



## EN 300

# Canadian Literature from 1925

Number of credits: 3

Prerequisite: 6 credits in English

Semester: Fall 2014  
Days: T/Th 1:00-2:15p  
Room: L2084  
Lab day: NA  
Lab room: NA

Instructor: Elizabeth Gripping, M.A.  
Email: [egripping@ambrose.edu](mailto:egripping@ambrose.edu)  
Phone: 403-410-2000, ext. 5904  
Office: L2062  
Office hours: T/Th 2:30-3:45p or by appointment

### Course Description:

This course focuses on English Canadian literature from 1925 to the present. The course introduces students to a wide variety of Canadian writers and to a spectrum of topics pertinent to Canadian writing, for example, our status as a post-colonial nation. The discussion will also contextualize Canadian writing in relation to major literary movements and trends outside and within Canada.

### Further Course Information:

### Expected Learning Outcomes:

This course aims to

- Familiarize students with influential literary groups (e.g., the McGill Group, TISH), regional movements (e.g., prairie fiction, Southern Ontario gothic), and periods (e.g., Modernism, Postmodernism) in Canadian literature since 1925.
- Foreground issues of Canadian identity and social practice. Readings will highlight the development and ongoing relevance of issues such as gender, economics, colonialism, multiculturalism, and ecology.
- Encourage students to develop their critical reading and writing skills.

### Important Dates:

First day of classes: September 3, 2014  
Registration revision period: September 14, 2014  
Last day to request revised examination: October 27, 2014  
Last day to withdraw from course: November 12, 2014  
Last day to apply for time extension for coursework: November 24, 2014  
Last day of classes: December 9, 2014

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Final Exam:</b> | <b>December 15, 2014</b> |
| <b>Time:</b>       | <b>9:00a-12:00p</b>      |
| <b>Room:</b>       | <b>A2141</b>             |

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## **Outline:**

See proposed class schedule below.

## **Submission of Assignments:**

### Assignments

- All assignments are due electronically, via Moodle, no later than 1:00p on the date specified. Please use a standard file format, such as MS Word (.doc or .docx) or PDF, when uploading your document. Students must also submit an identical printed copy of each assignment at the beginning of class on the same date. An assignment will be docked 5% for each day that it is late. Submissions more than 7 calendar days late will not be accepted.
- All assignments should be double-spaced with standard margins (2.54 cm or 1 inch) and should use a standard serif typeface, such as Times New Roman or Garamond, with a size of 12 pt. Also, please staple all pages together. I will not read papers that fail to meet these requirements. Each assignment sheet will indicate length requirements, due date, course weight, topic, and further formatting requirements.
- All assignments should follow the format and documentation guidelines of the Modern Languages Association, as detailed in the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th ed. (2009).
- As in all serious literature courses, spelling, punctuation, grammar, style, and format are important in all your written work, including exams. Shortcomings in these areas will be reflected in your grades.
- To receive a passing grade in the course, students must submit all assignments, quizzes, and exams to the instructor. Missed exams will only be made up if supported by the appropriate documentation (for example, a doctor's note).
- I grant extensions only when circumstances outside the student's control will prevent the punctual submission of an assignment. However, if you have concerns about your assignment or the due date, please talk to me in advance. Please note that technical problems do not provide sufficient grounds for an extension: students should keep back-up copies of all assignments (digital, hard copy, or both) during composition and after submission.

### Academic Honesty

- Students may not submit work done for another class.
- Plagiarism in any of its forms will not be tolerated. All instances of plagiarism will be forwarded to the Dean of Arts and Science.
- All assignments will be submitted to Turnitin, a plagiarism-detection software.

## **Attendance and Participation:**

- Students should attend class consistently and punctually. Unexcused absences will negatively affect not only your comprehension of course content but also your participation grade. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to borrow notes from a fellow student, to acquire any handouts, and to discover whether any changes were made to the syllabus.
  - Students should read all assigned materials prior to class and be prepared to join in animated class discussion. Please consult the proposed course schedule for an outline of assigned readings.
  - Students are responsible for all the information given in class and for any changes to the syllabus announced in class.
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## Evaluation:

In this course, students will receive grades for class participation and coursework as indicated in the following table.

| <b>Assignment</b>                     | <b>Length</b> | <b>Weight</b> | <b>Date</b>                    |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Explication<br>OR Précis and Critique | 2 pages       | 10%           | 13 November<br>OR see schedule |
| Essay 1                               | 4-6 pages     | 20%           | 16 October                     |
| Essay 2                               | 6-8 pages     | 25%           | 4 December                     |
| Midterm Examination                   |               | 15%           | 28 October                     |
| Final Examination                     |               | 20%           | 15 December                    |
| Participation                         |               | 10%           |                                |
|                                       |               | <hr/> 100%    |                                |

I strive to grade both accurately and evenly. In particular, I avoid inflating grades: grade inflation devalues excellent work and, thus, undermines the entire assessment system. Instead, I uphold a high standard of excellence, one that encourages students to do their best work and rewards them accordingly.

## Grade Summary:

Assignment grades for EN 300 appear as percentages. Final grades for the course, which will be available on the student registration system at the end of the semester, appear as letter grades. The table below shows the percentage equivalents for each letter grade.

| <b>Letter Grade</b> | <b>Percentage</b> | <b>Description</b> |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| A+                  | 96-100            | Excellent          |
| A                   | 91-95             | Excellent          |
| A-                  | 86-90             | Excellent          |
| B+                  | 82-85             | Good               |
| B                   | 75-81             | Good               |
| B-                  | 72-74             | Good               |
| C+                  | 68-71             | Satisfactory       |
| C                   | 63-67             | Satisfactory       |
| C-                  | 60-62             | Satisfactory       |
| D+                  | 56-59             | Poor               |
| D                   | 50-55             | Minimum Pass       |
| F                   | 0-49              | Failure            |

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform College-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

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**Required Textbooks:**

Mitchell, W.O. *Who Has Seen the Wind*. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1947. Print.

Moss, Laura, and Cynthia Sugars, eds. *Canadian Literature in English: Texts and Contexts*. Vol. 2. Toronto: Pearson Education, 2009. Print.

Shields, Carol. *Unless*. Toronto: Random House Canada, 2002. Print.

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## Policies:

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly, as instructors use the Ambrose email system to notify students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If a student does not wish to use his or her Ambrose accounts, it is highly recommended that the student forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another account.

During the **Registration Revision Period**, students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit, or voluntarily withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty. Courses that a student drops before the end of the registration revision period will not appear on the student's transcript. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date. Please consult the List of Important Dates. After the end of the registration revision period, the student cannot drop the course without penalty or change from credit to audit, and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a Request to Withdraw from a Course by the **Withdrawal Deadline**. Please consult the List of Important Dates. A student who withdraws from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. A grade of "W" will appear on the student's transcript.

Students who wish to withdraw from a course but fail to do so by the applicable date will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

A student who finds a conflict in his or her exam schedule must submit a **Revised Examination** Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date. Please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the student has two exams scheduled during the same examination block; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) the student has extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

### Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to engage in electronically-enabled activities unrelated to the class during a class session. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Please do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. The professor has the right to disallow laptop use in the classroom or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if he or she does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

### Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is, information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement of enrolment in Ambrose University. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information, contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

### Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are granted at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a **Course Extension** from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination times must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline. Please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise due to circumstances beyond the student's control.

### Appeal of Grade

A student may make an appeal for change of grade on any course work, but the request must be made to the course instructor within one week after the student receives notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, and the application must provide the basis for

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appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

**Academic Integrity**

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University, as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment or for the course, or it can result in immediate dismissal from the university. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism and cheating and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

## Proposed Class Schedule

| Date                | Topic and Readings   | Assignments | Important Notes   |
|---------------------|--|-------------|---|
| <b>4 September</b>  | <b>Introduction to Canadian Literature</b>   |             | <b>Convocation Chapel</b>   |
| <b>9 September</b>  | <b>Canadian Literary Modernism</b><br>Manifestos <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moss and Sugars, “Introduction: Making It New in Canada” (M&amp;S 1-26)</li> <li>• Harris, “Revelation of Art in Canada” (M&amp;S 66-70)</li> <li>• Smith, “A Rejected Preface” (M&amp;S 94-95, 99-102)</li> </ul>               |             |   |
| <b>11 September</b> | The McGill Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith, “The Lonely Land” and “To Hold in a Poem” (M&amp;S 96-98)</li> <li>• Scott, “Laurentian Shield” (M&amp;S 82-85, 87-88)</li> </ul>   |             |   |
| <b>16 September</b> | Politics and Protest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Livesay, “Day and Night” (M&amp;S 161-168)</li> </ul>  |             | <b>Add/drop deadline: 14 September</b>                              |
| <b>18 September</b> | Prairie Fiction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitchell, Who Has Seen the Wind</li> </ul>  |             |   |
| <b>23 September</b> | Prairie Fiction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitchell</li> <li>• Critical Reading 1: Ricou, Laurence. “Trying to Embrace Our World: An Introduction” (via Moodle)</li> </ul>   |             |   |
| <b>25 September</b> | —  | —           | <b>Class cancelled for Spiritual Emphasis Days: 24-25 September</b> |
| <b>30 September</b> | Prairie Fiction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitchell</li> </ul>   |             |   |
| <b>2 October</b>    | Faith <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avison, “The Dumbfounding” (via Moodle)</li> </ul>  |             |   |
| <b>7 October</b>    | <b>Postmodernism and Cultural Nationalism</b><br>Postmodern Poetics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moss and Sugars, “Introduction: Nationalists, Intellectuals, and Iconoclasts” (M&amp;S 213-241)</li> <li>• Purdy, “The Country North of Belleville” and “The Dead Poet” (M&amp;S 272-276, 279-280)</li> </ul> |             |   |
| <b>9 October</b>    | Identity and Disunity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kroetsch, “Disunity As Unity: A Canadian Strategy” and “Stone Hammer Poem” (M&amp;S 317-319, 323-327, 331-334)</li> </ul>   |             | <b>Thanksgiving: 13 October</b>                                     |

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|--------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>14 October</b>  | Colonial Guilt: Reclamation and Redress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wiebe, “Where Is the Voice Coming From?” (M&amp;S 381-390)</li> <li>• Critical Reading 2: Crosby, Marcia. “Construction of the Imaginary Indian” (via Moodle)</li> </ul> |                             |   |
| <b>16 October</b>  | Colonial Guilt: Reclamation and Redress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nichol, “The Long Weekend of Louis Riel” (M&amp;S 507-511)</li> </ul>  | <b>Essay 1 due!</b>         | <b>Graduation application deadline:</b> 17 October  |
| <b>21 October</b>  | Quebecois Voices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lalonde, “Speak White” (via Moodle)</li> </ul>  |                             | <b>Arts and Science Lectureship:</b> 20-24 October  |
| <b>23 October</b>  | Maritime Voices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Macleod, “The Boat” (M&amp;S 411-425)</li> </ul>   |                             | <b>Last day to request a revised exam schedule:</b> 27 October                            |
| <b>28 October</b>  | —   | <b>Midterm Examination!</b> |   |
| <b>30 October</b>  | Feminist Voices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Munro, “Meneseung” (M&amp;S 334-351)</li> </ul>  |                             |   |
| <b>4 November</b>  | Feminist Voices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atwood, From <i>The Journals of Susanna Moodie</i> (M&amp;S 433-436, 441-446)</li> </ul>   |                             |   |
| <b>6 November</b>  | TISH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kearns, “Captivity” (via Moodle)</li> <li>• Marlatt, “musing with mothertongue” and “hidden ground” (M&amp;S 485-486, 489-492)</li> </ul>   |                             |   |
| <b>11 November</b> | —   | —                           | <b>Class cancelled for Remembrance Day</b><br><br><b>Withdrawal Deadline:</b> 12 November |
| <b>13 November</b> | <b>Contemporary Canada</b><br>Radical Poetries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Philip, “Discourse” (M&amp;S 589-591, 593-596)</li> <li>• Critical Reading 3: Butling, Pauline. “(Re)defining Radical Poetics” (via Moodle)</li> </ul>            | <b>Explication due!</b>     |   |
| <b>18 November</b> | Aboriginal Voices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ruffo, “Old Story” and “At Geronimo’s Grave” (via Moodle)</li> </ul>   |                             |   |
| <b>20 November</b> | Multiculturalism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From <i>The Canadian Multiculturalism Act</i> (M&amp;S 544-545)</li> <li>• Mistry, “Squatter” (M&amp;S 610-629)</li> <li>• Critical Reading 4: TBA (via Moodle)</li> </ul>                      |                             |   |
| <b>25 November</b> | Northern Voices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arluk, “Blue Collar, Red Trash” (via</li> </ul>  |                             |   |



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|--------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------------|
|                    | Moodle)<br>• Roberts, "A Song Like Heels Clicking"<br>(via Moodle)                              |                     |                             |
| <b>27 November</b> | Postmodern Ethics<br>• Shields, <i>Unless</i>   |                     |                             |
| <b>2 December</b>  | Postmodern Ethics<br>• Shields  |                     |                             |
| <b>4 December</b>  | Postmodern Ethics<br>• Shields  | <b>Essay 2 due!</b> |                             |
| <b>9 December</b>  | Literary Ecology<br>• Lane, "Winter 1," "Winter 4," "Winter 7,"<br>and "Winter 8" (M&S 563-566) |                     | <b>Last day of lectures</b> |
| <b>15 December</b> | <b>Final Examination!</b> 9:00 a.m., Room A2141   |                     |                             |