

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The aims of this course are to provide students with the skills and tools necessary to think critically about a range of literary texts and to communicate ideas in a clear, coherent, and persuasive manner. Students will have the chance, individually and in groups, to consider, analyze, and discuss different forms of writing; in so doing, students will have opportunities to improve oral and written communication skills.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a result of taking this course, students will gain the ability to:

- Identify and to employ a range of sentence structures
- Improve elements of mechanics, usage, and grammar
- Improve general and academic vocabulary
- Develop appropriate strategies for reading and responding to difficult materials
- Practice and improve reading comprehension and critical thinking skills
- Plan an essay, moving from outlining, to writing a first draft, to revising and editing
- Develop an understanding of essay components such as thesis statements and topic sentences
- Produce coherent, unified, and well-structured essays
- Research effectively
- Analyze aspects of plot, setting, characterization, tone, and theme in short stories, novels, drama, and poetry
- Discuss a writer's point of view and how it relates to a work's larger themes
- Identify and analyze important details in a given text
- Identify devices of figurative language such as metaphor, irony, allusion

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

- Participation- 5%
- Assignments (this includes Response Papers)- 15%
- Essays (this includes the Research Paper)- 20%
- Quizzes/Unit Tests- 30%
- Final exam – 30%

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Throughout the course, students will engage in a variety of short prose fiction and non-fiction texts well as poetry. In addition to these forms of texts, the course will be comprised of four main units of study.

Weeks 1-4: *Unit 1-Non-Fiction Prose* - Students will study Tara Westover's memoir *Educated* and explore a sampling of non-fictional texts.

Weeks 5-8: *Unit 2- Fiction Prose*- Students will study Waubgeshig Rice's *Moon of the Crusted Snow* and explore a sampling of poetry, non-fictional and fictional texts.

Weeks 9-10: *Unit 3-The Research Essay*. Students will be introduced to the research process and research essay early on in the semester in preparation for this major assignment.

Weeks 11-15: *Unit 4- Drama*- Students will study William Shakespeare's *Othello* and explore a sampling of Shakespearean drama, poetry, as well as contemporary plays.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. **Good attendance** is a requirement of this course and of academic success generally. Students have the option to attend this class in-person or remotely. I recommend that students email me in advance regarding foreseeable absence(s) from class. Students should consult My-Class and adhere to set deadlines regardless of any absence(s).
2. **All quizzes, unit-tests, and the final exam must be taken in-person.** Students should consult My-Class monthly and weekly calendars to ensure that they are in class for assessments. Quizzes/Unit Tests will generally take place on Thursdays.
3. **Good attendance means more than simply being present physically during in-person or remote class time.** It means coming to class prepared, having read the assigned material(s) for the day, and showing respect to all the other members of the class by being

attentive. To maximize student engagement and learning, I highly encourage students attend classes in-person or to turn on their web cameras and fully participate in classroom activities via Zoom.

4. **Students must check their GPRC email and MyClass regularly.** This is essential to keep up with the course readings, assignments and tests. I also encourage students to add their GPRC email and MyClass to their personal phone/device.
5. **Submit all formal assignments via My-Class Assignment Drop Boxes unless otherwise specified.** If students are having trouble submitting assignments via My-Class, they can email their assignments to LBrazier@gprc.ab.ca. Assignments should be sent as Microsoft Word Documents, PDFs, or Power Points. If students choose to use Google Docs or Google Slides- when sharing, please make sure that as an instructor I can edit/comment directly on documents submitted.
6. **All assignments are to be submitted by the assigned date and no later than 4:00 pm unless otherwise specified in class.** Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day, with weekends counting as one day. After three days, I will no longer accept the assignment for marking. I will grant extensions for assignments in extenuating circumstances only. Last-minute requests for extensions will not be granted unless medical/or other professional documentation can be provided. Please note that I will not accept any outstanding assignments after I have handed back marked assignments to the class (Turnaround time for marked assignments is usually about one week).
7. **Students should avoid making travel plans for the 15 week duration of this course.** All tests (this includes quizzes, unit tests and the final exam) MUST be written in-person and at the scheduled times unless PRIOR arrangements have been made with the instructor. Most tests will take place on Thursdays. A missed test will result in a score of ZERO on that test. Only in very specific cases may student be given an opportunity to make up a missed test. Doctor, lawyer or police documentation may be required. Do not book vacation in this time.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.