

School of Social Sciences and Humanities



ENGL 101
Introduction to
the Study of Literature
Fall 2026
3 Credits

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR	Ben Charland, BFA, MA	OFFICE HOURS	By request, in person or online
OFFICE	N/A	CLASSROOM	Online asynchronous
E-MAIL	benoit.charland@yukonu.ca	CLASS TIME	Online asynchronous
TELEPHONE	N/A	CRN	10064
SSH office: Ayamdigut Campus A2501, sssh@yukonu.ca ; 867-668-8770			
SSH Chair: Amanda Graham, agraham@yukonu.ca ; 867-668-8773			

COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

COURSE PREREQUISITES AND REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite(s): English 12 (min. 65%); ENGL 060 or EAP 060 (min B-), WP min. 6 with suitable Accuplacer scores, ENGL 100, or equivalent.

This is an online course. You will need device/laptop access, a reliable Internet connection, and familiarity using your devices, software, and apps.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Find course transfer at <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or contact the School of Social Sciences and Humanities.

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

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 your 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 will be delivered in an online asynchronous format. There will be readings and other material to be completed each week, as well as participating in forum discussions. All course work will be shared on Moodle. You do not need to buy any books.

Expectations and workload

If you read the material, complete the assignments and participate in our forums, I will do everything I can to help you succeed.

R – Read. Literature is literally about reading. There is no way around that.

E – Engage. Think about what you read. Look things up. Investigate. Explore.

A – Attend. Read the forums. Be open to the unique thoughts and experiences of others.

D – Discuss. Contribute to our discussions and offer your own perspective.

You can expect to devote an average of 1-2 hours per week of reading, plus an additional 1-2 hours per week for assignments. You should be prepared for some weeks to be busier than others.

These averages are estimates, and time required for successful course completion will vary.

Using AI

You are encouraged to use tools to help you learn. Generative AI chatbots can be very powerful for conducting research, working out ideas, and personalizing the learning process. However, a university English course is intended to facilitate your own discovery, growth and learning—and to evaluate that such learning has taken place. Therefore, using AI to write your work in whole or in part is equivalent to plagiarism. You must write your own words and inhabit your own voice.

Students who submit work that bears clear signs that they did not write it themselves, including work that has been written partially or in full by AI tools, will be given a grade of 0 and may not be allowed to make another attempt. I may ask students to write an AI declaration on some assignments, wherein you state where, how and to what extent AI tools were used to complete the assignment.

EVALUATION

Students must receive a passing grade for each component to pass the course.

Participation – 45% (15 x 3%)

The heart of this course is discussion. You will only be graded on your personal engagement with the material and your effort in sharing it with the class. There will be a total of 15 discussion forum threads throughout the course, each worth 3% of your total grade. For all forums you are expected to contribute at least twice: once with your own thoughts about the reading or topic, and once in response to another student's contribution.

At the beginning of the term, I will distribute a schedule of all forum discussions, including when the forums will open and close. Late submissions to the forums will not be accepted.

Essay and Presentation – 25% (15% + 10%)

Research and essay writing are key parts of this course's learning outcomes. Your essay should be on a relevant subject matter that speaks to you. The essay itself will be worth 10% of your total grade.

Late submission policy: Unless an extension is granted, late submissions will immediately receive a 10% penalty to the final grade on the essay. For each additional day that a submission is late, a 3% penalty will be applied. When the total penalty reaches over 50% (15 days), submissions will not be accepted, and the assignment will receive a final grade of 0. Unsubmitted essays cannot be presented to the class.

TOPIC DUE: 11:59pm, Sunday September 30

ESSAY DUE: 11:59pm, Sunday November 1

For presentations the class will be divided into four groups. Over the course of three weeks, you will present your essay in a unique discussion forum that includes students in your group and the instructor. You will lead the discussion, constructively responding to others. You may use video and a slide deck to start the discussion. You may not simply copy and paste your essay. Your presentation will be worth 15% of your total grade.

GROUP ESSAY PRESENTATIONS: November 9-27

Oral exams – 30% (10% + 20%)

Oral exams will be administered individually and remotely through two video meetings: a midterm check-in and a final exam. These will be scheduled with me. You will not be able to refer to books or notes during the exam, so you are encouraged to have a strong grasp of course readings and class discussions.

MIDTERM CHECK-IN: October 19 - November 5

FINAL EXAM: December 5-16

Participation		
• 15 discussion forum contributions	3% each	45 %
Essay and Presentation		
• Essay	10%	25 %
• Forum presentation of essays	15%	
Midterm Oral Check-in		10 %
Final Oral Exam		15 %
TOTAL		100%

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS

You do not need to purchase any texts for this course. Everything will be available on Moodle.

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.

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

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Yukon University is committed to providing a positive, supportive, and barrier-free academic environment for all its students. Students experiencing barriers to full participation due to a visible or hidden disability (including hearing, vision, mobility, learning disability, mental health, chronic or temporary medical condition), should contact Accessibility Services for resources or to arrange academic accommodations: access@yukonu.ca. [Text updated 16 November 2022]

TOPIC OUTLINE

Week – Dates	Topic	Notes
1 – September 1-4	Introduction	Instructor's availability limited Forum Threads: 1
2 – September 7-11	Reading Literature	Instructor's availability limited Forum Threads: 1
3 – September 14-18	Literary Concepts	Forum Threads: 1
4 – September 21-25	The Short Story, Part 1	Forum Threads: 1
5 – September 28-October 2	The Short Story, Part 2	Essay Topic Due: September 30 Forum Threads: 1
6 – October 5-9	Oral Traditions, Graphic Novels, Games, Interactive Media, Film & TV	Forum Threads: 1
READING WEEK		
7 – October 19-23	The Poem	Midterm Check-ins Forum Threads: 1
8 – October 26-30	The Play, Part 1	Essay Due: November 1; Midterm Check-ins Forum Threads: 0
9 – November 2-6	The Play, Part 2	Withdrawal date: Nov. 5 Midterm Check-ins Forum Threads: 1
10 – November 9-13	Group Essay Discussion 1-2	Forum Threads: 2
11 – November 16-20	Group Essay Discussion 3-4	Forum Threads: 2
12 – November 23-27	Group Essay Discussion 5-6	Forum Threads: 2
13 – November 30 – December 4	Conclusions and Next Steps	Forum Threads: 1
December 5-16	Oral Exams	Total Forum Threads: 15