

Preliminary Web Course Description

*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL*3870	Course Title: Topics in Literary and Cultural Studies	Date of Offering: FALL 2018
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Course Instructor: M. Nandorfy	Course Format: Lecture
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Brief Course Synopsis:

This course will focus on recent Canadian, American, and Australian Environmental Literature that combines Climate and Science Fiction (cli-fi). Current theoretical approaches will include Adam Trexler's view of the Anthropocene (the current geological age, during which human activity has been the dominant influence on climate and the environment), and Donna Haraway's challenge to this humancentrism: the Chthulucene, our epoch during which the human and nonhuman are inextricably linked, requiring us to 'stay with the trouble' and make kin across species. We will explore how learning to stay with the trouble of living and dying together on a damaged earth might prove conducive to building more livable futures. We will also consider the influence and urgent importance of Native American storytelling in relation to 'climate change not only as a feature of the physical world but also as a state of the human spirit' in the Timothy B. Leduc's *A Canadian Climate of Mind*. Our study of climate fiction will consider such questions as: How does living during climate change reconfigure human economies and ecosystems? How does climate change alter the forms and potentialities of art and cultural narrative?

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

2 short response papers: (500 words @): 10%; 15%
Take-home: (1500 words): 40%
2 in class tests: 15%; 20%

Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)

Adams, John Joseph, ed. *Loosed Upon the World: The Saga Anthology of Climate Fiction* (2015) not ordered, scan and post
Atwood, Margaret. *The Year of the Flood* (2009)
Bobis, Merlinda. *Locust Girl: A Love Song* (2016)
Kingsolver, Barbara. *Flight Behavior* (2012)
Wright, Alexis. *The Swan Book* (2016)
Haraway, Donna J. *Staying with the Trouble: Making Kin in the Chthulucene* (2016)

Other information that you wish share about the course (optional):

List the distribution requirements that this course fulfills: 20th and 21st century