

CANADIAN LITERATURE

“

“Hey, what are you doing?”
she said, and he said
“I’m just standing here being Canadian”
and she said “Wow
is that really feasible?”
and he said “Yes
but it requires plenty of imagination.”

”

- Lionel Kearns,
“Public Poem for Manitoulin Island Canada Day”

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What does literature tell us about the making of a nation and its citizens? Spanning the period from imperial exploration to Confederation to the present day, this course examines Canada’s vibrant literary culture. Students will encounter a diverse range of genres and authors, from accounts of early explorers to current internationally acclaimed and award-winning writers.

CLASS TIMES

Mondays 1:30-3:30 pm in P&AB 150

Wednesdays 1:30-2:30 pm in P&AB 150

CONTACT INFORMATION



PROFESSOR MANINA JONES

3G18 (above the main entrance doors)

Office Hours: Wed. 2:30-3:30 pm, Thurs. 9:30-11:30 am, or by appointment

mjones@uwo.ca



KRISTEN NILES, GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT

Office oN83, International and Graduate Affairs building

Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:30 – 4:30 pm, or by appointment

kniles7@uwo.ca

REQUIRED TEXTS

A novel to be determined by Canlit 2309Eh? Reads

Bennett, Donna and Russell Brown, eds. *An Anthology of Canadian Literature in English*.

Brand, Dionne. *What We All Long For*.

Kogawa, Joy. *Obasan*.

MacLennan, Hugh. *Barometer Rising*.

Montgomery, Lucy Maud. *Anne of Green Gables*.

Richardson, John. *Wacousta, or the Prophecy*.

Seton, Ernest Thompson. *Wild Animals I Have Known*.

Plus material photocopied and/or available on line.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Assignment	Length	Value	Due Date
Attendance & Participation	n/a	2x5 (per term)=10%	All year
Canlit 2309Eh? Advocacy Assignment	500 words	5%	Sept. 30 th
Reflection pieces: choose 2 of 3	250 words each	5%	See sched.
Essay 1 (Fall Term)	1500 words	10%	Dec. 9 th
Mid-term test	50 mins.	10%	Dec. 2 nd
Passage Analysis	500 words	5%	Feb. 3 rd
Essay 2	2000 words	20%	Mar. 23 rd
Final Examination	3 hours	35%	TBA

Note: A student must receive a passing grade for both term work and the final examination in order to receive a passing grade for the course. Students whose term and final exam grades average 50% or above, even though one of the two is a failure, shall receive a default grade of 48%.

ASSIGNMENTS

Keep track of due dates. Details of assignments will be posted in OWL. Unless you're informed otherwise, assignments should be submitted *in electronic form only*, through OWL. They will also be returned through OWL.

LATE POLICY

Submit your papers on time. Papers submitted after the due date without prior permission will be deducted 2% per day late, *including* weekends. Papers handed in after the assignment has been returned to other students will not normally be accepted. See the Department of English web page for information on **Academic Relief**.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All students are expected to practice intellectual honesty and act with integrity. This means that you must conscientiously document your research and note your debts to others, that you must be accountable for your own work in all aspects of the course, and that you must conduct yourself in a respectful way in relation to your peers, faculty and staff. It is your responsibility to be informed about these standards, so don't be afraid to ask questions!

All required papers must be submitted for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted 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. Also, see the Department of English web page for information on **Plagiarism**.

The Teaching Support Centre has produced a helpful unit on Academic Integrity. To explore it, join the "Academic Integrity Tutorial" joinable site on OWL.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

The English Department web site has essential **information** about Term Work, Exams, Faculty Office Hours, Academic Relief (appeals, petitions, complaints), and other matters. It is also worth consulting the English Department's **Undergraduate Grading Criteria** sheet before you begin your first assignment.

ACCESSIBILITY.UWO.CA

I am committed to creating a learning environment that meets the needs of all students. Please consult the university **accessibility web site** for general information, and don't hesitate to let me know if you have concerns.



Eh? What's that you say? I have a hearing impairment. If you speak directly to me, so that I can see your face, I will be better able to understand you. For important questions, email me; for extended conversations, schedule an appointment at my office, where there are fewer distractions.

GOALS & EXPECTATIONS

BASIC EXPECTATIONS...

- ✿ **Come to class, take notes, and participate in discussion.** Assignments will assess your analytical skills, your understanding and recall of literary texts and material developed in lecture and class discussion.
 - Note: Powerpoint slides don't represent the full content of the class.
- ✿ **Do the reading.** Complete the week's reading before you come to class.
- ✿ **Check OWL regularly.** Essential information will be posted on OWL, including information on cancelled classes, resources, weekly expectations, lectures, assignments, tests, and the exam.
- ✿ **Be respectful.** Treat other students and members of the teaching team with respect; you should expect them to do likewise.
 - **Use electronic devices courteously.** If you have material on any electronic device that is distracting to you or those around you, you will be asked to leave the class.
- ✿ **Complete assignments promptly.** Be sure you note due dates, and read instructions carefully.

BASIC LEARNING GOALS...

- ✿ **Enrich your knowledge and understanding of Canadian literatures** by considering different definitions, aims, and approaches to Canadian literary culture. Taking into account a variety of historical, cultural, generic, and social contexts, we will consider how and why "imagining Canada" has been and is an important act.
- ✿ **Develop your critical vocabulary, conceptual range, and methodological scope.** The course aims to introduce you to concepts, terms, and methodologies for reading and understanding literary texts in

multiple dimensions (eg., aesthetic, formal, social, political, cultural) which you can put to work in your own thinking and writing and living critically, creatively, knowledgeably, and responsibly.

- ✿ **Think with more precision.** The course will help you refine your critical and analytical thinking skills, to take your immediate personal reactions to literary texts and issues and submit them to the tools of a discipline.
- ✿ **Read more carefully.** As an instructor, it's my goal to model and foster precise, detailed, reflective reading, to help you realize a heightened appreciation of how literary effects are achieved and why they are important. This will include the ability to identify, understand and analyse such terms as genre, style, plot, character, point of view, imagery, theme, setting, irony, tone, symbols and consider how they function differently in a variety of cultural and historical contexts.
- ✿ **Write and speak more effectively.** This course will support you in developing valuable oral and written communication skills. This includes both spontaneous and prepared verbal expression. You will work on the clear and organized presentation of ideas with an awareness of audience and disciplinary/generic conventions. You will practise the construction of an argument with an effective thesis and a logical development supported by evidence from the text(s) under discussion.
- ✿ **Develop your ideas in relation to those of others.** This means that you will participate in dialogue with others in the class, and that I will convey multiple perspectives and encourage you to engage with and evaluate alternative views. You should work toward articulating your own perspective *and* being able to defend, modify, supplement it in relation to other thinkers.
- ✿ **Locate, assess, and deploy appropriate secondary resources.** We will consider how to research an idea, identify a variety of resources, discern which sources are legitimate and authoritative, mobilize such sources to support and enrich your own understanding, and how to acknowledge sources appropriately.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS, TOPICS AND DUE DATES

Links to sources available on-line are bolded and in red.

Page numbers are from *Anthology of Canadian Literature in English*

FALL TERM

Date	Reading or Topic
Mon. Sept 14	Overview, Poem: Birney, "Canlit" (447);
Wed. Sept. 16	Poetry: Michael Crummey (web) READING BY MICHAEL CRUMMEY (AHB 2R21)
Mon. Sept. 21	PRECONFEDERATION PERIOD
Wed. Sept. 23	Story: King, " Coyote Columbus Story " (949-53) Explorer narratives: Kelsey , " Now Reader, Read " (web), Hearne (28-36) submit on line REFLECTION: CRUMMEY
Mon. Sept. 28	✓ Guest: Helen Mei Ngo, Western Student Writer-in-Residence
Wed. Sept. 30	Long Poem: Cary , " Abram's Plains " submit on line CANLIT 2309 Eh? ASSIGNMENT
Mon. Oct. 5	Settler Narratives: Moodie (110-139), Traill (102-08)
Wed. Oct. 7	READING BY CHAD NORMAN (AHB 2R21)
Mon. Oct. 12	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
Wed. Oct. 14	Novel: Richardson, <i>Wacousta</i> submit on line REFLECTION: NORMAN
Mon. Oct. 19	<i>Wacousta</i> , cont'd
Wed. Oct. 21	
Mon. Oct. 26	CONFEDERATION PERIOD
Wed. Oct. 28	Poetry: Roberts, " The Tantramar Revisited " (194-95) Poetry: Lampman , " Heat " (236), " The City of the End of Things " (243-45), " On the Companionship with Nature " (web) ✓ LIBRARY ORIENTATION
Mon. Nov. 2	Poetry: D.C. Scott, " The Onondaga Madonna " (253), " The Forsaken " (255), " The Height of
Wed. Nov. 4	Land " (260-64)
Mon. Nov. 9	Stories: Seton, <i>Wild Animals I Have Known</i> – "Lobo," "Silverspot," "Raggylug," "Wully,"
Wed. Nov. 11	"Redruff" + in class ACADEMIC INTEGRITY QUIZ
Mon. Nov. 16	Long poem: Crawford, " Malcom's Katie " (149-86)
Wed. Nov. 18	
Mon. Nov. 23	Poetry: Johnson: " Ojistoh " (web), " The Cattle Thief " (web), " A Cry from an Indian Wife " (228-
Wed. Nov. 25	29), " The Song My Paddle Sings " (226); Story: " A Red Girl's Reasoning " (web)
Mon. Nov. 30	Novel: Montgomery, <i>Anne of Green Gables</i>
Wed. Dec. 2	in class MID-TERM TEST
Mon. Dec. 7	<i>Anne of Green Gables</i> , cont'd
Wed. Dec. 9	submit on line FALL TERM ESSAY

WINTER TERM

Date	Reading or Topic
Mon. Jan. 4	MODERN PERIOD
Wed. Jan. 6	Poetry: AJM Smith, " The Lonely Land " (427), " The Wisdom of Old Jelly Roll " (432) Poetry: FR Scott, " The Canadian Authors Meet " (407), " Laurentian Shield " (web), "Poetry" (411), " WLMK " (412)
Mon. Jan. 11	MacLennan, <i>Barometer Rising</i>
Wed. Jan. 13	
Mon. Jan. 18	Poetry: Mouré, "Blindness" (1123-24), "Miss Chatelaine" (1125), "Amygdala" (1130-33)
Wed. Jan. 20	READING BY ERIN MOURÉ (AHB 2R21)
Mon. Jan. 25	Poetry: AM Klein, " Heirloom " (446), " Portrait of the Poet as Landscape " (469-74)
Wed. Jan. 27	Poetry: Livesay, "Day and Night" (484) submit on line REFLECTION: MOURÉ
Mon. Feb. 1	Poetry: PK Page, "Stories of Snow" (518), "Photos of a Salt Mine" (519-20), " The
Wed. Feb. 3	Stenographers " (web) Poetry: Purdy, "The Country North of Belleville" (569), "Lament for the Dorsets" (574), "At the Quinte Hotel" (576), "Say the Names" (586) submit on line: PASSAGE ANALYSIS ✓ LIBRARY: research strategies and sources for Canadian Literature
Mon. Feb. 8	CONTEMPORARY PERIOD
Wed. Feb. 10	Novel, <i>Obasan</i>
Mon. Feb. 15	READING WEEK
Wed. Feb. 17	
Mon. Feb. 22	Short story: Munro, "Runaway" from <i>The New Yorker</i> (web)
Wed. Feb. 24	✓ GUEST: Tanis Rideout, Western English Writer-in-Residence
Mon. Feb. 29	Poetry: Atwood, "This is a Photograph of Me" (814), "Progressive Insanities of a Pioneer" (815), from <i>The Journals of Susanna Moodie</i> (818-23); Short Story: "Hairball"
Wed. Mar. 2	
Mon. Mar. 7	Novel: Brand, <i>What We All Long For</i>
Wed. Mar. 9	
Mon. Mar. 14	Poetry: McKay, "Kestrels" (906), "Twinflower" (907-08), "Homing" (911), "Astonished" (914-15)
Wed. Mar. 16	Poetry: Compton, "The Reinventing Wheel" (1255-66)
Mon. Mar. 21	Short story: Robinson, "Queen of the North" (1207)
Wed. Mar. 23	Poetry: Bök, from <i>Eunoia</i> (1186) WINTER TERM ESSAY DUE
Mon. Mar. 28	Canlit 2309Eh? Reads Winner - ?
Wed. Mar. 30	
Mon. Apr. 4	Short story: Urquhart, "The Drawing Master" (1024-27)
Wed. Apr. 6	Catch-up, Conclusions and Review

On the highlighted days, readings may be completed in class; participation & attendance is expected.