University of Waterloo  
Department of English  
English 101A  
Introduction to Literary Studies  
Fall 2015  
M/W 11:30-1pm, Hagey Hall 139

Instructor and T.A. Information
Instructor: Dr. J. Harris  
Office: Hagey Hall 147A  
Office Hours: Mon/Wed 1-2pm; or by chance or appointment  
Email: jennifer.harris@uwaterloo.ca

Course Description
Introduction to Principles of Literary Analysis is designed to help students develop their critical reading and writing skills. As a class we will engage in a variety of exercises designed to familiarize students with critical reading strategies and various approaches to literature. Questions to be addressed include: What constitutes a literary reading of a text? What is a close reading? How might a theoretical approach open up a text? We will also focus upon how to write a critical essay about a literary work, considering both the construction of arguments and the mechanics of essay writing. To this end, students will complete assignments on reading strategies and editing practices, learn to construct developed thesis proposals and essay outlines, familiarize themselves with the MLA database, and write short essays which may be peer edited.

Required Text
- Barnet, Sylvia, Short Guide to Writing About Literature (12th edition)  
- Nancy Mitford, The Pursuit of Love  
- Amitav Ghosh, The Calcutta Chromosome  
- Oscar Wilde, The Importance of Being Earnest  
- Other required readings posted on Desire2Learn

Course Requirements and Assessment

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Date of Evaluation (if known)</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Close Reading Assignment</td>
<td>Oct. 14th (draft); 19th final</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay 1</td>
<td>Nov. 9th (draft); 11th final</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay 1 Group Editing Assessment</td>
<td>Nov. 9th</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<td>Essay 1 Checklist</td>
<td>Nov. 11th</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay 2</td>
<td>Dec. 2nd (draft); 4th final</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay 2 Group Editing Assessment</td>
<td>Dec. 2nd</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay 2 Checklist</td>
<td>Dec. 4th</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thoughtful and engaged participation</td>
<td>Throughout term</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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- all written assignments are to be typed and in MLA format, and are due at the beginning of class.
- There will be no deferrals except for documented emergencies.
- Make-up exams may be oral.

**Assessment 1**
Close-Reading Assignment. Three poems not studied in class will be posted online; students choose one to analyze. A polished typed draft is due in class on October 14th; on the 19th your final close-reading is due. (3 pages)

**Assessment 2**
Essay #1. Topics will be posted online. (4 pages)

**Assessment 3**
Essay #1 and #2 will include a group essay editing exercise, to be completed in class. No make-ups. Handouts will be distributed in class.

**Assessment 4**
Essay #1 and #2 will include an editing checklist to be submitted completed with both essays. It will be posted online.

**Assessment 5**
Thoughtful and engaged participation. You cannot participate if you are not in class.

**Assessment 6**
Final Exam. The final exam will cover the entire course. A template of the final exam will be reviewed in class so that you know exactly what the format will be.

**Course Outline**
Sept 14: Introduction
Sept 16: “A Bronzeville Mother...”
Sept 21: “A Bronzeville Mother...”; A Short Guide, 221-266
Sept 30: A Short Guide, 1-42
Oct 5: Writing a thesis statement, review A Short Guide 27-31;
Oct 7: Editing, A Short Guide, 292-310
Oct 14: In-class editing of Close-Reading assignment
Oct 19: “The Revolution Will Not be Televised”; Close-Reading Due
Oct 21: Saul Williams, selections; Exam schedule posted
Oct 26: Principles of Drama; *A Short Guide* 187-220
Oct 28: *The Importance of Being Earnest*
Nov 2: *The Importance of Being Earnest*
Nov 4: *The Importance of Being Earnest*
Nov 9: In-class editing of Essay 1
Nov 11: *A Short Guide*, 130-176; Essay #1 due
Nov 16: *The Pursuit of Love*
Nov 18: *The Pursuit of Love*
Nov 21: *The Pursuit of Love* (The loss of a Monday class on Thanksgiving Day (October 12) will be made up by following a Monday schedule on Saturday, November 21)
Nov 23: *The Calcutta Chromosome*
Nov 25: *The Calcutta Chromosome*
Nov 30: *The Calcutta Chromosome*
Dec 2: Group essay editing exercise (in-class)
Dec 4: Last day of classes; exam review; Final Essay due

**Late Work**

Late assignments will be docked 5% the first day and 2% every subsequent day. After 2 weeks late assignments will not be accepted. Should you wish to request an extension, please do so in person at least 48 hours in advance.

**Electronic Device Policy**

- Laptops and comparable technologies to assist note-taking are permitted in class. You are expected to close any other programs except those which facilitate note-taking. Please do not record classroom lectures or activities without permission.

**Attendance Policy**

Students must attend at least 50% of classes to pass the course.

**Institutional-required statements for undergraduate course outlines approved by Senate Undergraduate Council, April 14, 2009**

**Academic Integrity**

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) and the [Arts Academic Integrity webpage](https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/ethical-behaviour) for more information.

**Discipline**

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor,
academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline. For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties).

Grievance
A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4 (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70). When in doubt please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Appeals
A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72, Student Appeals (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat-general-counsel/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72). Shh! don’t mention this in class. But if you have read this far in the syllabus and wish to get credit for it, please email me a photo of your favorite Jim Henson muppet, with a rationale, and I will note it towards your class participation grade.

Note for Students with Disabilities
The AccessAbility Services office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (NH 1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

The Writing Centre
The Writing Centre works across all faculties to help students clarify their ideas, develop their voices, and write in the style appropriate to their disciplines. Writing Centre staff offer one-on-one support in planning assignments and presentations, using and documenting research, organizing and structuring papers, and revising for clarity and coherence. You can make multiple appointments throughout the term, or drop in at the Library for quick questions or feedback. To book a 50-minute appointment and to see drop-in hours, visit http://www.uwaterloo.ca/writing-centrewww.uwaterloo.ca/writing-%20centre. Group appointments for team-based projects, presentations, and papers are also available. Please note that writing specialists guide you to see your work as readers would. They can teach you revising skills and strategies, but will not proof-read or edit for you. Please bring hard copies of your assignment instructions and any notes or drafts to your appointment.