

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
ENGLISH 0010 LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION
Monday Evenings 6:30-9:30p.m.
Ursuline Hall Room 27

Dr. Carolyn Weber
cweber43@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Tues 12:30-1:30; Tues/Thurs 2:45-3:15 pm or by appt
Office Location: TBA

Note to Students from C. Weber:

I am taking over this course mid-year from the previous instructor. In the spirit of continuity and with respect to your preparation efforts as well as the policies you are now accustomed to regarding this course, I have kept the original syllabus intact (including all assignments, texts, readings, policies and grade distributions). Since the class has shifted from Wednesdays in the first term to Mondays in the present term, I did have to adjust slightly two due dates accordingly (the sight poem assignment and the final paper) and the seminar rotation dates. I have kept all the original readings, adding only a few short poems. I have also replaced "student's choice" for a final text and film adaptation with Sherman Alexie's short story collection *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*, which will be provided for you in the bookstore and explained in class. I have marked these changes with an asterisk (*) on the syllabus below.

There are two important policies, however, that I will add and draw to your attention. The first is that I do not accept email submissions of work of any kind unless by prior consent given extenuating circumstances. The second is that our classroom is an unplugged classroom. During our time together, you are expected to give your full attention to our class discussion and exercises. Please do not consult any electronic devices such as cell phones, iPads or laptops without the prior consent of the instructor. Art, music and film as provided by the instructor will supplement our class discussion. I look forward to a rich learning experience together.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of literature, including poetry, short stories, novels, and plays. The class will

encourage a critical approach to literature, with special attention to essay writing skills.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this course, students will:

- become familiar with elements of literature including plot, character, theme, setting, and form;
- explore a variety of narrative techniques and generic conventions in a critical manner;
- develop arguments about literary texts and support their ideas with evidence;
- acquire the technical skills needed to write clear and persuasive literary analyses;
- improve communication skills by presenting ideas in oral as well as written formats.

REQUIRED TEXTS

The Norton Introduction to Literature, Shorter Twelfth Edition (Ed. Kelly J. Mays) 2016.

The Brief Penguin Handbook, 3rd Cdn. Edition (Ed. Lester Faigley, Robert Graves, Heather Graves) 2014.

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*
Thomas King. "Borders." (available online)

William Shakespeare. *Twelfth Night*.
Folger Shakespeare Edition.

Tennessee Williams. *A Streetcar Named Desire*. (in Norton edition)

Film Adaptation: *Smoke Signals**

POLICY REGARDING TERM & COURSE WORK

In accordance with English Department policy, students must pass both the term work and the final examination in order to pass the course.

ASSIGNMENTS

Note: With the exception of the Final Essay and the Final Examination, all writing assignments for the course will be completed in-class. The Final Essay will be subject to plagiarism-checking. The Final Exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office. The instructor has no control over the date of the final exam.

Paragraph Assignment	5%	Sept. 28
Essay #1	10%	Oct. 26
Mid-Term Exam	15%	Nov.23
Sight Poem	10%	Feb.13*
Seminar	5%	various
Essay #2	10%	Apr. 3*
Participation	10%	various
Final Exam	35%	

READINGS

All readings must be completed before class. Students are expected to have thought deeply about the readings and come prepared to discuss them in class. Students must always bring their books to class.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late essays will be penalized 5% per day, including weekends. This penalty is subject to the policy on academic accommodation below. Essays are due in class on the due date. Students who do not show up to present their seminar or for the in-class writing assignments will be assigned a grade of 0%. No make-ups will be scheduled.

EXPECTATIONS FOR CLASS PARTICIPATION

This course encourages students to take personal responsibility for learning, and all students ought to prepare thoroughly for each class by reading and reflecting critically on the assigned material. All members of the class ought to be prepared to contribute to class discussions, to listen to others, and to respond to the queries of others. It is essential that students frame their comments in a respectful manner and demonstrate respect for the ideas others articulate.

Mere attendance in class will not constitute sufficient participation. The participation mark will take into account students' willingness to read portions of poems or stories aloud in class. Students who say nothing or very little of substance in class will be assigned a failing grade for participation. In assigning

participation marks for the course, the instructor will assess the following:

- 1) your contribution to group learning;
- 2) your attitude to learning;
- 3) your knowledge of the subject matter;
- 4) your ability to develop ideas critically; and
- 5) your oral communication skills.

CLASS CANCELLATIONS

Any class cancellations will be posted on the course OWL page.

FORMAT OF WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

All written assignments, except in-class tests, must be written and formatted in accordance with MLA (Modern Language Association) guidelines or in accordance with the *Chicago Manual of Style*. The Library at Brescia has copies of both the *MLA Guide for Writers of Research Papers* and *The Chicago Manual of Style*. Information on *Chicago Style* can be found at:

http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html

Students in this course will be expected to express their ideas clearly and use proper grammar. Serious grammatical errors such as sentence fragments, comma splices, improper paragraphing and errors of

agreement obscure the meaning of written work. Papers will be graded according to form and content; therefore, students should proofread their work in order to ensure that it is free from grammatical errors. Any student who submits a written assignment that is very difficult to comprehend because of grammatical or stylistic errors will earn a failing grade on that assignment. If you are concerned about the quality of your writing, please visit the Writing Centre at Brescia. The workshops and consultation sessions that they run can be very helpful.

All assignments must be typed with one-inch margins on each side. Please do not use a font smaller than 12-point. The lines of the main text

should be double-spaced, but lines in block quotations (which should also be indented), endnotes/ footnotes, and bibliographies should all be single-spaced. Pages must be numbered consecutively (exclusive of the title page). Please include your name and ID number on your essay, along with the course number and instructor's name. All references (bibliographies/ works cited pages) must be written in either *MLA* or *Chicago Style* format.

Please ensure that you keep a copy of all submitted work. In case of lost essays, you are responsible for providing a replacement.

2016-17 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated. Documentation shall be submitted as soon as possible to the student's Academic Advisor indicating the period of illness and when the student should be able to resume academic responsibilities. Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are **not** grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg117.html>. The student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student

“was seen for a medical reason” or “was ill” is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner. The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg130.html>)

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg113.html>

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Student Academic Appeals under Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg112.html>)

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for information including a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The readings, in their entirety, must be completed before the day on which they are scheduled to be discussed. The schedule is subject to change depending upon the length of class discussions. (N) refers to page number in Norton Anthology. Readings from *The Brief Penguin Handbook* will be listed on the course OWL page.

FALL TERM

- Sept. 14:** Introduction to course; The Short Story
Thomas King, "Borders" (consult OWL page for instructions on how to access this reading)
- Sept. 21:** Excerpt from Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis*, "The Shabbat"
(N)
Edith Wharton, "Roman Fever" (N)
Guy de Maupassant, "The Jewelry" (N)
- Sept. 28:** **Paragraph Assignment** (in-class writing exercise)
Edgar Allan Poe, "The Cask of Amontillado" (N)
- Oct. 5:** Flannery O'Connor, "Everything That Rises Must Converge"
(N)
Amy Tan, "A Pair of Tickets" (N)
- Oct. 12:** Reading Poetry: Terminology and Techniques
- Oct. 19:** Reading Poetry
Robert Browning, "My Last Duchess" (N)
Emily Dickinson, [I dwell in Possibility--] (N)
Elizabeth Alexander, "Ars Poetica #100: I Believe" (N)
Marianne Moore, "Poetry" (N)
- Oct. 26:** **Essay #1** (in-class writing exercise)
- Nov. 2:** Sonnets
Francesco Petrararch, [Upon the breeze she spread her golden hair]
(N)
William Shakespeare, [My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun]
(N)

William Shakespeare, [Let me not to the marriage of true minds]
(N)
Claude McKay, "Harlem Dancer" (N)
Gwen Harwood, "In the Park" (N)

Nov. 9: Drama
Reading Shakespeare (Performance and Digital Contexts)

Nov. 16: William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*

Nov. 23: **Midterm Exam** (written in class)

Nov. 30: William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*

Dec. 7: Responding to Film: Adaptation

* * *

WINTER TERM

Jan. 9: W. B. Yeats, "The Second Coming" (poem, N)*
Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

Jan. 16: *Things Fall Apart*, con't.
Instructions for Final Essay
MLA Format
Organizing the Essay

Jan. 23: Reading Poetry
Figures of speech (read pp. 334-338 in the Norton)*
William Blake, "London" (N); "The Chimney Sweeper" from
Songs of Experience (N); "The Chimney Sweeper" from
Songs of Innocence (N); "The Lamb" (N); "The Sick
Rose" (N); "The Tyger" (N)
William Wordsworth, "[I wandered lonely as a cloud]" (N);
"She Dwelt among the Untrodden Ways" (N)
Samuel Taylor Coleridge, "Frost at Midnight" and "Kubla Kahn" (N)*
Lord Byron, "The Prisoner of Chillon" (online)

Jan. 30: Reading Poetry
Pat Mora, "La Migra" (N)

Agha Shahid Ali, "Postcard from Kashmir" (N)
Derek Walcott, "A Far Cry From Africa" (N)
John Milton, "When I consider how my light is spent" (N)*
Sherman Alexie, "The Facebook Sonnet" (N)*
Billy Collins, "Sonnet" (N)*

Feb. 6: John Donne, "A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning" (N)*
Robert Frost, "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening" (N)*
Emily Dickinson, "A Narrow Fellow in the Grass" (N)*
Selection of unseen poems – preparation for sight poem*

Feb. 13: **Sight Poem** (written in class)*

Feb. 20: **Reading Week – No Class**

Feb. 27: Drama
Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire* (N)

Mar. 6: Tennessee Williams, *A Streetcar Named Desire* (N)
Student Seminar Presentations (Group 1)

Mar. 13: Sherman Alexie, *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*
in relation to *Smoke Signals* (Film adaptation)*

Mar. 20: Sherman Alexie, *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven**
Student Seminar Presentations (Group 2)

Mar. 27: **Writing Workshop – discussion of drafts***

Apr. 3: **LAST DAY OF CLASS**
Essay #2 Due
Exam Preparation - Tips for Writing Essay Exams