

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*3940*01	Course Title: Seminar: Form, Genre, and Literary Value	Date of Offering: Fall 2016
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Course Instructor: M. Nandorfy	
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<p>Brief Course Synopsis: This seminar focuses on textual conventions such as form, style, and genre as they inform the interaction between reader and text. The impact of these conventions on the processes of literary production, reception, the production of meaning, and the assessment of literary value will be explored in relation to a limited number of literary works. We will be studying the genres of life writing, short story, radio play, poetry and literary journalism through the application of literary theories related to poetics and politics, postcolonial and ethnicity studies, and post humanist environmental criticism.</p>													
<p>Course Format: Seminar; writing and participation intensive. Course Format: Seminar designed to give students the opportunity to work in small groups in a learner-centred environment. Writing intensive to develop close reading strategies, critical interpretation, application of various theoretical approaches to literature. Focus on essay writing skills with opportunities to edit and revise work as an ongoing process to hone these skills. Oral communication skills will also be practiced through continuous participation in class discussion, and structured seminar presentations. This course requires approximately three hours of reading and five hours of writing per week, on average, in addition to class time. Students will write an average of 3600-5400 words of formal prose, citing two to three secondary theoretical/critical sources.</p>	<p>Methods of Evaluation and Weights:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Draft of Essay I</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 20px;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">–Revised Essay I</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 20px;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">–Quality of class participation</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 20px;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">–Seminar presentation and seminar notes</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 20px;">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">–Essay proposal and annotated bibliography</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 20px;">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">–Essay II</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding-right: 20px;">25</td> </tr> </table>	Draft of Essay I	15	–Revised Essay I	10	–Quality of class participation	10	–Seminar presentation and seminar notes	20	–Essay proposal and annotated bibliography	20	–Essay II	25
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<p>Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.) Tentative readings:</p> <p>Life Writing/Native American Memoir: Silko, Leslie. <i>The Turquoise Ledge or Storyteller</i></p> <p>Short story: Chicana writing/Native American Writing</p>													

Cisneros, Sandra. from *Woman Hollering Creek*
King, Thomas. *A Short History of Indians in Canada*

Radio play/theatre:

Verdecchia, Guillermo. *The Terrible but Incomplete Journals of John D.*

Poetry:

Brand, Dionne. *Ossuaries.*

Literary journalism/Environmental writing:

Bowden, Charles. *Blue Desert*

Texts required for essay writing:

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers.

Any handbook containing chapters on grammar, clarity and style, punctuation such as the little brown essential handbook for writers.

Dictionary and Thesaurus

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

This course fulfills 20th/21st century and Canadian distribution requirements