

## 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 2130-01	Course Title: Literature and Social Change	Date of Offering: W'21
------------------------------	---	------------------------

Course Instructor: S. Singer	Course Format: seminar
---------------------------------	---------------------------

**Brief Course Synopsis:** Future-oriented, this seminar considers contemporary criticism and the theory of trauma. We situate trauma theory from its Freudian roots to its post-deconstructive methodology, and explore ways in which these approaches are productive. Then, on the basis of critiquing the foundational positions, the seminar relocates trauma theory in a postcolonial and globalized world, and addresses non-Western accounts of trauma. Additionally, considering politics and subjectivity, the course focuses on forms of repression the state gives rise to and, by implication, on human rights, biopolitics and community.

**Methods of Evaluation and Weight:**  
Discussion Board Posting (225 words each—best 2 of 3) 20%  
Seminar 20%  
Poster 20% (includes minimum 500 words of writing)  
Group Elevator Pitch (250 words) 5%  
Essay: 10% thesis paragraph (350 words) and 25% essay (1800 words)

**Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)**  
Mohsin Hamid *Exit West*  
Doris Lessing *Alfred and Emily*  
Shyam Selvadurai *The Hungry Ghosts*

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

**Information about mode of delivery (synchronous/asynchronous/other details):** asynchronous lecture and synchronous discussion

\*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>.