

## 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

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| Course Code:<br>ENGL*1080-01 | Course Title:<br>Foundations in Critical Reading & Writing | Date of Offering:<br>F22 |
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| Course Instructor:<br>Michelle Ellery | Course Format:<br>Lecture (2 hours) and seminar (1 hour) |
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#### Brief Course Synopsis:

The creative use of language in literature, cinema, and related media enables us to explore the issues that have mobilized communities in different eras and English-speaking regions of the globe. Using case studies on issues that resonate from the past into the present, students will employ close reading methods to investigate how language gives form to ideas, and use academic writing as a vehicle for conveying an argument about these ideas. This course is intended for students planning to specialize in English Literature and/or Creative Writing. Reading- and writing-intensive course.

This iteration of the course will focus on:

- environments: poetry by Walt Whitman, the Pearl Poet, Matthew Arnold, Toru Dutt, Camille T. Dungy, Craig Santos Perez, and Evie Shockley
- histories and memorialization: poems by Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Joshua McCarter Simpson; Toni Morrison's *Beloved*
- island colonialism: William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, Robert Louis Stevenson's short story "The Beach of Falesá"
- speculations: short stories by Chelsea Vowel and two films: *The Green Knight* and *Arrival*

We will also read selections from the Gryphons Read text for Fall 2022, Silmy Abdullah's *Home of the Floating Lily*.

The Undergraduate Calendar states that for a 0.5 credit course you should be doing 10-12 hours of work per week (including classes, reading, studying and assignments).

#### Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

- Exercises (best 5 of 6): 5%
- Annotations: 10%
- Close reading poetry (500 words): 15%
- Midterm: 20%
- Essay (25%), consisting of:
  - Pre-writing (100-250 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.)

You will need to buy, borrow, or be able to access the following books:

- Toni Morrison, *Beloved*

- William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*
- Chelsea Vowel, *Buffalo is the New Buffalo*

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

N/A

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

There will be 3 hours of instructional and discussion time per week. 2 hours (Mondays & Wednesdays) will be in-person lectures; 1 hour (Fridays) will be a smaller seminar class of 25 people, held in person.

\*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>.