

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*1080	Course Title: Reading the Past	Date of Offering: W20
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Course Instructor: Michelle Elleray	Course Format: Lecture & seminar
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Brief Course Synopsis:

This course is focused on the disciplinary skill of close reading and is intended for students planning to specialize in the study of English Literature or Creative Writing. Through a series of case studies, the course introduces students to a range of historical and national writings in various genres (for example, prose, poetry, film), and to some of the key terms and concepts in contemporary literary studies. Lectures and discussions address selected works from the Middle Ages onwards, the periods in which these works were produced, and some of the ways in which these texts have been or could be interpreted.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

- Exercises (best 5 of 7): 15%
- Close reading (350-500 words): 15%
- Midterm exam: 20%
- Essay pre-writing (300-350 words): 5%
- Essay (900-1200 words): 20%
- Final exam: 25%

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

- H. G. Wells, *The Time Machine*
- Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels*
- Eden Robinson, *Son of a Trickster*
- Eugene Vinaver (ed.) *King Arthur and His Knights* (Oxford University Press--please buy *this* edition, not another version of the King Arthur tales)
- The rest of the texts are available through library reserve, or websites

This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018: N/A

Other information about the course (optional):

Required course for the English major/minor and Creative Writing minor

*Students who registered at the University of Guelph after Fall 2018 must fulfill the “new” major and minor requirements. Students who registered at the University of Guelph prior to Fall 2018 must fulfill the requirements of the Calendar in effect when they first enrolled unless they have filed a Schedule of Studies Change Request to change to the 2018-2019 calendar. For more information, please consult the major and minor checklists at <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/sets/undergraduate/english/current-student-information>.