Department of English
Western University

2021-2020 **English 9201** D.M.R. Bentley

The Economics, Politics, and Aesthetics of Canadian Writing, 1690-1960
University College, 4415, Mondays 12.30-3.30

Instructor: Professor D.M.R. Bentley
Contacts: Office: UC 2424; E-mail; dbentley@uwo.ca; 'Phone: 519 661 2111 x85813.
Office Hours: Tuesdays 3.30-4.30; Thursday 1.00-3.00; other times by chance or appointment.

September 13	Introductory; Initial Economic and Aesthetic Contexts Kelsey, "Now Reader Read . . ."
September 20	Local Pride in Lower Canada: Brooke, *The History of Emily Montague* (handout) Cary *Abram's Plains*, Mackay, *Quebec Hill*, Bayley, *Canada*
September 27	(Agri-) Culture in the Maritimes: Goldsmith, *The Rising Village*, Howe, *Acadia*
October 4	Improvement in Upper Canada: Strachan, "Verses . . . 1802" (handout), Burwell, *Talbot Road*
October 11	**THANKSGIVING**
October 18	An Alternative Vision of Canada: Kidd, *The Huron Chief* and Richardson, *Tecumseh*
October 25	A Female Crusoe: Traill, *Backwoods of Canada*
November 1	**READING WEEK**
November 8	A Genteel Colonist: Moodie, *Roughing It in the Bush*
November 15	Pre- and Post-Confederation Visions of Canada: Sangster, *The St. Lawrence and the Saguenay*, McLachlan, *The Emigrant*, Crawford, *Malcolm's Katie*
November 22	"Americanitis" and Its Cures: selection of poems by Lampman, Roberts, and Carman

November 29	Utopias and Dystopias: Lampman, *The Story of an Affinity*, "The Land of Pallas," "The City of the End of Things"
December 6	Anti-Modernity: Duncan Campbell Scott, *In the Village of Viger*
	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
January 3	Imperialism: Sara JeannetteDuncan, *The Imperialist*
January 10	Local Colour: Lucy Maud Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables*
January 17	The Small Town: Stephen Leacock, *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*
January 24	Plutocracy: Leacock, *Arcadian Adventures with the Idle Rich*
January 31	J.G. Sime, *Sister Woman*
February 7	Modern "-isms": A.J.M. Smith (handout)
February 14	A New Architecture: F.R. Scott (handout)
February 21	**READING WEEK**
February 28	Depression and Dust Bowl: Sinclair Ross, *As for Me and My House*
March 7	War and Aftermath: E.J. Pratt, *Selected Poems* (ed. Djwa et al)
March 14	Montreal and Mankind: A.M. Klein, *Selected Poems* (ed. Pollock et al))
March 21	Maritime Regionalism: Ernest Buckler, *The Mountain and the Valley*
March 28	Montreal Urbanism and Poverty: Gabrielle Roy, *The Tin Flute* and Mordecai Richler, *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*
April 4	Looking Back and Forward

Assignments:
In the fall term, two short essays and one longer essay are required. The short essays (500-750 words) will be on works of your choice, and should focus on and "unpack" an aspect of the works that you regard as significant and worthy of commentary. At least one of the short essays must be submitted before or on October 6, and the second before or on November 10. (You are encouraged to submit your short essays well before these deadlines, which, like objects in a rearview mirror, are closer than they appear.) **Both should be handed in no later than 4.00 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding the seminar on the work(s) with which they deal so that**

their substance can be assured a place in the group's discussion. The longer essay (2,000-2,500 words, plus Works Cited) may emerge from one of the short essays or focus on a related or different topic. It may be submitted at any time after November 14, and **no later than a week after the final seminar, which is on December 6.**
In the winter term, a seminar presentation and a final research paper of not less than 2,500 words, plus Works Cited are required. The final essay may be based on the seminar presentation.

Policy on Late Essays:
Anyone who has a valid reason for not meeting an essay deadline must give me that reason before the due date and arrange for an extension. Otherwise, late essays will be penalized at a rate of 2% a day to a maximum of 10 days, including weekends, after which they may not be accepted.

Mark Distribution:
The brief first-term essays will be worth 10% each, the longer first-term essay 30%, the final essay 40%, with the remaining 10% based on attendance and participation.

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Statement on 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 the following website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf

Graduate Course Health and Wellness:
As part of a successful graduate student experience at Western, we encourage students to make their health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your graduate degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students, as part of their registration, receive membership in Western's Campus Recreation Centre. Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year. For example, please check out the Faculty of Music web page at http://www.music.uwo.ca/, the Faculty of Arts and Humanities web page at https://www.uwo.ca/arts/ and the McIntosh Gallery web page at http://www.mcintoshgallery.ca/. Information regarding health- and wellness-related services available to students may be found at http://www.health.uwo.ca/. Students seeking help regarding mental health concerns are advised to speak to someone they feel comfortable confiding in, such as their faculty supervisor, their program director (graduate chair), or other relevant administrators in their unit. Campus mental health resources may be found at http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/resources.html.