

**THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG**  
**ENGL-3716(6)-001**  
**Canadian Literature and Culture After 1914**

Term: Fall/Winter 2016-17  
Time: 10:00-11:15am  
Room: 3M65  
Email: [c.rifkind@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:c.rifkind@uwinnipeg.ca)

Professor: Dr. Candida Rifkind  
Office: 2A38  
Phone: (204) 786-9198  
Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 2:30-3:30pm  
or by appointment

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course introduces students to a sample of the diverse array of Canadian literature from 1914 to the present. We will read short stories, novels, poems, plays, and graphic narratives that offer rich and inventive narratives, unique and memorable characters, expressive and innovative poetics. In reading and discussion, students will be encouraged to define, expand, and refine their understandings of both Canadian culture and literary studies. Throughout the course, we will consider Canadian writers, artists, and cultural producers within broader contexts to study the relationships between indigeneity, settler colonialism, nationalism, internationalism, cosmopolitanism, exile, immigration, diaspora, and globalization. In the Fall term we will focus on the first half of the twentieth century, from World War I to the Cold War. In the Winter term we will focus on the period after 1960, from the global village to globalization. This course takes a cultural studies approach to introduce students to a variety of texts, from the popular to the avant-garde, across a diverse set of media. Classes will be organized around lectures, discussions, and collaborative projects that will draw on critical theory, visual art, films, music, and historical sources relevant to the texts. Evaluation will be based on textual analysis and research essays, group presentations, and a take home exam.

**REQUIRED TEXTS (ordered through the UW Bookstore)**

**FALL**

Lecker, Robert, ed. *Open Country: Canadian Literature in English*. Toronto: Nelson, 2008.  
Leacock, Stephen. *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*. 1912. Toronto: Penguin Random House Canada, 2010.  
Ross, Sinclair. *As For Me and My House*. 1941. Toronto: Penguin Random House Canada, 2008.  
Wiseman, Adele. *Crackpot*. 1974. Toronto: Penguin Random House Canada, 2008.

**WINTER**

Tremblay, Michel. *Les Belles Soeurs*. Trans. John Van Burke and Bill Glassco. 1972. Vancouver: Talonbooks, 1991.  
Highway, Tomson. *The Rez Sisters*. Calgary: Fifth House, 1988.  
Brand, Dionne. *What We All Long For*. Toronto: Knopf, 2005.  
St. John Mandel, Emily. *Station Eleven*. New York: HarperAvenue, 2014.

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS**

There are many websites dedicated to writing and research skills but not all of them are appropriate for academic writing. I have posted links to the ones you should consult for this course under "Outline and Assignments" at the Nexus site.

**ASSIGNMENTS (further information about each assignment will be distributed in class)**

**TEXTUAL ANALYSIS 1** (1000 words on *Sunshine Sketches*, due on Oct. 6) **10%**

**ESSAY 1** (1800-2000 words on Fall text(s), due before 5pm on Dec. 1) **15%**

**TEXTUAL ANALYSIS 2** (1000 words on *Les Belles Soeurs*, due on Jan. 24) **10%**

**ESSAY 2** (2000-2500 words on Winter text(s), due on Apr. 4) **20%**

**TAKE HOME EXAM (2000 words on Fall/Winter texts)** **25%**

Distributed on March 28 and due on April 20 in 2A38 between 1:00 and 2:15pm

**GROUP PRESENTATIONS (2X5% each, more info to be provided)** **10%**

Fall (Poetry of WWI): All of the work for the presentations will take place during class the week of Sep. 27

Winter (60s Singer Songwriters): Groups will prepare presentations in advance of the week of Jan. 17

**PARTICIPATION** **10%**

Participation grades are based on the following rubric

<b>POOR</b> <b>0-2%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• does not participate in class discussion or small group exercises</li><li>• does not ask questions</li><li>• does not listen to others, or interrupts and dominates discussion</li><li>• has side conversations during class discussion or is distracted by social media</li><li>• does not complete assigned readings</li></ul>
<b>FAIR</b> <b>3-5%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• participates occasionally and responds minimally to direct questions</li><li>• expects other students to do majority of small group work</li><li>• has completed assigned readings but not prepared for discussion (eg. has not flagged sequences or pages to discuss, prepared comments or questions for discussion)</li><li>• does not always listen to others, sometimes interrupts or dominates discussion</li><li>• occasionally distracted by side conversations or social media</li></ul>
<b>GOOD</b> <b>6-8%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• well prepared, comes to class with examples, questions, comments</li><li>• listens to others and responds, supports, or challenges others' opinions respectfully</li><li>• consistent engagement with discussion, not distracted in class</li><li>• participates effectively in small group work and contributes to collaborative learning environment by respecting peers</li><li>• volunteers to answer questions or read passages regularly</li></ul>
<b>EXCELLENT</b> <b>9-10%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• very well prepared, relates assigned readings to broader course concepts, terminology, or other course readings</li><li>• listens to others and advances discussion by synthesizing, extending, or challenging others' opinions respectfully</li><li>• offers new and insightful approaches or analyses</li><li>• always willing to respond to questions or read passages</li></ul>

**GRADING SCALE**

A+	90 - 100%	GPA 4.50	C+	65 - 69%	GPA 2.5
A	85 - 89%	GPA 4.25	C	60 - 64%	GPA 2.0
A-	80 - 84%	GPA 4.0	D	50 - 59%	GPA 1.0
B+	75 - 79%	GPA 3.5	F	Below 50%	GPA 0
B	70 - 74%	GPA 3.0			

## **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NOTES**

1. This course outline should be considered a guideline only. Time constraints and other unforeseen factors may require that some of the above topics be omitted or covered in less detail than indicated.
2. Work submitted for evaluation must be either typed or text processed.
3. Cellular phones and other electronic devices **MUST** be turned off during classes.
4. It is the student's responsibility to retain a photocopy or digitized copy of **ALL** assignments submitted for grading; in the event of loss or theft, a duplicate copy is required.
5. Students are advised to read the pertinent pages of the current course calendar for the rules regarding Registration, Voluntary Withdrawals, Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals. **Concerning plagiarism, please note** that as a general rule, an F in the course will be the penalty recommended by the English Departmental Review Committee to the Senate Committee on Academic Misconduct, for plagiarism on major assignments in English Department courses.
6. Accessibility Services:  
Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., access to volunteer note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 786-9771 or email [accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca) to discuss appropriate options. Specific information about AS is available on-line at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.
7. The University of Winnipeg promotes a scent-free environment. Please be respectful of the needs of fellow classmates and the instructor by avoiding the use of scented products while attending lectures. Exposures to perfumes and other scented products (such as lotion) can trigger serious health reactions in persons with asthma, allergies, migraines or chemical sensitivities.
8. Students facing a charge of academic or non-academic misconduct may choose to contact the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) where a student advocate will be available to answer any questions about the process, help with building a case, and ensuring students have access to support. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit our website at [www.theuwsa.ca/academic-advocacy](http://www.theuwsa.ca/academic-advocacy) or call 204-786-9780.
9. Please note that registering in this course commits you to the date and time of the course final examination. If you are aware of possible conflicts with that date, please see me immediately during the first week of the course, in case you need to register in another course to accommodate the conflict. For appeals for deferred exams, please see the Calendar.
10. **Tuesday, January 17th, 2017** is the final date to withdraw without academic penalty from courses that begin in January 2017 and end in April 2017 in the 2017 Winter term.

11. Late Assignment Penalties: I encourage you to speak with me (in person, not over email) in advance if you anticipate handing an assignment in late due to extenuating circumstances, such as illness or a personal/family emergency. **Note that having a lot of work to do for your other courses is not a reasonable excuse for a late assignment in this course.** Unless prior arrangements have been made or you present a medical/legal note explaining why your assignment has been handed in late, the penalty for a late assignment is: 10% off immediately when it is not submitted on the due date and 2% off each extra weekday it is late. No unexplained late assignments will be accepted after 7 days.
12. The English Department wishes to ensure your right to privacy regarding handing in and getting back assignments is protected. Most assignments will be handed in and handed back in class or at the Instructor's office. If assignments are to be handled in another way and you are concerned about others having access to your work, you should attach to your assignment a self-addressed envelope that can be sealed. If this is not done, it is assumed that you have waived your concerns in this area.
13. Students may be asked for identification when writing a test or examination.
14. No unauthorized material or equipment may be brought with you to the final exam.
15. Students registered for this course are expected to demonstrate competency in English appropriate to the first-year level. Students needing additional assistance may contact the Writing Centre at [http://rhetoric.uwinnipeg.ca/Tutoring\\_Centre/index.html](http://rhetoric.uwinnipeg.ca/Tutoring_Centre/index.html) for writing resources and tutoring services, or contact the English Language Program at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/elp-information> for classes in English as an Additional Language and related services.
16. Students are advised that the UW Bookstore may run out of textbooks early in the term. Also, the bookstore always ships textbooks back to the publisher if they are not purchased within the first few weeks of term. Students are responsible for communicating directly with the bookstore if they need to order texts or ask for texts to be held for them.
17. For more information regarding the English Department, please refer to our website at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/english-index>
18. Students who plan to conduct research interview, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, even a family member, must obtain the approval of the UHREB before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities in class as a learning exercise. See <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/research-human-ethics> for submission requirements and deadlines
19. All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at [www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect)
20. Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make up work examinations without penalty. A list of

religious holidays can be found at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>

21. Fall term Reading Week is **October 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>**. Winter term Reading Week is **February 20<sup>th</sup> – February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017**.

#### **INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES ON COURSE ETIQUETTE & COMMUNICATIONS**

1. **BEING ON TIME, PRESENT, AND STAYING FOCUSED:** Class starts promptly at 10am and ends on time at 11:15am. Students who arrive late or start packing up their things early disrupt the class and make it hard for the rest of us to stay focused. If you have a legitimate reason for arriving late or leaving early on specific days, I would appreciate you letting me know in advance.
2. **EMAIL:** I only respond to students' emails during regular work hours (Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm) and I may take up to 24 hours to respond. Due to the high volume of junk mail I receive, I can only respond to emails sent from UW accounts. **Please do not email me through Nexus, hotmail, yahoo, gmail, or other non-UW accounts.** Please observe professional email etiquette and do not add me or your classmates to any mailing lists.
3. **MOBILE DEVICES AND LAPTOPS: All phones, tablets, and laptops must be turned to silent and put away before class starts.** The only exception is students who have permission through Accessibility Services to use electronic devices in class and who have consulted me in advance. You may not record lectures or class discussions.
4. **FOOD:** Please do not eat meals in class.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Subject to changes announced in class

*OC = Open Country: Canadian Literature in English* (ed. Robert Lecker)

*N = Nexus*

### FALL TERM

Date	Reading	Other Information
Sep. 6 & 8	<b>Introductions &amp; Canadian Mythologies</b> Recommended for Thurs: Francis, <i>Introduction to National Dreams</i> (N)	
Sep.13 & 15	<b>Poems by E. Pauline Johnson</b> (OC 148-51) "The Cattle Thief"; "Ojistoh"; "The Corn Husker"	Bring <i>Open Country</i> to class
Sep. 20 & 22	<b>Stephen Leacock, <i>Sunshine Sketches</i></b>	
Sep. 27 & 29	<b>Poetry of World War I Workshop</b> (N) Tuesday: Small group discussion of assigned poet Thursday: Group presentations on assigned poet	Compile poems from Nexus folder in print or electronic files for in-class use both days
Oct. 4 & 6	<b>Myth of the Mounties</b> (N) Tues = W. Ryerson Johnson, "The Dangerous Dan McGrew"; Robert Service, "The Shooting of Dan McGrew"; "The Cremation of Sam McGee" Thurs = In-class screening of <i>Renfrew of the Mounted</i> (dir. Albert Herman, 1937)	<b>Textual Analysis 1 Due Oct. 6</b>
Oct. 11 & 13	<b>No classes – Fall Reading Week</b>	
Oct.18&20	<b>Modernism and Poetry</b> (OC 262; 247-8; 201-2; 205 ) A.J.M. Smith, "The Lonely Land"; F.R. Scott, "North Stream"; "Laurentian Shield"; E.J. Pratt, "Newfoundland"; "The Man and the Machine"	
Oct.25&27	<b>Modernism and Poetry</b> (OC 309-10; 313-16; 327-8; 329-30 ) A.M. Klein, "Heirloom"; "Portrait of the Poet as Landscape"; Dorothy Livesay, "Bartok and the Geranium"; "The Three Emilys"	
Nov. 1-3	<b>Sinclair Ross, <i>As For Me and My House</i></b>	
Nov.8 & 10	<b>Sinclair Ross, <i>As For Me and My House</i></b>	<b>Writing Workshop on Nov. 10</b>
Nov.15 & 17	<b>Adele Wiseman, <i>Crackpot</i></b>	
Nov. 22 & 24	<b>Adele Wiseman, <i>Crackpot</i></b>	
Nov. 29 & Dec. 1	<b>Screenings: Classic Documentary in Canada</b>	Assignment of 60s Singer Songwriters Groups for next term
	<b>DECEMBER BREAK</b>	

# WINTER TERM

Date	Reading	Other Information
Jan. 5	<b>Screenings: Classic Animation in Canada</b>	
Jan. 10 & 12	<b>Michel Tremblay, <i>Les Belles Soeurs</i></b>	
Jan. 17 & 19	<b>1960s Singer Songwriters Group Presentations:</b> Leonard Cohen, Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, Gordon Lightfoot, Buffy Sainte-Marie	<b>Group presentations both days</b>
Jan. 24 & 26	<b>Tues = Poems by Daphne Marlatt (OC 790-92)</b> "in the dark of the coast"; "prairie"; "Booking Passage" <b>Thurs = Poems by bp Nichol (OC 824-29)</b> "Not What The Siren Sang But What The Frag Ment"; "Allegory #4"; "TTA 4"; "TTA 5"; TTA 19"	<b>Textual Analysis 2 due on Jan. 24</b>
Jan. 31& Feb.2	<b>Tomson Highway, <i>The Rez Sisters</i></b>	
Feb. 7 &Feb. 9	<b>Tues = Eden Robinson, "Trapline" (OC 1165)</b> <b>Thurs = Madeline Thien, "Simple Recipes" (OC 1250)</b>	
Feb. 14 & 16	<b>Tues = Rohinton Mistry, "Squatter" (OC 938)</b>	<b>Writing Workshop on Feb. 16</b>
Feb. 21 & 23	<b>No classes – Spring Reading Week</b>	
Feb. 28 & Mar.2	<b>Dionne Brand, <i>What We All Long For</i></b>	
Mar. 7 &9	<b>Dionne Brand, <i>What We All Long For</i></b>	
Mar. 14 & 16	<b>Emily St. John Mandel, <i>Station Eleven</i></b>	
Mar. 21 & 23	<b>Emily St. John Mandel, <i>Station Eleven</i></b>	<b>Essay 2 due on Mar 23</b>
Mar. 28 & 30	<b>Canadian poetics &amp; politics today</b> In-class screenings of performances by Kaie Kellough, Cadence Weapon, El Jones, Tribe Called Red, d'bi young, Shane Koyczan	<b>Take Home Distributed on Mar 28</b>
Apr. 4	<b>Wrap Up and Review</b>	<b>Take Home Due on April 20</b>