

Department of English & Writing Studies

**Creativity and the Local
English 3580F (001)**
Fall/Winter 2017-18**Instructor:** Manina Jones**Course Date/Time:** T 1:30-3:30 pm,
TH 2:30-3:30 pm**Course Location:** Physics & Astronomy 150**Antirequisite(s):** check [Academic Calendar](#).**Prerequisite(s):** At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020E or 1022E or 1024E or 1035E or 1036E or both of English 1027F/G and 1028F/G, or English 1901E, or permission of the Department – check [Academic Calendar](#).

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this 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 prerequisites.

Course Description

This course explores the literary cultures of Southwestern Ontario, examining the ways local writing accesses the public, builds communities, relates people to their environment, and connects local, national, and transnational networks. Students develop critical, creative, and experiential perspectives and employ community engaged learning to develop course concepts beyond the classroom.

Community-Engaged Learning: By engaging students, staff, and faculty in meaningful experiential learning opportunities, CEL helps meet community defined needs while promoting students' sense of civic engagement and social responsibility. These partnerships help extend Western's reach beyond campus and foster excellence and innovation in teaching and learning.

Partners include:

- Poetry London
- Words Festival
- Pendas Productions
- Grand Theatre
- Original Kids Theatre
- Alice Munro Festival of the Short Story

Community-engaged learning will give you an opportunity for a hands-on experience with local culture, how – and by whom -- it is created, developed, and nurtured. CEL provides an opportunity to engage with the practical realities of organizations that enrich culture in the London area. By contributing to the work of community partners, you will develop an understanding of the planning, organization, and promotion that cultural events and activities involve. You will develop transferrable professional skills, interact with social and institutional structures, learn about possible career paths, and gain experience in the cultural sector.

Off-campus meetings: This course will meet, not only on the Western University campus, but in a variety of locations geared to themes on the course, including:

- Museum London
- Museum of Ontario Archaeology
- Eldon House
- Weldon Archives

You can get to these locations easily by carpool or the LTC; travel time will be accommodated in the class schedule.

Guest speakers: This course includes guest speakers, such as

- Novelist Emma Donoghue
- Archaeologist Neal Ferris
- Visual Artist/Writer Jamelie Hassan
- Poets David Huebert, and Kevin Shaw
- Local publishers Kitty Lewis and Karen Schindler
- Historian Charlotte Gray (speaking at History Event)

Objectives:

By the end of the course, successful students will be able to:

- Actively engage with other students and the community, especially through Community Engaged Learning, which will offer the opportunity collaboratively to develop a project and work with a community partner in a group project to explore, understand and support aspects of local culture;
- Demonstrate professional abilities such as teamwork, project organization, communications and technology skills, project management;
- Demonstrate critical vocabulary, conceptual range, and methodological scope for reading and understanding literary texts in multiple dimensions (eg., aesthetic, formal, social, political, cultural) which they can put to work in your own thinking and writing and living critically, creatively, knowledgeably, and responsibly;
- Demonstrate oral and written communications skills.

Course Materials

- A collection of materials available through OWL.
- Donoghue, Emma. *Landing*. Orlando, FL: Random House, 2009.
- McKay, Don. *Lependu*. London, ON: Brick Books, 1978.
- Reaney, James. *The Donnellys*. Hamilton: Dundurn Press, 2008.
 - *Part I: Sticks and Stones*.

Methods of Evaluation

Assignment	Approx. Length	Value	Due Date
Attendance/Participation	n/a	5%	n/a
Mental Map Exercise	1,000 words	15%	Sept. 26
Critical Reflections	3 x 500 words each	5%	Oct. 3
		5%	Oct. 26
		5%	Nov. 16
Final Group Presentation**	20 minutes + feedback	15%	Nov.30/Dec. 5
CEL Final Group Project/Report	1000-1500 words, plus "deliverable"	50%	Dec. 14

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. This applies to all courses in all programs offered by the department. 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%. **Please note:** The department of English & Writing Studies does not release final grades. All undergraduate grade reports will be available online from the Office of the Registrar.

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/Student%20Information.html>.

Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or 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.

Plagiarism Checking:

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>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western:
<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.