



# Western Arts & Humanities

## Department of English and Writing Studies English 1020E: Understanding Literature Today

Course outline for 2021/2022

### 1. Course Overview and Important Dates:



Delivery Mode	Dates	Time
While some class material will be online, please be available for class lectures on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Lecture notes will not be provided.	Tuesday & Thursday Tutorials	10:30-11:15
		024 Th. 12:30-1:30
		025 M. 12:30-1:30
		026 M. 11:20-12:30
		038 Th. 3:30-4:30

\*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 4

Classes Start	Reading Weeks	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 9	November 1 - 8	December 8	December 9	December 10 - 21
January 4	February 19 - 27	April 1	April 2-3	April 4 - 30

\*November 30, 2021: Last day to drop a full course without penalty

### 2. Contact Information



Course Instructor	Contact Information
Dr. Michelle Hartley	<a href="mailto:mhartley@uwo.ca">mhartley@uwo.ca</a> Zoom office hours address found below

### 3. Course Description:

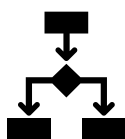
This course takes you on a journey through the genres, historical periods, and critical approaches to English literature. In online lectures and online discussions, you will study major works of poetry, prose, and drama with attention to their use of literary form and the cultural contexts in which they were written. The written assignments for the course will provide you with training in literary analysis, logical and rhetorical argumentation, and strong skills in grammar and composition.

This course is recommended to students who may be considering either a Major or Minor in English Language and Literature, and who are interested in reading poetry, prose, and drama.

Prerequisite: Grade 12U English or permission of the Department.

#### Course Delivery:

Students need to read the primary material listed in the timetable each week in time for lectures on Tuesdays and Thursdays and tutorials as scheduled. Students should read ahead during weeks with light reading as some novels like *Frankenstein* tend to take far more time than lyric poems or short stories.



	Dates	Time	Frequency
In Class Lectures in UCC37	Tuesdays and Thursdays	10:30-11:15	weekly
In-person tutorials	See schedule online	M. T. or Th.	weekly

- Readings should be completed prior to lecture and tutorials. Reading the course texts, novels, plays, and shorter works is vital to participation and knowledge of the course material. We will be discussing and analyzing the texts assuming that you have read the material so that story synopsis will not be given.
- Participation and engagement at lectures is highly recommended. Participation and engagement in tutorial is mandatory. Naturally, if you're ill, stay home, and catch up via Discussion forums, etc. Contact your Tutorial Leader in case of absence.
- Missed work should be completed within 48 hours. Missed lectures can be reviewed from powerpoint files; then ask and answer questions on the forums. Forum discussion should demonstrate good knowledge of the texts and include pertinent quotations as evidence.

Any changes to the syllabus will be indicated on the OWL site and announced to the class. Please ensure that you are forwarding announcements from OWL to your regular email. I will frequently update the class and send reminders using this method.

If students need assistance with the material, they can seek support at office hours (I'm [mhartley@uwo.ca](mailto:mhartley@uwo.ca)) from me or their TA. If they need assistance with technology, they can find it on the [OWL Help page](#). Alternatively, they can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#) or by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

#### 4. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and analyze basic elements of literature, such as plot, character, point of view, theme, setting, imagery, diction, tone, figures of speech, syntax, and rhythm
- Recognize connections between course texts
- Write an essay about a work (or works) of literature, containing a clear and effective thesis supported by adequate evidence from the original text(s)
- Research critical commentary on literary works
- Evaluate the relevance, reliability, and usefulness of research sources, especially those obtained through the Internet
- Integrate outside research materials and references to the original text(s) into an essay through the use of quotations and paraphrases
- Organize and present ideas clearly and effectively in writing
- Document essays using MLA format



#### 5. How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.



1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Falling behind will put more pressure on you, so try to stay on top of course readings.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class. Be sure to check announcements. Any forums are for the class, not just the individual, so late posts will only receive partial marks.
3. Take notes as you participate in lectures and revise those notes. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively.
4. Connect with others. Remember your tutorials can help with study and peer support.
5. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact me. That's what my office hours and your TAs are for!

## 6. Participation and Engagement



- This is an in-person class, and your participation at lectures and tutorials is mandatory.
- Students can post on the OWL forums after reading/viewing course material in case of occasional absences, but such absences should be infrequent.

## 7. Office Hours:



- My office hours will be held in-person and remotely using Zoom – the link and password are on your OWL English 1020E landing page. I will announce the hours in September, but I can be reached by appointment: [mhartley@uwo.ca](mailto:mhartley@uwo.ca).
- I will be happy to answer questions about the readings, the assignments, and course content in those hours. Schedule a more private session for more individual issues.

## 8. Communication:



- Post course related questions on OWL in the discussion forums. I will check them. If there's something that needs clarification before lecture, I will send an announcement via OWL.
- Students should email me for non-course related questions that cannot be answered by your TA at [mhartley@uwo.ca](mailto:mhartley@uwo.ca)
- I will try to respond to email in 24 – 48 hours during the week
- This course will use the OWL forum for post-lecture and assignment discussions
- Students should post all course-related content on the discussion forum so that everyone can access answers to questions

## 9. Resources



- As a literature class, there are many required texts, but the majority of the shorter works can be found in your *Broadview Introduction to Literature*. I have asked the bookstore to provide both hard copy and e-book versions. Take your pick, but do ensure that you have the correct texts if at all possible. *Frankenstein* is part of the anthology package. You can find the pertinent information via this link:

[https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=W2021&courses%5B0%5D=002\\_UW/ENG1020E](https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=W2021&courses%5B0%5D=002_UW/ENG1020E).

- While I will post writing resources on your MLA and Writing sites tab on OWL, buying a writing handbook with up to date MLA guidelines, etc. is advised. I like *The Little Seagull Handbook* and its ebook version comes with excellent resources for those who need more practice and feedback to improve sentence structure and grammar.

## 10. Professionalism & Privacy:



Western students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

- All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared
- Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission
- Permitted recordings are not to be distributed.

## 11. Course Content and Schedule

Week	Dates	Topic – Tentative schedule there could be changes to the works and their order below.
	Sept 9	Introduction to English 1020 and course expectations
1	Sept 14-16	Introduction to Poetry: Auden, “Funeral Blues”; Thomas, “Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night,” Bishop, “One Art” (BIL)
2	Sept 21-23	Shakespeare, “Sonnet 18,” “Sonnet 73,” and “Sonnet 130” (BIL)
3	Sept 28-30	Millay, [“I being born a woman and distressed”, [“What my lips have kissed, and where, and why,” and Clarke, “Blank Sonnet” (BIL)
4	Oct 5-7	In-class test
5	Oct 12-14	Introduction to Short Fiction, Achebe “Dead Men’s Path” (BIL)
6	Oct 19-21	Blake, “London” (BIL), Lampman, “ <a href="#">The City of the End of Things</a> ” and TBA
7	Oct 26-28	Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i>
		Fall Reading Week
8	Nov 9-11	Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i> cont’d
9	Nov 16-18	LeGuin, “The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas” and Simpson, “Big Water” (BIL)
10	Nov 23-25	Browning, “My Last Duchess” (BIL) and Rossetti, “In an Artist’s Studio” (OWL)
11	Nov 30-Dec 2	Introduction to Drama, Dekker et al., <a href="#">The Witch of Edmonton</a>
12	Dec 7	Dekker et al. cont’d
		<b>Second Term</b>
13	Jan 4-6	Donne, “A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning” and “The Flea” Holy Sonnets (BIL)
14	Jan 11-13	Yeats, “Easter 1916” Joyce, “The Dead” (BIL)
15	Jan 18-20	Eliot, “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (BIL)
16	Jan 25-27	Mansfield, “The Garden Party” and Williams, “The Red Wheelbarrow” (BIL)
17	Feb 1-3	Hughes, “The Negro Speaks of Rivers”; Hurston, “How It Feels To Be Colored Me” (BIL)
18	Feb 8-10	Allen, “One Poem Town,” Walcott, “A Far Cry From Africa” (BIL)
19	Feb 15-17	Research and Butler, “Speech Sounds” (BIL)
		Reading Week
20	Mar 1-3	Jemisin, <i>The City We Became</i>
21	Mar 8-10	Jemisin, <i>The City We Became</i>
22	Mar 15-17	Heaney, “Digging” and Munro “Friend of My Youth” (BIL)
23	Mar 22-24	Dumont, “The White Judges,” and Scofield, “Not All Halfbreed Mothers,” “Aunty” and “Wrong Image” (BIL)
24	Mar 29-31	Catch up and Review



## 12. Evaluation

- All assignments are due at 11:55 pm EST on OWL unless otherwise specified
- Written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below)
- Read assignment sheets carefully and submit any questions to the Forums

After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting TAs or me; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

COMPONENT	WEIGHT	DUE DATE	Details
Tutorial grade	15%	Weekly attendance and participation	as per TA instructions
Essay 1	15%	November 16	1000 words
In-class test	10%	Oct 5 and 7	1.5 hours
Performance Response	5%	Dec 7	300-500 words
MLA Research Bibliography	5%	March 2	Brief annotations for each academic source
Research Essay 2	20%	March 16	2000 words
Final Exam	30%	TBA	3 hours



The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

**Information about late or missed evaluations:**

- Late assessments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty 1%/day
- Late assessments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 48 hours of submission of the last illness self-report
- An assessment cannot be submitted after it has been returned to the class; an alternate assessment will be assigned OR the weight will be transferred to the final research paper depending upon circumstance. Shorter assignments are designed to prepare students for later assignments.