

Engl795: Monstrous Hunger, Hungry Monsters
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W2021

Dear Anyone Thinking about Engl795 for W2021,

Hello all. I hope your Fall terms have gone well despite our pandemic upheaval. This bit of a warm weather November has definitely been a nice surprise. Anyhow, on to the work of offering you a bit of a preview of W2021's Engl795: Monstrous Hunger, Hungry Monsters. . . .

The following list of readings is tentative. Nothing is final until the syllabus is done and distributed! But I have placed the order with the UW Book Store for the purchasable texts, so barring any difficulty with their acquiring these texts, you can expect the books to remain what you see here. I am, however, still considering the critical readings, so you may expect possible changes there (perhaps omissions or different pairings).

Otherwise, I can say that my sense is that we have a synchronous session scheduled for Mondays (hence the dates listed below, but we'll consider those tentative as well until we have a firm sense of the Winter schedule). My intention is to use MS Teams for that, and we'll figure out what we have to figure out if any of you are in circumstances that make attending the synchronous meeting difficult. The way I see the synchronous sessions working (but we'll get to talk about this so that you have some input) is you'll be submitting some questions/comments about the readings likely on the Friday before our Monday class, and then I'll set a bit of an agenda for our class meeting based on what you're finding interesting. You'd find your name next to an agenda item that you submitted and you'd then serve to get us going on that item. My sense is that this method might help us find a way to get everyone talking; or at least my experience of e-meetings has been that sometimes the free-flow of discussion that we can usually have f2f can be stilted in a virtual setting, so maybe this will give us a way to ensure we're all getting to engage. Who knows? It will, I imagine, be a work-in-progress until we find our way.

Anyhow, one important note: you'll see that there are three weeks in the term where there are no assigned readings. Those weeks will be student-led and involve some individual and some group work. You'll be producing short papers about "hungry monsters" of your own choosing and sharing your work with the class, first in the form of short presentations. I'm intending that these presentations will evolve into short papers, produced individually, which will then be collected together to form a group book – an edited collection, if you will. But we'll have to see how my plans change once I know more about enrollment numbers.

Nevertheless, as far as assignments go, my intention would be that you'll be responsible for submitting weekly questions/comments; 1 presentation/short paper/group book collection; and 1 final paper (which includes an assessment of a venue for publication in which you see your paper fitting). So, that's 1 small weekly task, and 2 bigger tasks (which include some smaller parts).

And I'll just note, I'm more than happy to hear your input about these plans. My sense is that the assignment workload is about the same as what I've done in f2f grad courses, and the reading load is perhaps lighter (although, as I said, I might still be omitting some of the planned critical readings).

Good luck as you consider your W2021 terms!

All the best,
Veronica

Tentative Schedule

Note: the * signals that the text will be available on e-Course Reserves

Week	Date	Readings
1	Jan. 11	Admin, Intro, and Course Community Building
2	Jan. 18	Curtain, "Food/Body/Person" * Kilgour, "Introduction: Metaphors and Incorporation" * Mintz, Introduction. <i>Tasting Food, Tasting Freedom</i> * Bennett, "Edible Matter" *
3	Jan. 25	Atwood, <i>Edible Woman</i> Brumberg, "The Appetite as Voice"*
4	Feb. 1	Gay, <i>Hunger</i> Julier, "The Political Economy of Obesity: The Fat Pay All" * hooks, "Eating the Other" *
5	Feb. 8	Twitty, <i>The Cooking Gene</i> Kyla Wazana Tompkins' "Introduction: Eating Bodies in the 19 th Century" *
	Feb. 15-19	Reading Week
6	Feb. 22	Monsters – part 1
7	Mar. 1	Dahl, <i>Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</i> Kimber, "'Meat's meat, and man's gotta eat.' (<i>Motel Hell</i> , 1980): Food and Eating Within Contemporary Horror Cultures" *
8	Mar. 8	Monsters – part 2
9	Mar. 15	<i>Chew</i> , vol. 1 Brennan, Introduction, <i>Transmission of Affect</i> *
10	Mar. 22	Monsters – part 3
11	Mar. 29	Foer, <i>Eating Animals</i> Daigle, "Tracing the Terrain of Indigenous Food Sovereignities"*
12	Apr. 5	Fowler, <i>Fifty Shades of Chicken</i>