ENGL102B The Major Forms of Literature:
Novels and Poetry

Professor Sarah Tolmie
Classes Tue/Thur 2:30-3:50 HH 150
Office Hours: Tue/Thur 10:30-11:30 Hagey Hall 266
stolmie@watarts.uwaterloo.ca

This course is meant to introduce two of the most important canonical literary genres, the novel and the poem, and to assess how their formal construction contributes to their meaning. Both novels and poems were written in a variety of forms (epic, realistic, lyrical, epistolary, dramatic) by a variety of people (men, women, aristocrats, commoners, imperialists, colonials) in a variety of historical periods (medieval, Restoration, Romantic, modernist, contemporary), so this task may be more difficult than it sounds. We will begin in each case with a brief overview of the genre — what is a novel, what is a poem? How do we recognize them, what do we expect of them, and why do people write them? Then we will progress through a series of very different, individualized examples of each genre in roughly chronological order, trying to establish what these works might have meant to their authors and contemporary audiences, and what they mean to the twenty-first century reader.

Grading
Essay #1 (Novel) 25% — 1000 words, due 14 Feb.
Essay #2 (Poetry) 25% — 1000 words, due 26 Mar.
Exam 40%
2 in-class quizzes 10% (at any time with one class’ advance warning)

Late papers will be penalized a full letter grade (10%) and will only be accepted for two weeks beyond the deadline. Missed quizzes cannot be rescheduled except in the event of a medical or other emergency. Essays must show some evidence of secondary research, containing a bibliography of at least three items in addition to the text. Students are required to follow the guidelines of the MLA Handbook For Writers of Research Papers in both their essay formatting and note and bibliography style.

Texts
Aphra Behn, Oronoko (Norton Critical Edition)
Virginia Woolf, To The Lighthouse (Oxford edition)
Michael Ondaatje, In the Skin of a Lion
The Norton Anthology of Poetry (Shorter)

Class Schedule (may be subject to revision)
Classes will be part lecture, part discussion. Students who participate actively in discussion are certain to get a better grade overall.

Thur. 3 Jan. introduction to the novel
Tue. 8 Jan. Oronoko, Aphra Behn and the Restoration novel
Thur. 10 Jan. Oronoko, race and gender
Tue. 15 Jan. *Oroonoko* and women’s writing
Thur. 17 Jan. *To The Lighthouse*, Virginia Woolf
Tue. 22 Jan. *To the Lighthouse*, modernism
Thur. 24 Jan. *To the Lighthouse*, feminism
Tue. 29 Jan. *To The Lighthouse*, narrative and consciousness
Thur. 31 Jan. LIBRARY TOUR AND RESEARCH SKILLS SEMINAR (tentative)
Tue. 5 Feb. *In the Skin of a Lion*, Michael Ondaatje, the contemporary novel
Thur. 7 Feb. *In the Skin of Lion*, genre
Tue. 12 Feb. *In the Skin of a Lion*, poetry and prose
Thur. 14 Feb. *In the Skin of a Lion*, history and sex — ESSAY #1 DUE

WINTER STUDY PERIOD 18-22 FEB.

Tue. 26 Feb. introduction to poetry, terminology and technique
Thur. 28 Feb. genre: lyric
Tue. 5 Mar. love poetry, the sonnet
Thur. 7 Mar. metaphysical poetry, John Donne
Tue. 12 Mar. elegy, John Milton’s “Lycidas”
Thur. 14 Mar. Romanticism
Tue. 19 Mar. Romanticism
Thur. 21 Mar. modernism
Tue. 26 Mar. modernism — ESSAY #2 DUE
Thur. 28 Mar. contemporary poetry
Tue. 2 Apr. contemporary poetry
Department of English Contacts and Resources

Contacts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Kevin McGuirk</th>
<th>HH 269</th>
<th>ext. 3361</th>
<th><a href="mailto:kmguirk@watarts.uwaterloo.ca">kmguirk@watarts.uwaterloo.ca</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gary Draper</td>
<td>STJ 307</td>
<td>884-8111</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dgdraper@watarts.uwaterloo.ca">dgdraper@watarts.uwaterloo.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Maureen Fraser</td>
<td>HH 270</td>
<td>ext. 2634</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mcfreaser@watarts.uwaterloo.ca">mcfreaser@watarts.uwaterloo.ca</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduate Officer  
Linda Warley  
HH 251  
ext. 3318  
lwarley@watarts.uwaterloo.ca

Graduate Secretary  
Margaret Towell  
HH 256  
ext. 3358  
mntowel@watarts.uwaterloo.ca

Department Chair  
Murray McArthur  
HH 253  
ext. 3359  
mmcarthu@watarts.uwaterloo.ca

Resources:

English Reading Room-HH 232, open 8:30 to 4:30 Monday to Friday
• Reference texts, student work term reports, and other resources available for in-room consultation.

English Mail Room-HH 229 open 8:30 to 4:30 Monday to Friday
• Faculty mail boxes and course boxes are located here.

THE FACULTY OF ARTS REQUIRES THAT WE NOTIFY YOU OF THE FOLLOWING:

"Note on avoidance of academic offenses: All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline) which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (p.1:11). If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean."

Dean of Arts:  
Robert R. Kerton  
ML 236 ext. 2217

Associate Dean of Arts, Undergraduate Affairs  
Sheila Ager  
ML 254 ext. 3554