

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND WRITING STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

ENGLISH 3378G
SPRING 2022

[PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE]

Professor Jan Plug
jplug@uwo.ca

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. *It is students' responsibility to ensure that they have the proper requisites.*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on twentieth- and twenty-first-century fiction, especially novels written over the past fifty years or so. While our discussions will be open to a wide variety of approaches, in all of our readings we will be attentive to how fiction of the period explores the formation and deformation of the individual or subject and the role that language and representation play in these. What kind of formal traditions do these novels engage with, and how do they innovate upon them? What is the relationship between questions of language and the subjects (individuals, say, but also other subjects taken up, the subject of politics, for instance) of the novels? How do these subjects navigate history (their own, not least), loss, absence? And how do the novels navigate their subjection and their construction and deconstruction?

Some authors and texts we **might** read:

Kazuo Ishiguro, *The Remains of the Day*
Zadie Smith, *On Beauty* or *N-W*.
David Mitchell, *Number Nine Dream*
Jeanette Winterson, *Oranges are Not the Only Fruit*
Salman Rushdie, *Shame*
John Banville, *The Sea*

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To understand the historical and formal features of selected works of fiction of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.
- To continue to acquire a refine skills of close reading of literary texts and of the analysis of the form and ideology of those texts.
- To continue to refine written expression, especially in the form of critical essays.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Short essay	20%
Final Essay:	40%
Final Exam:	30%
Participation:	10%

Late Policy: Work submitted late—and without prior arrangement, including through self-reported absences—will be penalized 2%/day. I will not accept essays that are more than a week late.

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ACCOMMODATION

Students who have a file with SAS and require accommodation for assessments should contact their academic counsellor and also contact me by email to make appropriate arrangements.

ACADEMIC CONSIDERATION FOR 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 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, you 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. You are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

If you self-report an absence, you do NOT need to email me within 24 hours after the absence. If an assignment was due during your self-reported absence, it will now be due 72 hours after the end of the absence. If there are additional complications, then please contact me.

Students should also note that 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](#)

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

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

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.

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