

English 1028G: The Storyteller's Art II: Topics in Narrative - Voice
Winter 2018

Instructor: Alicia Robinet

Brescia University College, Office: TBA

Office Hours: Mondays 4:20-5:20 and available to meet by appointment

Email: arobine2@uwo.ca

Class Times: Monday 2:30-4:30, Wednesday 2:30-3:30

Location: BR-UH27

Section: 530

Course Calendar Description: This course explores a particular theme, mode, or genre of storytelling. Instruction is by lecture and tutorials; emphasis on developing strong analytical and writing skills.

Antirequisite(s): [English 1024E](#), [1036E](#).

Prerequisite(s): Grade 12U English or permission of the Department. For part time students who have been admitted without the OSSD, this permission will be granted as a matter of course.

Extra Information: 3 hours, 0.5 course.

Course Description: In this course, we will consider voice in terms of form and content. Who is the storyteller and how is she telling the story? By focusing on the devices and techniques used to voice a story, this course aims to solidify the knowledge of “the storyteller’s art” students gained in the introductory half of the course.

Course Objectives: By the end of the course, the successful student will be able to:

1. Identify the characteristics of narrative voice in a particular text and communicate the effects of a particular voice (**Communication; Critical Thinking; Inquiry and Analysis**)
2. Recognize and understand the impact of rhetorical devices used in “the storyteller’s art” (**Critical Thinking; Inquiry and Analysis**)
3. Communicate her ideas about a literary or cultural text orally and in writing (**Communication; Critical Thinking**)
4. Understand and apply the basic rules of grammar in written projects (**Communication**)
5. Engage in academic research to complete an academic essay in MLA format (**Communication; Critical Thinking; Inquiry and Analysis**)
6. Evaluate her contributions to class discussions (**Communication; Inquiry and Analysis; Self Awareness and Development**)
7. Evaluate and analyze her classmates’ written communication (**Communication; Critical Thinking; Self Awareness and Development; Social Awareness and Engagement**)
8. Provide effective and considerate feedback to her classmates and instructor (**Communication; Critical Thinking**)
9. Appreciate the effect and analyze the nuances of a particular narrative voice in fiction (**Inquiry and Analysis**)
10. Analyze and attend to the political, moral, ethical, and social effects of a particular narrative voice in a literary work (**Critical Thinking; Valuing**)

*The relevant Brescia Competencies are in bold.

Required texts:

Bausch, Richard and Cassill, R. V., eds. *The Norton Anthology of Short Fiction*, Shorter 8th edition.

Donoghue, Emma. *Room* (2010).

SCHEDULE:

DATE	READING
Monday, January 8	Introduction
Wednesday, January 10	<p>The Writer's Voice</p> <p>Margaret Atwood, "Why Do You Write?" (1991) <i>Norton 872</i></p> <p>Toni Cade Bambara, "What Is It I Think I'm Doing Anyway?" (1980) <i>Norton 872-73</i></p> <p>Richard Bausch, "Letter to a Young Writer" (2004) <i>Norton 873-876</i></p> <p>Joseph Conrad, "Preface" (1897) <i>Norton 877-879</i></p> <p>Guy de Maupassant, "The Novel" (1887) <i>Norton 887-889</i></p> <p>Bharati Mukherjee, "A Four-Hundred-Year-Old Woman" (1991) <i>Norton 889-891</i></p> <p>Edgar Allan Poe, "The Philosophy of Composition" <i>Norton 891</i></p>
Monday, January 15	<p>The Canonical Voice</p> <p>Guy de Maupassant, "An Adventure in Paris" (1881) <i>Norton 493-98</i></p>
Wednesday, January 17	<p>Franz Kafka, "The Metamorphosis" (1915) <i>Norton 399-433</i></p> <p>Stanley Corngold, "Kafka's 'The Metamorphosis: Metamorphosis of the Metaphor'" <i>Norton 920-21</i></p>
Monday, January 22	<p>Voicing Modernism</p> <p>James Joyce, <i>Ulysses</i>: Episode 18, "Penelope" (1922) Excerpt available on OWL</p>
Wednesday, January 24	<p>Virginia Woolf, "<i>Kew Gardens</i>" (1943) <i>Norton 854-59</i></p> <p>Critical Reflection #1 due</p>
Monday, January 29	The Satirical Voice

	Stephen Leacock, "The Marine Excursion of the Knights of Pythias" (1912) Available on OWL
Wednesday, January 31	Rohinton Mistry, "Squatter" (1987) Available on OWL In-class response #1
Monday, February 5	The Veteran's Voice Frank O'Connor, "Guests of the Nation" (1931) <i>Norton</i> 637-45
Wednesday, February 7	Tim O'Brien, "The Things They Carried" (1986) <i>Norton</i> 598-610
Monday, February 12	Questioning Voice Rudy Wiebe, "Where is the Voice Coming From?" (1974) Available on OWL
Wednesday, February 14	Louise Erdrich, "Matchimanito" (1988) <i>Norton</i> 249-59 Critical reflection #2 due
Monday, February 19	Family Day ☺
Wednesday, February 21	Reading Week ☺
Monday, February 26	Scholarly research seminar
Wednesday, February 28	Voicing Grief Bharati Mukherjee, "The Management of Grief" (1988) <i>Norton</i> 538-550 Richard Ford, "Bharati Mukherjee's 'The Management of Grief'" <i>Norton</i> 922-23
Monday, March 5	A Child's Voice Robert Penn Warren, "Blackberry Winter" (1946) <i>Norton</i> 823-38
Wednesday, March 7	Emma Donoghue, <i>Room</i> (2010) In-class response #2
Monday, March 12	<i>Room</i> continued

Wednesday, March 14	<i>Room</i> continued
Monday, March 19	Voicing Survival Margaret Atwood, "Death By Landscape" <i>Norton</i> 28-40
Wednesday, March 21	Alice Munro, "Royal Beatings" <i>Norton</i> 551-566 PEER EDITING OF ESSAY DRAFT 1
Monday, March 26	Epistolary Voice Leonard Cohen, "Famous Blue Raincoat" (1971) Available on OWL TERM PAPER DUE
Wednesday, March 28	Richard Bausch, "Letter to the Lady of the House" (1989) <i>Norton</i> 69-75
Monday, April 2	Visualizing Voice Joe Sacco, <i>Palestine</i> (1996) Excerpts available on OWL
Wednesday, April 4	Jeff Lemire, <i>Secret Path</i> (2017) Excerpts available on OWL Self-Evaluation Due
Monday, April 9	Voicing Postmodernism George Saunders, "Victory Lap" (2009) <i>Norton</i> 710-21
Wednesday, April 11	Conclusion and Review

ASSIGNMENTS:

Participation: 10% (includes self-evaluation of participation @ 1%)

In-class responses (#1 on Wednesday, February 1 worth 5% and #2 on Wednesday, March 8 worth 5%): 10%

Oral presentation: 10%

Critical Reflections (#1 worth 5% due Wednesday, January 24, #2 worth 5% due Wednesday, February 14): 10%

Term paper (due Wednesday, March 22): 25%

Final exam: 35%

Late assignments will be penalized 3% per day.

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS:

PARTICIPATION:

You need to come to class prepared to discuss the day's assigned reading. Please bring any comments or questions you have to class and do not hesitate to share them with the instructor and your peers. Your participation grade will also reflect your role as an active listener in the classroom.

SELF-EVALUATION:

You will assign a grade to your class participation and will provide a written justification for this grade. Your mark for this assignment will be based on the accuracy of your self-evaluation.

IN-CLASS RESPONSES:

You will write **TWO** in-class responses. These responses will help prepare you for writing your answers for the final exam.

CRITICAL REFLECTIONS:

You will submit **TWO** reading journals over the course of the semester. Each journal should be 200-300 words in length and should be your reflection on any of the assigned readings during the period up until the reading is due. Your journal can be in the form of a traditional short essay, or you can submit a non-traditional piece in the form of a podcast or vodcast. You will be graded on the quality of your writing and your ideas. Please refer to the assignment handout for specific expectations.

ORAL PRESENTATION:

You will present to the class for approximately **five** minutes. You will be assigned an element of grammar to present to the class. Please see the assignment handout for specific expectations and be sure to check in about the model I present to you if you miss the demo class. You will need to provide me with your notes for your presentation.

TERM PAPER:

Your term paper needs to be **5-7 pages** in length. You are required to consult and cite at least **TWO** scholarly sources in your paper. Format your paper according to MLA style. You must submit this assignment through Turnitin via OWL. Please refer to the assignment handout for specific expectations.

EXAM:

Your final exam will be schedule during the exam period and more information will be provided in writing during class time.

****If you take material from any outside sources while completing an assignment, you must cite your source and provide a citation of the source you cited.****

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/uwoom/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.