

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: 6811-01	Course Title: Special Topics in English	Date of Offering: F'20
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Course Instructor: S. Singer	Course Format: virtual
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Brief Course Synopsis: Through a range of literatures and film, this seminar explores fiction and non-fiction accounts of terrorism from the French Revolution to after 11 September. Various trajectories include 1880s-1920s (Russian) anarchism and 1960s-80s left-wing (revolutionary and nationalist) terrorism, as well as post 9/11 fiction that foregrounds global, historical, and cultural context. The relationship between nationalism and terrorism will be foregrounded through discussion of Kanafani's "Returning to Haifa," Selvadurai's *Funny Boy*, and Waldman's *The Submission*.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:
Discussion Board (225 words, best 2 of 3 postings, 5% each) 10%
Class Presentations 30%
Colloquium 10%
Essay 1 Close Reading (1500 words) 15%
Literature Review and Thesis paragraph for Essay 2 10%
Essay 2 (4000 words) 25%

Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)
Friedrich Dürrenmatt, *The Assignment: or, On the Observing of the Observer of the Observers*
Shyam Selvadurai, *Funny Boy*
Amy Waldman, *The Submission*

Required: Digitally accessed
Joseph Conrad, *The Secret Agent*
Ghassan Kanafani "Returning to Haifa"
Judith Thompson, *Palace of the End*
Charles Townshend, *Terrorism*

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

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

*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>.