

ENGLISH 0010 LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Brescia University College
2017-18

Professor: Dr. Carolyn Weber

Email: cweber43@uwo.ca (please note email submissions of assignments are not accepted)

Class Time: Mondays 6:30 – 9:30pm

Class Location: BR - 203

Office Hours for Fall Term (Winter TBA): Mondays 1:20-3:20pm or by appointment

Office Location: TBA

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the study of literature at the university level by examining such literary aspects as genre, plot, character, setting, voice, imagery, theme, tropes, devices and figures of speech. We will consider works within their sociopolitical contexts along a continuum of the history of ideas. As a class, we will hone communication skills, including those of oral presentation and discussion. We will prepare for engaging in university-level work, including the examination and the academic essay. Since this course emphasizes both literature *and* composition, we will pay careful attention to the close reading and thoughtful comprehension of texts alongside the regular development of writing skills.

Required Texts (hard copy only; electronic versions of required primary texts are not acceptable):

The Seagull Reader (Poems) edited by Joseph Kelly (Norton)

King Lear by William Shakespeare (the Pelican Shakespeare)

The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson (Penguin)

“Letter from Birmingham Jail” by Martin Luther King (online – please print for class)

“Everything that Rises must Converge” by Flannery O’Connor (online – please print for class)

Tonto and the Lone Ranger Fistfight in Heaven by Sherman Alexie (Grove Press)

Smoke Signals film adaptation of Alexie’s stories (shown in class)

The Hundred Secret Senses by Amy Tan (Penguin)

Fit to Print: The Canadian Student’s Guide to Essay Writing, Joanne Buckley (8th edition, Nelson)

Grade Distribution:

Your total grade for the course is evaluated out of 100% according to the following distribution:

Poetry Report with presentation (annotated poem, 500 word analysis & brief presentation)	10%
Paper #1 (thesis formation, 250 words)	5%
Paper #2 (longer, developed argument in response to critical source, 750 words)	10%
Paper #3 (formal paper, 1000 words, with presentation)	15%
Participation (includes attendance, class exercises, presentations/discussion)	10%
Term Test (with exam essay component)	20%
Final Exam (with exam essay component)	30%

Learning Objectives:

This course will help students develop and hone all of Brescia's core competencies. Often these competencies overlap or blend; primary competencies are identified, however, in the following examples:

1. Students will be able to write clearly and effectively with increased understanding of university level standards and academic discourse. Students will be able to speak confidently before their peers and present material in an informed and professional manner. (Communication)
2. Students will advance their literacy skills. Students will be able to formulate a logical argument and be able to engage with complex considerations raised by a text as well as additional sources. (Critical Thinking)
3. Students will be able to formulate a thesis and pursue a line of inquiry about a text. Students will be able to identify the presence and use of literary devices, genres and periods. Students will be able to ask sophisticated questions about a text and explore these ideas formally in their writing. (Inquiry and Analysis)
4. Students will be able to identify and examine issues of social justice raised by a literary text. Students will be exposed to various considerations of race and culture, and become adept at recognizing, respecting and then appropriately reconciling tensions therein. (Social Awareness and Engagement)
5. Students will acquire editing and revision skills. Students will be able to respond to criticism and incorporate feedback into the amelioration of their work. Students will work with their peers to lead class discussion, debate and resolution. (Problem Solving)
6. Students will become aware of their own social location and dignity through the act of empathetic as well as informed reading. (Self Awareness and Development)
7. Students will gain confidence and acumen in entering an academic conversation with self and mutual respect. Students will be able to draw upon how the humanities help us discern what it means to be human. (Valuing)

Course Policies:

- All work must be your own original work.** All campus guidelines regarding plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct will be followed. (We will discuss things like Google in class. See, too, *A Note on Plagiarism* below.)
- Assignments:** All assignments will be carefully explained in class with supporting documentation. Formal assignments, exams and due dates are established well in advance. Please arrive having read the book *in its entirety* for the first day it is listed on the syllabus unless otherwise noted in class. It is your responsibility to bring any questions or concerns about any assignment to my attention before the deadline/exam date. Always bring your text to class, along with a pen and lined paper.
- All work must conform to assignment guidelines.** A style sheet and proper documentation guidelines will be provided for the final paper.
- Submission of Work:** *Take full responsibility for your work, the first time around.* Other than drafts for workshops or appointments, I do not accept re-writes or offer extra-credit incentives/work. An important part of handing in your work is actually *handing in your work*. It is your responsibility to edit, print and ensure the receipt of your work *on time* and in

professional stylistic form. Hand in all work in class, in person. Do not slip your paper under my office door. Except by prior arrangement due to extenuating circumstances, **email submissions are not accepted.**

- **Attendance:** Regular attendance is expected, as is prepared and thoughtful engagement. Attendance will be recorded. For every unexcused absence, 1% will be docked from your participation grade (up to 5%). After five unexcused absences, you will receive zero for your attendance grade and may be referred to your Academic Advisor. Excused absences include those resulting from documented illness or deemed extenuating circumstances. Please see the University policy on attendance at the end of this document.
- **Late policy:** All formal assignments are due at the beginning of class on the designated date. A penalty of 5% per day for up to three days applies to late work; a grade of zero will apply by the fourth day. Honouring a deadline offers many life skills which complement the academic ones offered by this course. Moreover, negotiating different due dates is unfair to your peers who have managed their time and commitments to make the original deadline. When missing tests and assignments worth 10% or more, students must meet with an academic advisor to provide documentation for accommodation.
- **Please turn off all electronic devices:** With the exception of art, music or film supplementation as provided by the professor, this is an “unplugged” classroom. Use of electronic devices such as laptops, cell phones and the like are prohibited in class without prior consent of the professor. **To avoid temptation, please put your cell phone away.** Students are expected to pay full attention to class discussion and lectures, and to use pen and lined paper for class exercises unless otherwise directed. Please bring hard copies of texts to class, unless the in-class use of a digital version or website has been approved by the professor. As a baseball fan, I operate by a “three-strikes-you’re-out” policy: students receive two warnings against being distracted by devices during class. Upon the third infraction, you will be asked to leave the class and you will be docked the missed class as though it were an absence.
- **Responsible Communication:** Life happens, and while I hold high expectations for my students, I also aim to be fair. The more we can practice responsible and proactive communication, the more we can work out viable and just solutions in a way that is fair to your peers and helps ensure a rich learning experience for all. *Enjoy!*

A Note on Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when a person falsely presents someone else’s ideas as his/her own work. This misrepresentation constitutes theft. It is unethical, dishonest, and ultimately destructive – it shows disrespect toward your peers, your instructor, your institution, and the intellectual community with which you are in dialogue. But most significantly, it whittles away at your own integrity and self-worth. Earning a degree is an achievement of the whole person – it reflects a development in spiritual, intellectual and ethical maturity. If you are tempted to breach the premise of trust on which our academic conversation and growth are based, you will suffer severe professional as well as personal consequences. Plagiarism will be addressed thoroughly in class; please also consult university resources. If any doubts remain, however, please see me *before* you hand in a piece about which you are confused.

Schedule of Classes and Assignments

TERM I

Monday, September 11th

- Introduction to Course
- Introduction to Poetry: Characteristics; Fixed Form and Free Verse
- William Blake, “The Lamb”; “The Tyger”; “The Sick Rose”
- Lord Byron, “She Walks in Beauty”
- Robert Herrick, ‘Upon Julia’s Clothes”
- Margaret Atwood, “You Fit into Me”

Monday, September 18th

- Read the Introduction to *The Seagull Reader: Poems*
- Then read Billy Collins’s poem “Introduction to Poetry”
- We will consider the ballad and music (Leonard Cohen, Gordon Lightfoot)
- We will consider form: example of the sonnet
 - William Shakespeare, selection from Sonnets
 - John Donne, selection from Holy Sonnets
 - John Keats, “When I Have Fears”
 - John Milton, “When I Consider How My Light is Spent”
 - Billy Collins, “Sonnet”

Monday, September 25th

- Practice for poetry report:
 - o Robert Browning, “My Last Duchess”
 - o Examples of the sestina: Elizabeth Bishop, “Sestina” and Dylan Thomas “Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night”
 - o William Carlos Williams, “The Red Wheelbarrow”; “This Is Just to Say”

Poetry Report Poem Selections:

Walt Whitman, “A Noiseless Patient Spider”
Martín Espada, “Latin Night at the Pawnshop”
William Wordsworth, “Tables Turned”
William Butler Yeats, “The Lake Isle of Innisfree”
Li-Young Lee, “Visions and Interpretations”
Robert Frost, “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening”
Gerard Manley Hopkins, “Pied Beauty”
Christina Rossetti, “A Birthday”
Stevie Smith, “Not Waving but Drowning”
Langston Hughes, “Harlem”

Monday, October 2nd

- **POETRY REPORTS DUE and presented**

Monday, October 9th - THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS (READING WEEK OCT 9-13)

Monday, October 16th

- Introduction to Drama
- William Shakespeare, *King Lear*

Monday, October 23rd

- *King Lear*
- thesis formation – bring *Fit to Print* to class

Monday, October 30th

- **PAPER #1 DUE**
- Discussion of papers in relation to *King Lear*

Monday, November 6th

- Introduction to Narrative (Novel and Short Story)
- Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

Monday, November 13th

- *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* – close reading exercises
- *Fit to Print*: review incorporating quotations, sources, critical engagement

Monday, November 20th

- *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

Monday, November 27th

- **PAPER #2 DUE**
- Discussion of papers and critiques

Monday, December 4th - LAST DAY OF CLASS

- Catch up and review

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TERM II

Monday, January 8th

- “Everything that Rises Must Converge” by Flannery O’Connor
- “Letter from Birmingham Jail” by Martin Luther King

Monday, January 15th

- *Fit to Print*, review chapter on essay exam
- Exam writing tips and practice
- Review

Monday, January 22nd

- **TERM TEST**

Monday, January 29th

- Debriefing of tests
- Sherman Alexie, selections from *Tonto and the Lone Ranger Fistfight in Heaven*

Monday, February 5th

- *Tonto and the Lone Ranger* selections

Monday, February 12th

- *Smoke Signals* (film adaptation of *Tonto and the Lone Ranger*)
- film and narrative comparative dialogue

Monday, February 19th – NO CLASS – FAMILY DAY + READING WEEK

Monday, February 26th

- Amy Tan, *The Hundred Secret Senses*

Monday, March 5th

- *The Hundred Secret Senses*

Monday, March 12th

- *The Hundred Secret Senses*

Monday, March 19th

- workshop for final papers

Monday, March 26th

- workshop for final papers – DRAFT DUE

Monday, April 2nd –

- **ESSAY #3 DUE with PRESENTATIONS**

Monday, April 9th – LAST DAY OF CLASS

- Review for Final Exam
- Celebration!

FINAL EXAM – details TBA

2017-18 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.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf. 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://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg117.html>

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, <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official dates <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg7.html>). 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://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/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.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

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 (<http://www.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://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg112.html>).

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices (http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/evaluation_undergrad.pdf and http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/finalgrades.pdf).

6. PREREQUISITES

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).

7. SUPPORT

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 <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>.

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can learn more about mental health and wellness at Brescia at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental_Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

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.