

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
ENGLISH 0010

Time and Location:	Tuesdays: 9:30 – 10:30 in St. James, Room 304 Thursdays: 11:30 – 1:30 in St. James, Room 18
Contact Information:	David Hickey dhickey6@uwo.ca
Office:	Ursuline Hall 217
Office Hours:	Mondays 4-5 pm, Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 am

Course Description:

This course will provide students with an introduction to the principles of reading and writing about literature. Through a series of written assignments, through consultation with the instructor and with peers, and through a great deal of practice, students will develop their ability to analyze and to appreciate a selection of poems, short stories, plays, and novels. Our focus throughout will also be on the types of writing skills that are central to academic success, including techniques of paraphrase, summary, description, analysis, and argument.

Course Objectives:

In this course, students will:

- Become familiar with elements of literature, such as plot, character, theme, setting, and form;
- Develop arguments about literary texts and support their ideas with evidence;
- Analyze texts to determine both how and what they signify;
- Acquire the technical skills needed to write clear and persuasive literary analysis;
- Improve their communication skills by presenting their ideas in class and on the page.

Required Texts

Elements of Literature: Fiction, Poetry, Drama. Eds. David Staines et al. 4th Canadian Edition. Toronto: Oxford UP, 2010.

Required Texts (cont'd)

Joanne MacDonald, *Fit to Print: The Canadian Student's Guide to Essay Writing*. 8th Edition. Scarborough: Nelson, 2013.

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*. Peterborough: Broadview, 2012.

William Shakespeare, *Othello*. Folger Shakespeare Library Edition. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004.

Ann-Marie MacDonald, *Good Night, Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*. Toronto: Vintage, 1988.

Mohsin Hamid, *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*. Toronto: Anchor, 2008.

Additional readings made available through OWL.

COMPOSITION OF GRADE

Course Component	Weight	Due Date	Notes
Analytical paragraph	5%	Sept. 30	In class
First semester paper	10%	Nov. 18	In class & take home
Sight poem	5%	Feb. 3	In class
Second semester paper	10%	Mar. 24	Take home
First semester reading journal	5%	Nov. 25	One paragraph per entry; four entries per semester
Second semester reading journal	5%	Apr. 7	One paragraph per entry; four entries per semester
Mid-term exam	25%	Dec. 2	In class
Final exam	35%	TBA	

IMPORTANT: A student must receive a passing grade for both the term work and the final examination in order to receive a passing grade for the course.

* **Please note:** late assignments will be penalized 3% per day. Hard copies of the assignments are due at the end of class. Assignments handed in after class will be considered late. If you email me your assignment without attending class on the day that it is due, your assignment will be penalized 3%. Assignments that are handed in more than one week after the due date will not be accepted without documentation from an academic advisor.

Expectations

Success in this course requires a great deal of dedication. Good writing rarely happens without patience and tremendous effort. In order to develop your skills, you will be expected to draft and to redraft your work. You must plan to attend **ALL** of our classes. Tests and assignment schedules can be altered **ONLY** when a student has met with an academic advisor and can provide the appropriate documentation for academic accommodation.

Attendance

If you miss more than six hours of class meetings over the span of the course (the equivalent of two weeks of class meetings) without a compelling reason, your final grade will be penalized 10%. For example, a grade of 80% will be reported as a 70%. If you miss more than nine hours of class meetings without academic accommodation, your final grade will be penalized 20%. If you miss more than twelve hours of class meetings without academic accommodation, you will not be given a passing grade for the course.

Civility Statement

Together as a class, we agree to encourage each other to participate during discussion by listening to all contributions without judgement and without interruption. Any cell phones in the class should always be set to silent mode; they must also be turned off entirely during in-class writing assignments or peer-editing sessions. We agree that students may use computers (as long as they do so quietly and respectfully) and that we may eat and drink during class. Above all, we agree to treat each other with respect.

Office Hours

I have scheduled two office hours per week, and I welcome you to stop by. Office hours can be a great place to discuss various aspects of the course: if you find you are particularly excited about a certain assignment, I can recommend directions for further reading, and if you are frustrated with a particular topic, I can listen and offer assistance. If my scheduled hours do not work for you, you are welcome to make an appointment.

Email Policy

I am happy to communicate with students through email. I respond to emails that I receive during the week within 24 hours; emails received on weekends will not receive a response until the following Monday. I ask that email be used to address specific

concerns. For questions that require a detailed response, please come to my office hours. Note well: I do not release grades over email.

Course Schedule: TBA

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation must be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> . If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician/nurse practitioner, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is not adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg117.html>

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the

knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that “you didn't know it was wrong” is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html . The Western Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University.