Department of English Language and Literature
University of Waterloo

English 108B, Major Forms of Literature: Novels and Poetry
DWE 1502
T-Th 10:00-11-20

Instructor: Kevin Ziegler
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Office: PAS 1059
Office Hours: Th 12:30 – 2:30

Course Description and Objectives:

This course is designed to be a survey of two major literary forms: the novel and poetry. Students will be introduced to some of the most famous figures from the English Canon, including British, American, Irish, and Canadian authors. Students will be asked to compare literatures across centuries to understand how different writers have dealt with some of the central concerns of literature. At the same time, they will also be asked to pay attention to the specific historical contexts in which different literature has been written.

By the end of the term, students should be able to demonstrate some of the following abilities:

1. Discuss and debate texts critically, including the practice of close-reading.
2. Use appropriate disciplinary vocabulary and a limited set of critical approaches and categories.
3. Integrate source material in their writing (including quotations, paraphrase and summary).
4. Articulate and support positions, through reasoned argument and the effective use of evidence.
5. Edit for content, organisation (e.g. effective introductions and conclusions; unified, coherent paragraphs; transitions between and within paragraphs), style (e.g. sentence rhythm; sentence variety; vocabulary; figurative language), and grammar.
7. Pre-write, plan, draft, and revise writing.

Main Texts:
(available at UW Bookstore – try to use the correct editions)

Findley, Timothy. *Not Wanted on the Voyage*
Lewis, Janet. *The Wife of Martin Guerre*
Spiegelman, Art. *Maus 1: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History*
Stoker, Bram. *Dracula*

Recommended Texts:
*The Little Brown Handbook*
Schedule

Love and Travel
Jan 5: Intro
Jan 7: Wyatt “My Galley Charged with Forgetfulness”, Surrey “Love That Doth Reign”,
“The Renaissance Sonnet” in *Harbrace Anthology*
“Holy Sonnet XIV”
Jan 14: *The Wife of Martin Guerre*
Jan 19: *The Wife of Martin Guerre*

Death and the Fantastic
Jan 21: Coleridge “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner”
Jan 26: Browning “Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came”, Donne “Death Be Not Proud”
Jan 28: Grammar and Essay Writing
Feb 2: Mid-Term Exam
Feb 4: *Dracula*
Feb 9: *Dracula*
Feb 11: *Dracula*
Feb 15-19: Reading Week

Ars Poetica
Feb 23: Spenser “One day I wrote her name upon the strand”, Keats “Ode on a Grecian Urn”
Feb 25: Purdy “At the Quinte Hotel”, Heaney “Digging”, Klein “Heirloom”

Gender and Society
Atwood “Women’s Issue” “Helen of Troy Does Counter Dancing”
March 4: *Not Wanted on the Voyage*
March 9: *Not Wanted on the Voyage*

Nationalism and Nature
March 11: Lampman “Heat” “In November”, Roberts “Tantramar Revisited”, Atwood
“Progressive Insanities of a Pioneer”
March 16: Scott “The Canadian Authors Meet” “Trans Canada” “Laurentian Shield”, Purdy
“The Country North of Belleville”

Politics and History
March 18: Comparison essay writing
“History Lesson”, Scott “The Forsaken”
March 25: *Maus*
March 30: *Maus*
April 1: Review
Student Responsibilities

Attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to read all assigned material and to come to every class prepared to discuss the assignments thoughtfully and intelligently.

Electronic Device Policy

Electronic devices can be a nuisance in the classroom and disrupt the ability of other students to concentrate during lectures. With this in mind, students are asked leave all electronic communication equipment outside the classroom.

Contacting the Instructor

Students are encouraged to meet with me to discuss their essays. This is one of the easiest ways to improve your grade because it requires you to plan yours essays in advance. I will answer e-mail questions, but there’s only so much I can explain in a short correspondence. Students should not expect e-mail responses immediately – assume it will take at least 48 hours and plan accordingly. The best way to get thorough feedback on the assignments is to come to my office hours and talk to me in person.

Essay Formatting
When formatting your essays, conform to MLA style. This includes the following:
- In the top left-hand corner of the first page, list on four separate lines, flush with the left margin: your first and last name and student number, my name, the course name and number, and the date on which you submit the essay. Do not include a separate title page.
- Following the identifying information, provide a title for your essay and centre it.
- Use one-inch margins (except for page numbers), and indent each paragraph.
- Use 12-point Times New Roman font or equivalent.
- Double-space all text, including your identifying information, the title, and any quotations.
- Number all pages of your essay (numbering the first page is optional) in the top right-hand corner, one-half inch from the top of the page and flush with the right margin. Your last name should precede the page number.
- Include a Works Cited on which you list all the sources you’ve used, including the primary text. Guidelines for Works Cited format will be discussed in class.

Academic Integrity

The Faculty of Arts requires that I make you aware of the following: “Students are expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. Students who are unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who need 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 Assistant Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy #71, Student Academic Discipline, http://wwwadm.uwaterlooinfosecPolicies/policy71.htm
The Internet has made plagiarism and other forms of cheating much more tempting; it has also made it easier to detect. I will investigate and report to the Associate Dean all cases of suspected plagiarism. Proven cases will result in academic penalty, proportional to the extent of the infraction, and could include an official written reprimand from the Associate Dean that will be placed in your file. Please consult the following website, “Avoiding Academic Offences” for a comprehensive explanation of plagiarism and how to avoid it:
http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve: refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance,

Note for Students with Disabilities

The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall Room 1132, 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 OPD at the beginning of each academic term.
Additional Reading
Shakespeare “Sonnet 18 (Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer’s Day?)”, Marvell “To His Coy Mistress”, Philips “Against Love”, Larkin “Next, Please”


Atwood “You Fit into Me” “Siren Song “Variations on the Word Love”, “Plath “Daddy”

Birney “Anglosaxon Street”, Klein “Portrait of the Poet as Landscape”, LePan “A Country without a Mythology

Zwicky “Border Station”, Halfe “Body Politics”

Assignment Breakdown:

Attendance and Participation (10%):
Students will be evaluated based on their attendance and participation in class discussions. There will also be a number of in-class writing assignments designed to accommodate the less-vocal students.

Mid-term Exam (15%):
A test conducted on Feb 2nd. Students will write an in-class essay about one of the assigned texts.

Short Essay (15%):
A short essay (3-4 pages) due Feb 11th. Essay topics will be distributed in class prior to the deadline. Students must avoid plot summary as much as possible. Essays must be argumentative and include a proper thesis statement and paragraph structure. Students will be evaluated both in terms of style and content. Remember, even the best arguments suffer when they are presented ineffectively.

Long Essay (30 %):
A longer essay (5-6 pages) due April 1st. Essay topics will be distributed in class prior to the deadline. Secondary research is not a requirement for this assignment; however, students are encouraged to find secondary sources to help formulate their ideas. Remember to cite correctly using the proper MLA guidelines.

Final Exam (30 %)

Late Policy:
If you miss the mid-term you must provide medical documentation to substantiate your incapacity to write the test on the scheduled day.

The essay is due in class on the due date. Late papers will be penalized at a rate of 2% a day, including weekends, and will not be accepted more than 2 weeks after the due date. No extensions will be given except where there is a clear and verified medical reason for the delay. Please note that I do not grant extensions except in emergency circumstances (being busy with other courses does not count as an emergency).