

Course: ENGLISH 153: Critical Writing and Reading: Narrative
Section: 001 (S2020)
College Professor: Craig McLuckie
Email: cmcluckie@okanagan.bc.ca
Voicemail: 250-545-7291, ext 2269
Office Hours: On Moodle; or, by prearranged appointment

Course Description:

This course is for students who have demonstrated secondary-school-level competence in the reading and essay writing skills required by most university disciplines. Reading and writing assignments will concentrate on a variety of narrative forms including anecdotes, autobiography, biography, diaries, films, histories, myths, narrative poems, novels and songs, and will emphasize the processes of reading, analysis, reasoning, documentation and the stages of the writing process. (3,0,0)

Statement on Student Participation:

It is expected that each student will engage the course material actively and thoughtfully. This means you must read carefully and critically, come to class prepared to discuss and ask questions, and be willing to engage alternative perspectives on many issues. This is not an easy thing to do and you should not be afraid to acknowledge the inevitable discomfort that may arise when encountering people who think differently. To grow, however, we must address this discomfort and permit our thinking to grow in new directions. Discussion is an important part of any English class. Each student is expected to be in class, be prepared to discuss the material, and be attentive to the discussion. At a minimum, this entails having done the reading *before* class and being ready to engage in discussion—including attentive listening.

Notes:

- (1) **Attendance Policy (semester):** any student who has been absent for more than one class, without appropriate consultation with the faculty member prior to the class, and who does not have acceptable certification (e.g., medical) for the absence, will receive a grade of 0% for attendance and a grade of DNC/F for the semester.
- (2) **Attendance Policy (Examinations):** any student who does not arrive on the date and time Okanagan College schedules for the final examination will receive a grade of 0% F for the Final Examination and a grade of F for the semester.
- (3) **Department of English attendance policy (for all courses):** The Department of English requires students to confirm their registration in a course through attendance during the first five business days of the semester. Students who are unable to attend due to

excusable absence (defined below) are required to contact the professor before or during that timeframe. Failure to do so will result in automatic de-registration from the course.

An excusable absence includes personal illness; medical treatment or a visit to the doctor; death in the immediate family; job interview; legal proceedings; care for an ill or injured dependent or spouse; observance of holy days; or responsibilities as a parent or guardian.

(4) Department of English examinations policy (for ENGL 100, 150, 151, and 153)

A minimum of thirty percent (30%) of the assessment for ENGL 100, 150, 151, and 153 will take place under exam-like conditions. Students must receive a passing grade in this portion of the course in order to pass the course as a whole.

Methods of Instruction:

The writing component of this class will focus on the composition process, including grammar, drafting, peer editing, revision, editing, and discussion of audience, purpose and style. The method of instruction requires access to Pearson Educational's MyWritingLab. The narrative component of class involves brief lectures, presentations, class discussion, paired and group work, and assignments through Moodle, Collaborate, and email.

Texts:

1. Ash, Timothy Garton. *We the People: The Revolution of 89 witnessed in Warsaw, Budapest, Berlin & Prague*. New Edition. London: Penguin, 1999. England. ISBN: 0140283919. Also published as *The Magic Lantern: The Revolution of '89 Witnessed in Warsaw, Budapest, Berlin, and Prague* by Timothy Ash. Vintage, 1993.
2. Cuddon, J. A. *A Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory, 5th edition*. London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2013. This text is freely available on the internet: https://www.academia.edu/7012145/A_Dictionary_of_Literary_Terms_and_Literary_Theory.
3. Faigley, Lester, Roger Graves and Heather Graves. *The Little Pearson Handbook, 3rd Canadian edition*. Toronto: Pearson, 2018. With Student Access Code to MyWritingLab.
4. McIlvanney, William. *Weekend*. Edinburgh: Hodder and Stoughton, 2006.
5. Wool, Virginia. *Mrs. Dalloway*. London: Harvest/HBJ, 1981
6. Winchester, Simon. *The Meaning of Everything: The Story of the Oxford English Dictionary*. 2nd ed. Oxford at the University Press, 2018.

Transfer Credit:

17 agreements found for one course at 17 institutions.

<http://www.bctransferguide.ca/search/course?search=OC%20ENGL%20153&direction=Sending>

Reference Books of particular use include:

David Macey, *The Penguin Dictionary of Critical Theory*. Toronto: Penguin Books, 2000.

Irena R. Makaryk, editor. *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Literary Theory: Approaches, Scholars, Terms*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993.

Frank Lentricchia and Thomas McLaughlin, editors. *Critical Terms for Literary Study*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1990.

C. Hugh Holman and William Harmon, *A Handbook to Literature*, 6th edition. London: Macmillan, 1992.

M. H. Abrams, *A Glossary of Literary Terms*, 7th edition. New York: Harcourt Brace Publishers, 1999.

J. A. Cuddon, *A Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*, 5th edition. London: Blackwell, 2013. Available on the web.

The terminology and the definitions have different emphases in each book, so it is useful to examine multiple definitions.

Class Notes:

As time permits, class notes may be distributed to your email. Check email daily for announcements, notes and updates on the schedule of our work.

Academic Writing:

Scholarly writing must make exact sense (even when being deliberately ambiguous); it is highly *articulate*, a matter of joints. One thought hinges on another, and a good hinge lets you hang a door, [...] or hammer a nail. Articulate sentences help us *make* the world. No literary critic, historian or philosopher—no intellectual—would question this for a moment. It follows that it is the task of all teachers and students to accept the challenge of being as *articulate* as they possibly can.¹

Readings in Narrative Outcomes:

- ✓ to enhance each student's ability to read, think, and write about narrative in a technically sophisticated and critically engaged manner;

¹ <<http://www.litencyc.com/LitEncycFrame.htm>>

- ✓ to edit, carefully and rigorously, each student's own and others' work;
- ✓ to understand complex literary texts and a variety of theoretical models;
- ✓ to increase the student's familiarity with the vocabulary of literary terms;
- ✓ to understand the conventions of the genre of academic writing and discourse;
- ✓ to develop academically appropriate research and MLA documentation skills;
- ✓ to situate the discipline of literary studies historically.

Evaluation:

Students will be required to write a minimum of four essays (one of which may take the form of a final examination) totaling at least 3000 words. **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT POLICY:** At least 30% of the final mark must be completed under examination or examination-like conditions.

Invigilated Assessment policy

A minimum of thirty percent of the assessment for ENGL 100, 150, 151, and 153 will take place under exam-like conditions. Students must receive a passing grade in this portion of the course in order to pass the course as a whole.

Confirmation of Registration policy

The Department of English requires students to confirm their registration in a course through attendance during the first five business days of the semester. Students who are unable to attend due to excusable absence (defined below) are required to contact the professor before or during that timeframe. Failure to do so will result in automatic de-registration from courses.

An excusable absence includes: personal illness; medical treatment or a visit to the doctor; death in the immediate family; job interview; legal proceedings; care for an ill or injured dependent or spouse; observance of holy days; or responsibilities as a parent or guardian.

Assignments:

Assignments are designed to increase in value as the semester progresses; this permits the marking and return of assignments, with comments, so that you have the opportunity of correcting errors and thus improving your writing.

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| 1. Grammar, Style, & Rhetoric (Grammar, MLA, Faigley & Graves) | 20% |
| 2. Group Chapter Presentation and Individual Book Review (Winchester) | 25% |

3. Attendance & Participation	05%
4. Group Presentation and Individual Thematic Analysis (Woolf)	25%
5. Final Examination essay (McIlvanney or Ash)	25%

College and Course Policy:

1. No recording devices, cameras, computers, or cell phones are permitted in the class unless you have a registered disability that requires the use of such a device. Disability Services should be contacted to request an accommodation.
2. You will write essay/assignments for the course. They must be submitted no later than the due date if they are to receive a grade.
3. For your own protection, always email an MSWord copy of your assignments to me; I am not responsible for assignments delivered by other means. Always keep a photocopy of your work.
4. If you must miss a class or will be late with a paper *for legitimate reasons*, then call and leave a message for me ahead of the class/assignment due date. Arrange for a fellow student to take notes if you must legitimately miss a class; provide me with working drafts of material completed before you ask for an extension, if there is a legitimate (medical or legal) reason.
5. Read the appropriate work for each class, in advance.
6. You must complete ALL of the assigned work to receive a grade on your transcript for English 153. If you fall behind, contact me as soon as possible to discuss your situation.
7. Our classroom will be a site of lively discussion about a variety of literary (and often controversial) subjects, and we will be working together throughout the term to become better readers, writers, and thinkers. While it is not necessary that we all agree with one another, it is absolutely necessary that we treat each other with respect at all times, and are both sensitive to and constructive in our criticism/debates.

Plagiarism/Cheating:

Plagiarism is the presentation of another person's work or ideas without proper or complete acknowledgement, and it is a form of cheating. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the full definition of plagiarism found in the OC course calendar, which suggests that: "Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, failure to indicate the source with quotation marks or footnotes where appropriate if any of the following are reproduced in the work submitted by a student: a written phrase, a graphic element, a proof, specific language, an idea derived from the work, published or unpublished, of another person."

An increasingly prevalent form of academic dishonesty is the uncredited use of online sources. As such, every student must be willing, if requested, to submit an electronic copy of their work which will be scanned by a program designed to reveal plagiarism.

Self-plagiarism: the submission of work that is the same or substantially the same as work prepared or performed by the student for credit in another course (except in instances where the instructor receiving the work has given prior permission). Work includes but is not limited to essays, term papers, projects, and assignments. Although self-plagiarism may not involve the intellectual theft that characterizes plagiarism (as defined above), it is a form of academic misconduct and is subject to the same disciplinary actions as plagiarism. All Procedures for the Plagiarism Policy will apply to this Policy.

The possible punishments for academic dishonesty (Plagiarism, Self-Plagiarism, Cheating) at Okanagan College range from grade reductions to expulsion from the University. In this class, every student who cheats or submits plagiarized work will receive a zero on the offending assignment and will be subject to the harshest sanctions allowed by the college.