

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	Course Title: Form, Genre & Literary Value	Date of Offering: W21
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Course Instructor: Dr. Paul W. Salmon	Course Format: Seminar
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Brief Course Synopsis:

When Covid-19 emerged as a global pandemic it impacted virtually every facet of our lives, including the arts. Theatres, concert venues and art galleries closed, and many commentators from around the globe understandably viewed the artistic landscape around them as bleak. But the arts proved a solace in our troubled times, offering escape and edification via online performances of various kinds, virtual tours of art galleries, and pop up concerts on line by established musicians and novices alike. And, despite the closure of cinemas, the movies thrived, via Netflix and many other film viewing platforms. Just as the arts have continued to thrive, so too has pop culture journalism, with many of its best practitioners offering excellent coverage of specific works, while also commenting on some of the deeper issues around creativity and popular culture revealed by the pandemic. This course will utilize samples of very recent pop culture journalism in order to examine some of the ways in which artists and those who comment on them have responded to our troubled times. And attention must also be paid to commentary in the popular press on the Black Lives Matter protests ignited in the midst of the pandemic by the murder of George Floyd.

English majors are required to have ENGL 1080 and ENGL 2080 before taking this course.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Seminar Presentation – 20%

Midterm- 20%

Article Proposal – 10%

Seminar Journal – 20%

Article – 30%

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

Internet access is required for this course as all readings will be available via the web. Students will not need to purchase textbooks for this course.

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

The discussions and seminar presentations for this course will be synchronous utilizing Zoom.

*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>.