments
1. Introductions / Literary traditions: Yours, Mine and the World's	All readings and assignments posted on Moodle
2. Close Reading: Bringing Texts Alive	Lydia Davis, Hemingway, Joy Williams, Toni Morrison etc.
3. Poetry: What can poems do?	Anne Carson, Shakespeare, Ajmer Rode etc.
4. Poetry II: Tuning us to a different frequency of existence	Henri Cole, Danez Smith, Natalie Diaz, etc.
5. Short fiction: What can stories do?	Lorrie Moore, Jhumpa Lahiri etc.
6. Short fiction II: A container for movement	Jennifer Egan, Raymond Carver etc.
7. The Rural and the local	Ivan Coyote, Alice Munro, Elizabeth Bishop etc.
8. Contemporary Indigenous literature	Joshua Whitehead, Therese Marie Mailhot, Brandi Bird etc.
9. Violence and the Page	Cormac McCarthy, Katharina Vermette, Wells Tower
10. Modernism	Virginia Woolf, T.S. Eliot, Franz Kafka
11. Canadian Literature	Souvankham Thammavongsa, Leanne Betasamosake Simpson, Al Purdy
12. A Play and a Plague: Unity (1918) or Smoke Signals	Kevin Kerr, Sherman Alexie
13. A Play: Continued	Kevin Kerr, Sherman Alexie
14. Crafting a Conclusion: Final Class and Exam	

GRADING SYSTEM FOR ENGLISH ESSAYS

GRADE	Grade Point Value	Yukon College %	ESSAY DESCRIPTION
A+	4	95-100	EXCELLENT: An A paper is of outstanding quality in almost all respects. It has a clear, original, and engaging thesis that responds thoughtfully to the assignment. The essay is logically, coherently, and effectively organized. The author uses appropriate and compelling evidence to support the thesis with correct referencing and documentation.
A	4	86-94	The paragraphs are unified—internally and externally—coherent, and have vivid topic sentences. The paragraphs are connected with smooth transitions.
A-	3.7	80-85	The prose is clear, smooth, and consistently grammatical. The essay is mechanically perfect or nearly so.
B+	3.5	75-79	GOOD: The B paper is an above average performance but falls short of the A paper in some significant way. While the thesis statement is good, it may have some minor problems, may be difficult to find, or may lack originality and insight.
B	3	70-74	There may be a problem in organization or the order of the argument at one or two points in the essay. Evidence is appropriate and supports the thesis and is correctly referenced and documented. Although the paper may have minor weaknesses in paragraphing, it will contain evidence of the writer's ability to organize information into unified and coherent units.
B-	2.7	65-69	There may be issues of style. Text may be wordy, repetitive, vague, overly formal, or too informal. It may have passive structure, pronoun errors, or modifier errors. It may lack sentence variation or parallelism. There may be mechanical and grammatical errors sprinkled throughout the text.
C+	2.5	62-64	SATISFACTORY: A C paper has a thesis, but the thesis may not be stated, may be poorly stated, may be commonplace, or may not deal completely with the assignment. The presentation of ideas and evidence may be disorganized, meandering, or otherwise lacking in logical coherence. Evidence may be lacking, inappropriate, or inconsistently used; it may have significant referencing errors.
C	2	58-61	The essay will be organized and paragraphed well enough to allow the reader to move through it with relative ease, although there may be some disjointedness and lack of focus. The paper will generally use language accurately.
C-	1.7	55-57	The essay may contain errors in sentences (fragments, run-ons, and comma splices), in punctuation, and in usage; however, the errors are not so frequent or large to distract the reader from the content of the paper. In an essay that might otherwise be a B, sentence and grammatical errors may warrant a C grade.
D	1	50-54	MEETS MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS: This essay may be missing a thesis or indicate serious problems in formulating the thesis. The essay may miss the basic demands of the given assignment. There are serious problems in the essay's organization and development; the essay may seem chaotic at times. Evidence may be missing or inappropriate. The essay may indicate definite weaknesses in analytical thinking, and ideas may be underdeveloped. The writer's control of language may be uncertain. Usually, the D paper indicates a combination of problems: serious errors in reasoning, little or no development of ideas, lack of control of language, and many errors. Serious and frequent errors in usage, sentence structure, and mechanics interfere with the essay's readability.
F	0	Under 50	UNSATISFACTORY This essay is unacceptable because it contains plagiarized material, shows a complete misunderstanding of the assignment, or the writing fails to meet the basic communication requirements of standard written English.