

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	Course Title: Literature and Social Change	Date of Offering: F21
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Course Instructor: Dr. Paul W. Salmon	Course Format: Seminar
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Brief Course Synopsis:

It is always difficult to comprehend the full significance of extraordinary times while we are in the midst of them. Yet, there can be no doubt that the past two years were marked by virtually unprecedented social changes, ones that will have a ripple effect for years if not decades. When Covid-19 emerged as a global pandemic it impacted virtually every facet of our lives. While people in America and elsewhere were reeling from the effects of this virus, a series of brutal police killings of black people sparked Black Lives Matter protests all over America and in other parts of the world. This period also saw the culmination of the worst aspects of Trumpism, capped by the riot on Washington's capital building by an insurrectionist mob on January 6th of this year. Yet, notwithstanding the disdain of the free press by Trump and his acolytes, journalists dedicated to the quest for the truth have thrived and have contributed immeasurably to a preliminary understanding of these tumultuous times. This course will explore samples from the work of journalists who documented the various facets of social upheaval that has characterized our recent past.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Seminar presentation – 20%
Midterm – 20%
Article Proposal – 10% (approximately 1000 words).
Seminar Journal – 20 %
Article 30 % (approximately 3000 words).

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

Course readings will be accessed via the web. No textbook purchases are required for this course.

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

This course is a core seminar for English Majors.

Information about mode of delivery (synchronous/asynchronous/other details):

This course will be delivered in synchronous mode.

*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>.