

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*2120*01	Course Title: Seminar: Critical Practices	Date of Offering: Fall 2019
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Course Instructor: Sandra Singer	Course Format: seminar
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Brief Course Synopsis:

This course offers an overview of the practice of literary criticism through an introduction to literary theory. Students examine issues that develop from reading, interpretation, and evaluation of primary fictional and theoretical texts. Critical responses engage the assumptions and methodological implications of theoretically informed approaches (e.g., New Criticism, Marxist, Freudian, etc.) to literary criticism.

The course design includes a beginning module on Indigenous texts, a second module applying literary theory to *Hamlet* and *Frankenstein*, and a third module interpreting literary adaptations of *Hamlet* and *Frankenstein* by Ian McEwan.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Essay 1 (750 words) 10%

Essay 2 (1000 words) 15%

Seminar 20%

Essay 3 5% introduction, thesis and bibliography (350 words) and 20% essay (1500 words)

Midterm Exam 15%

Final Exam 15%

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

Ian McEwan *Machines Like Me* and *Nutshell*

Eden Robinson

Son of a Trickster

Anne Stevens *Literary Theory and Criticism*

This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018: **20th/21st century**

Other information about the course (optional):

*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>.