Course Outline

Instructor: Diana Lobb
Office: St. Jerome's P2
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Email: df2lobb@uwaterloo.ca
Office Hours: TTh 11:30am – 12:20pm or by appointment

Course Description:
Catalogue: This course focuses on the varied ways in which 20th-century writers of poetry and prose participate in the shaping of Canadian literary culture, with emphasis on the literature of the middle decades.

Section: Although Canada, as a geopolitical entity, comes into being in 1867, it does not achieve the status of an autonomous nation-state until 1982. The authors that we will look at in this course write during (and shortly after) this period of constitutional insecurity. In this course we will look at how authors during this period, in prose, poetry, and plays, attempt to create not just a history but also a mythological origin for a nation that does not quite exist.

Texts: Margaret Atwood, *The Journals of Susanna Moodie*
George Elliot Clarke, *Whylah Falls*
Robertson Davies, *Fifth Business*
Grey et al, *Billy Bishop Goes to War*
Joy Kogawa, *Obasan*
SKY Lee, *Disappearing Moon Cafe*
John Marlyn, *Under the Ribs of Death*
Howard O'Hagan, *Tay John*
Rudy Wiebe, *The Scorched-Wood People*

Course Reader: A. M. Klein, *The Hitleriad*
Sharon Pollock, *The Komagata Maru Incident*

Schedule of Readings:
We will follow this schedule as closely as possible; however, topics may occasionally carry over into the next time slot. Please have all readings done for each class so you will be able to participate in class discussion.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<td>May 1st</td>
<td>Introduction and Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3rd</td>
<td>Atwood, <em>The Journals of Susanna Moodie</em></td>
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<td>May 8th</td>
<td>Atwood, <em>The Journals of Susanna Moodie</em></td>
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<td>May 10th</td>
<td>O'Hagan, <em>Tay John</em></td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>May 15th</td>
<td>O'Hagan</td>
<td><em>Tay John</em></td>
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<td>May 17th</td>
<td>Wiebe</td>
<td><em>The Scorched-Wood People</em></td>
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<td>May 22nd</td>
<td>Special Makeup</td>
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<td>May 24th</td>
<td>Wiebe</td>
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<td>May 29th</td>
<td>Lee</td>
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<td>Lee</td>
<td><em>Disappearing Moon Cafe</em></td>
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<td>June 5th</td>
<td>Davies</td>
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<td>June 7th</td>
<td>Davies</td>
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<td>June 12th</td>
<td>Pollock</td>
<td><em>The Komagata Maru Incident</em></td>
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<td>June 14th</td>
<td>Pollock</td>
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<td>June 19th</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td><em>Billy Bishop Goes to War</em></td>
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<td>June 21st</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td><em>Billy Bishop Goes to War</em></td>
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<td>June 26th</td>
<td>Marlyn</td>
<td><em>Under the Ribs of Death</em></td>
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<td>June 28th</td>
<td>Marlyn</td>
<td><em>Under the Ribs of Death</em></td>
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<td>July 3rd</td>
<td>Clarke</td>
<td><em>Whylah Falls</em></td>
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<td>July 5th</td>
<td>Clarke</td>
<td><em>Whylah Falls</em></td>
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<td>July 10th</td>
<td>Klein</td>
<td><em>The Hitleriad</em></td>
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<td>July 19th</td>
<td>Kogawa</td>
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<td>July 24th</td>
<td>Course overview</td>
<td>and exam review</td>
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**Assignments:**

10% Attendance and Participation:

You are expected to be in class and on time. The grade is equally weighted between attendance and participation. You should be prepared for class fully and thoughtfully, and participate in an active and engaged way during class. Active participation in this class requires participation in on-going classroom discussion and group work and being respectful of others’ contributions to the ongoing intellectual inquiry taking place during the class. Remember, it is difficult to participate if you do not regularly attend class.

10% Reading Journals:

Journal responses are due at the beginning of each week. Respond to the readings from the previous week discussing your impressions of the readings and how they fit (or do not fit) into your ideas about Canadian literature. Keep the entry short (generally no longer than a page, handwritten). Try to engage the material analytically but also be sensitive to and honest about your impressions. The journal entries provide you with an opportunity to engage with the material of the course within the context of your own experiences. Have fun with them.

Journal entries will be marked on a modified pass/fail basis (ie A/B/fail). Your best ten will be recorded.

25% Compare and Contrast Essay - due May 31st

5-6 pages

Compare and contrast any two creative texts on the syllabus in relation to each other. Specific topics and instructions will be distributed in class.
25%  Theoretical/Critical Essay - due July 5th
      5-6 pages
      Relate a theoretical or critical source to one of the creative texts on the course syllabus. Specific
topics and instructions will be distributed in class.

30%  Final Exam – scheduled by Registrar’s Office

OTHER INFORMATION
Correspondence:
Students using email to contact me must include their first and last names, student number, and course
in which they are enrolled in the email subject line. Email is an efficient method to contact me to arrange
for appointments or to ask simple questions (i.e. questions that require a yes or no answer). Most
questions arising from this class, however, will require face-to-face discussion and should be dealt with
in class or during my office hours. If you are unable to attend my scheduled office hours please contact
me to arrange an alternate meeting time. Essays and assignments submitted by email, or as email
attachments, will not be accepted.

UW POLICY REGARDING ILLNESS AND MISSED TESTS
The University of Waterloo Examination Regulations(www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/exams/ExamRegs.pdf)
state that: A medical certificate presented in support of an official petition for relief from normal
academic requirements must provide all of the information requested on the “University of Waterloo
Verification of Illness” form or it will not be accepted. This form can be obtained from Health Services or
at www.healthservices.uwaterloo.ca/Health_Services/verification.html.
  • If a student has a test/examination deferred due to acceptable medical evidence, he/she
    normally will write the test/examination at a mutually convenient time, to be determined by the
course instructor.
  • The University acknowledges that, due to the pluralistic nature of the University community,
some students may on religious grounds require alternative times to write tests and
examinations.
  • Elective arrangements (such as travel plans) are not considered acceptable grounds for granting
an alternative examination time.

PROFESSOR’S POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS/ESSAYS AND MAKE-UP TESTS
Late Essays: Essays are due in hard copy at the beginning of the class noted in the schedule and
electronically to Turnitin via the UWACE website for the course. All late assignments will be penalized
3% per day, including weekends (i.e. Saturday and Sunday = 6%). Late papers must be signed and dated
by one of the secretaries in the main office and submitted to the departmental mailbox. Please note
that essays will not be accepted via e-mail or after the term’s last day of class.

Make-up Tests/Extensions: Except in extraordinary circumstances, all extensions must be requested by
the Friday of the week prior to the essay’s due date. I reserve the right to request appropriate
documentation to support the request for extension (e.g. doctor’s note).

Academic Integrity:
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.
**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)

**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)

**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 (University):** [http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/)

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:**

**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.

**Turnitin.com:** Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about the arrangements for the use of Turnitin in this course.

Note: students must be given a reasonable option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. See: [http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/Turnitin/index.html](http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/Turnitin/index.html) for more information.