

Department of English & Writing Studies

**REVISED**

**Canadian Literature Survey**

**English 2501E (001)**

Fall/Winter 2021-22

**Instructor:** Professor D. Palmateer Pennee

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**Course Day/Time:** M 12:30-2:30; W 12:30-1:30

**Course Location:** UC 2110

**Delivery Type:** Lecture

**Antirequisites:** [English 2354E](#), [English 2356F/G](#) and [English 3774E](#), or the former English 2309E.

**Prerequisites:** At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020-1999 or permission of the Department.

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

What does literature tell us about the making of a nation and its citizens? Spanning the period from imperial exploration (from the 1500s to 1800s) 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. The reading list includes several BIPOC and queer authors.

#### **Objectives:**

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

- know (i.e., identify, recognize, recall), comprehend, and analyze selected examples of Canadian Literature and selected examples of related texts (government documents, literary criticism, etc.)
- analyze the relationships between form and content
- understand and articulate how representation produces meaning and other effects
- apply, synthesize, and communicate your knowledge, comprehension, and analyses in written forms
- write with accuracy, brevity, and clarity
- evaluate others' analyses of the materials studied and materials similar to what we have studied
- engage in informed and respectful conversation and debate

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- conduct research in Western Libraries information ecosystem
- prepare a bibliography in the most recent MLA (Modern Language Association) format
- prepare an annotated bibliography of selected best sources for your research paper
- write a research paper that is in conversation with current scholarship in literary studies
- appreciate how literary works, in form and in content, can reflect, refract, and (re)produce knowledge about Canada

### Course Materials

#### Required Texts:

A range of short readings in multiple genres (poetry, short fiction, non-fiction prose, government Acts, etc.), available in an anthology form on reserve and/or via Western Libraries' Course Readings service (you will find a link to this service in our OWL course site or from Western Libraries online home page).

**NOTE:** The two-volume anthology originally planned for the course is no longer in print. Required readings that would have been readable in these anthologies are available in Course Readings through Western Libraries. However, because the versions of work accessible through Course Readings are not exactly the same in all cases as the versions of readings in the anthologies, here is my STRONG recommendation:

- copies of the anthology, *Canadian Literature: Texts and Contexts*, Vols. I & II, are available on reserve at Huron and King's Libraries, and students from our course will be able to access these copies. See the Weekly Schedule for advice on which readings would be best copied from reserve at Huron or King's rather than read online via the Course Readings link to Western Libraries.

#### Five novels: **(Revised Reading List)**

- L.M. Montgomery, *Rilla of Ingleside* (1921)
- Margaret Atwood, *Surfacing* (1970)
- Timothy Findley, *The Wars* (1977)
- Joy Kogawa, *Obasan* (1981)
- David Chariandy, *Brother* (2017)

### Methods of Evaluation

The grade for the course will be arrived at as follows:

- 10% informed contributions to class discussion (study questions circulated in advance of readings will facilitate preparedness for classes; alternative forms of measuring preparedness for class may be arranged for students who have difficulty speaking in class)
- 10% Essay One (750 words; no research required)
- 20% Essay Two (1000 words; no research required)
- 35% Essay Three (2500 words; research essay, with related components and stages of reporting on progress)
- 25% Comprehensive (covers whole course) Final Examination to be written in the exam slot determined by the Registrar's office

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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>.

### Attendance

Attendance is mandatory in all classes and tutorials. In cases of excessive absenteeism (e.g. more than 9 unexcused hours for a half course, 18 for a full course), which are not accounted for by either academic consideration or accommodation, students may be debarred from taking the final examination, and will receive an official warning to this effect by or before the course drop date (see Senate policy). In classes with or without final exams, students who do not attend class will receive 0% for course participation grades. Unless other policies dictate a different set of penalties in specific English and Writing Studies programs, this will apply to all department programs.

### Intellectual Property/Copyright

All instructor-written materials (e.g. PowerPoints, lecture notes, oral lectures) for this course are created solely for students' personal use within the course, and remain the instructor's intellectual property. Further reproduction, fixation, distribution, transmission, dissemination, communication, or any other uses, without securing the consent of the copyright owner (the course instructor) may be an infringement of copyright. You may not distribute, email, or otherwise communicate these materials to any other person. These limitations extend to recording, photographing, or sharing lectures (online or in-person) and lecture material without permission. Posting the instructor's content from this course to online course sharing sites like OneClass or Course Hero without permission is both an infringement of intellectual property law and a violation of academic integrity guidelines. The instructor will pass these cases on to the Western University Ombudsperson or their Department Chair as appropriate.

### Additional Information

OWL course site: All out-of-class work must be submitted via the OWL course site. This site will be the repository of course resources (assignment handouts, links to recommended reading, etc.) and the main communications hub outside of class time. I use the e-mail distribution list in OWL to communicate with the class as a whole outside of class time and often for "just in time" messages. Always read e-mails from the OWL Postmaster in a timely way.

E-mail: E-mails will not be answered after 6pm Monday through Friday or on weekends. Plan ahead, use office hours instead of e-mails to seek clarification and other forms of support for your progress through the course.

Laptops, other devices: You are free to use laptops, tablets, or other devices for taking notes and accessing course readings during class time.

Late Penalties: Unless otherwise accommodated, late work will be penalized at the rate of 10% of the value of the assignment per day late, including weekend days (i.e., for an assignment worth 10% of your overall course grade, you would lose 1 mark out of 10 per day late; for an assignment worth 35% of your overall course grade, you would lose 3.5 marks out of 35 per day late)

### Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

### **Academic Consideration for Student Absence:**

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,

- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see:

[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

For the **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)**, see:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

**Religious Accommodation:**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

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](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/>  
Academic Support & Engagement <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.

### Timetable

(subject to minor changes prior to start-up of classes in September 2021, at which time exact dates will be provided)

- Feedback on informed participation (contributions to class discussion) will be given in both the fall and winter terms in time to allow for improvement and refinement
- Essay One due in Week 3, fall term
- Essay Two due in Week 7, fall term
- Essay Three and related components (consultation about topic and text; preliminary bibliography; annotated bibliography of selected sources and refinement of topic into a thesis or argument; draft essay; final draft with an afterword of reflection on the research and writing process) due in stages across the winter term, with the final paper and afterword due in Week 11
- Final Examination will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office (there will be no mid-term examination in December, or at the half-way point of the course)