Welcome to Modern Canadian Literature. My name is Dr. Shelley Hulan. My:

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office hours: Thursdays 12:15—2:15 pm
other times by appointment

Note: If you cannot make either of the above times, then Thursday is generally the best day for me to make an alternate appointment.

E-mail policy: If you need to get in touch with me for some reason, by all means send me an e-mail. I will respond to your e-mail sometime in the twenty-four hours after I receive it. However, negotiating assignment extensions over e-mail is definitely not recommended. I like to see you once in a while!

Course definition

Modernism, an international movement in the arts, is variously understood as a period, a style, a particular approach to writing and responding to literature, and a particular response to the political and social issues of the mid-twentieth century. As a period, modernism in Canada is usually considered to span the middle years of the twentieth century, from 1920 to 1970. As a specific set of ideas about literature and new forms of writing, modernism began in the nineteenth century, and its influence on Canadian letters is felt up to the present day. At the same time, there is an immense diversity in the styles and subject matter taken up by writers of the modernist period. In this course, we will look at the impact that modernism has had on Canadian literature. By reading a number of poetic and prose texts, we will also examine the many definitions of modernism as they relate to Canadian writing.

A note on prerequisites: English 315’s prerequisite is 3A standing or higher. Space permitting and on a first-come, first-served basis, I am willing to sign in a limited number of people who do not yet have this standing. However, all students must understand that a 300-level course is more demanding than one at the 200 level. The reading load is heavier, and students are expected to take a more active role in the class through discussion and group activities. Keeping up with the reading and the work for the course is vital.

Grade Breakdown

mid-term test June 3 20%
essay due July 8 20%
participation 5%
essay outline and preliminary bibliography **due June 24** 15%
final examination 40%

**Course texts**


**Participation:** I define participation as your preparedness for class and your participation in class discussions.

**Late assignment and missed test policy:** In order to make sure that all students are treated in the same way, I require that requests for deadline extensions or alternative test dates be accompanied by the appropriate documentation from a doctor or health care professional. If you have a valid reason for handing in the major paper later than the deadline, you must notify me immediately of that reason and provide the relevant documentation of the problem. With a valid reason, you will not receive a late penalty for not handing the assignment in on the original due date. However, you and I must agree on a new due date, which will be firm. Please note that examinations and tests will not be rescheduled for reasons of personal convenience.

In accordance with university policy, there is an exception to this general rule in the case of flu. If you believe you have symptoms of the seasonal flu or of the H1N1 virus, please report your illness through Quest and contact me by telephone or email to let me know that the flu is the reason for your absence. A medical professional’s note will not be required. The policy outlined above regarding the setting of new test dates and essay deadlines applies in the case of the flu and H1N1 just as it does for any other valid reason for receiving an extension on class assignments.

In the absence of a valid reason for handing in your assignment after the due date, your assignment will be subject to a penalty of 2% per day until I receive it, and **late assignments will not be accepted at all after two weeks have passed from the original deadline.**

A further note on tests and exams: The University does not consider student travel plans an acceptable reason for arranging an alternative final examination time (see [http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/exams/finalexams.html](http://www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/exams/finalexams.html)).

If you need to miss and/or reschedule an assignment, **please contact me in a timely manner.** Students should contact me as soon as they realize that they will be unable to write a test or the exam. This means they should let me know before the day of the test or exam if at all possible. A student who contacts me after the test or who fails to set a date for the make-up within two weeks of the day of the original test will not be permitted to write the make-up. The only way around this rule is by proving that you were **totally incapacitated** on the day of the test and for the two weeks following it.

**Academic Integrity**
The Faculty of Arts requires course instructors to include the following statements on academic integrity, grievances, and accommodations for students with disabilities in their course outlines:

**Academic Integrity**: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. Check [http://www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/) 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, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm). For typical penalties check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm).

**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, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm). When in doubt please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

**Appeals**: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm).

**Academic Integrity website (Arts)**: [http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

**Academic Integrity Office (UW)**: [http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/)

**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 the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

**My policy on plagiarism and cheating**: Cases of cheating (such as copying from another student’s writing or from cheat-notes) and egregious plagiarism (cases where the whole or a significant portion of the work is plagiarized) result in an award of 0 on the assignment and the possibility of further repercussions, such as a reprimand being sent to you in writing and placed in your file by your home faculty Associate Dean. (These repercussions are listed in University Policy #71, the Student Academic Discipline Policy.) Lesser cases of plagiarism or cheating will
not receive a 0, but they will be subject to a significant grade penalty, as well as the possibility of further repercussions. I should add that all cases of plagiarism, major and minor, must be reported by the course instructor to the Associate Dean.

Class Schedule

Abbreviation: CL—The Oxford Anthology of Canadian Literature in English

Introduction: Modernism in Canada


May 6: L.M. Montgomery, “How Betty Sherman Won a Husband” (CL 309-14); Margaret Laurence, “To Set Our House in Order” (CL 609-20)

The Past of Modernism

May 11: Leo Kennedy, “The Future of Canadian Literature” (on reserve at Porter); F.R. Scott, “The Canadian Authors Meet” (CL 407-8); Al Purdy, “The Country North of Belleville” (CL 569-71); A.M. Klein, “Heirloom” (CL 466-7)


May 18: Transitional class: “Is God Just to His Creatures?”
Harry Robinson, “Coyote Challenges God” (CL 415-8); Sinclair Ross, “The Runaway” (CL 451-61)

Modernist Writing, Art, and Nature

May 20: A.J.M. Smith, “The Lonely Land” (CL 427-28); Scott, “Lakeshore” (CL 409-10); E.J. Pratt, “The Shark” (CL 343-44)

May 25: Birney, “Bushed” (CL 446-47); Purdy, “Trees at the Arctic Circle” (CL 571); Layton, “Butterfly on Rock” (CL 512); F.R. Scott, “Poetry” (CL 411)

Social Issues: Making Home and Losing It

May 27: Klein, “The Rocking Chair” (CL 467-68) and “Political Meeting” (CL 468-69); Mavis Gallant, “Varieties of Exile” (CL 594-607)

June 1: John Marlyn, Under the Ribs of Death
June 3: **mid-term test**

June 8: *Under the Ribs of Death* concluded

**Modernism and the First Nations**


June 15: Rudy Wiebe, "Where is the Voice Coming From?" *(CL 734-40)*; Sheila Watson, "And the Four Animals" *(CL 480-1)*

June 17: Howard O'Hagan, *Tay John*

June 22: *Tay John* continued

**Modernist Mythology**

June 24: **essay outline and preliminary bibliography due**
   *Tay John* concluded

June 29: Pratt, from *Towards the Last Spike* *(CL 356-83)*; F.R. Scott, "All the Spikes But the Last" *(CL 413)*;

July 1: **No class. Happy Canada Day!**


**Modernist Minds**

July 8: **essay due today**
   Morley Callaghan, "Watching and Waiting" *(CL 434-38)*; Ethel Wilson, "The Window" *(CL 326-35)*

July 13: Gwendolyn MacEwen, Dark Pines Under Water" *(CL 900-01)*; Purdy, "Wilderness Gothic" *(CL 573)*; Atwood, "This is a Photograph of Me" *(CL 814)*; Page, "Arras" *(CL 525-26)*

**Modernism and Nation**


July 20: All excerpts from the *Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences 1949-51* (on reserve at Porter Circulation); Northrop Frye's review of A.J.M. Smith's *The Book of Canadian Poetry* (on reserve at Porter Circulation)
Portraits of the Poet

July 22: Klein, "Portrait of the Poet as Landscape" (CL 469-74); Layton, "Whatever Else Poetry is Freedom" (CL 509-11)

Course Conclusion

July 27: course review

Appendix: Plagiarism

As I indicated earlier, the Faculty of Arts has made a list that describes some of the many varieties of cheating that are unacceptable to the university community. What follows is a shortened version of the contents of the Faculty of Arts web page on plagiarism, "Avoiding Academic Offenses" (http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html). Please read it carefully, for all of the acts listed below constitute plagiarism:

- Submitting work not written and prepared by you
- Copying or stealing the work of another student
- Paying for the creation of work by a commercial service or by an acquaintance to be submitted by you (or accepting such service for free)
- Purchasing already existing written work
- Using an essay for submission by you which was found on one of the free internet essay sites
- Writing a paper for course submission by another student
- Submitting the same paper to more than one course without the permission of all instructors

Types and varieties of plagiarism include (but are not restricted to) the following:

→ Word-for-word use of part or all of an article, book, chapter, or other written work, without quotation marks, and/or without citation (referencing through footnotes or endnotes or parenthetical citations) of the source, and/or without a bibliography (or with no bibliography apart from that presented by the source itself).
→ Word-for-word use of text spans (phrases, sentences, paragraphs, longer segments) patched together from two or more sources, without quotation marks, and/or without citation of the source, and/or without a bibliography (or with only a partial bibliography).
→ Word-for-word use of source materials, without quotation marks, and/or without citation (either parenthentic or in note form) of the sources, and/or without a bibliography (or with only a partial bibliography).
→ Word-for-word use of source materials, with some text enclosed by quotation marks and provided with citations, but with other text not identified as quoted, and/or not cited; and/or without a bibliography (or with only a partial bibliography).
→ The combination of word-for-word use from sources with close paraphrases of source texts, with accurate use of quotation marks and citations (note or parenthentic) to identify word-for-word use, but without citations to identify paraphrases and summaries;
and/or without a bibliography (or with only a partial bibliography).

→ Giving a citation for only the first or the last sentence in a paragraph, even though the rest of the paragraph also contains material in need of direct attribution.

A paper is plagiarized when:

♦ the paper's reader has to go to (or hunt for), and has to look directly at, the text of the source in order to identify where the student's own thoughts and words end and the source's thoughts and words begin.

♦ the writer of the paper does not include utterly explicit, direct, and complete indications of where the writer ends and the source begins (i.e., through accurate citations in notes or parentheses and through quotation marks wherever called for).