

**ENGLISH 0012B:
SHORT STORIES & NOVELS**

Brescia University College

Winter 2023

Asynchronous via Zoom

Instructor Information:

Lisa Macklem

Email: lmackle2@uwo.ca

Office: Zoom

Office Hours: Fridays 11:30am-12:30pm (All class times in EST/EDT)
and other times by appointment

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce the student to the study of literature with a focus on short stories and novels. The course will encourage a critical approach to literature, with special attention to essay-writing skills.

Prerequisite(s): Registration in a Preliminary Year program at Brescia University College.

Required Texts (Ordered to Campus Bookstore) (https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=BR&term=W2022B&courses%5B0%5D=530_BR/ENG0012B)

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood. Publisher: McClelland + Stewart;
SKU: 97807711008795

The Wars by Timothy Findley. Publisher: Penguin; SKU: 9780735234628

Links to Short Stories available either through the library or online will be provided as the semester progresses.

Grade Distribution and Methods of Assessment:

Assignment	Method of Assessment	%	Due Date
Mid-Term	With Essay component	10%	On-going
Quizzes	Based on posted lectures	10%	On-going – minimum of 6
Short Story Paper	Demonstrating engagement with class discussion (500 words)	20%	February 9
Novel Paper	Demonstrating engagement with research (1000)	30%	April 10
Final Exam	With essay component	30%	TBD

How the Course Works:

1. Lectures will be posted weekly. Some will be short and some will be longer, depending on content. The number will vary. Some lectures will cover essay writing, using sources, and documentation. These should be reviewed before EACH essay assignment is due.
2. Students are responsible for watching the lectures IN THE WEEK THEY ARE POSTED.

3. If you have questions about the lecture or assignments, please email me and come to my office hour as soon as possible. If my scheduled office hour is impossible for you to attend, we can make arrangements to meet at another time.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be available on Owl for one week. You will have approximately 20 minutes to complete them once you start, and they will consist of five to ten questions based on class lectures and assigned reading for the previous two weeks. We will aim to have 6 and I will count the best 5 of the 6 toward your final mark. There are no make ups for quizzes.

Mid-Term & Final Exam

Both will be available on Owl, and will be available for several days. However, once you begin an assessment, you must finish it in the time allotted.

Technical Requirements:



Stable Internet Connection



Laptop or Computer



Working Microphone



Working Webcam

Students can phone into zoom if they are experiencing technical difficulties. Students should also consult Western Technical Services (<https://wts.uwo.ca/>) with any technical problems they encounter – I can't help!

Learning Objectives:

This course will help students develop and hone all of Brescia's core competencies. Often these competencies overlap or blend; primary competencies are identified, however, as following:

1. Students will be able to write clearly and effectively with increased understanding of university level standards and academic discourse. (Communication)
2. Students will advance their literacy skills. Students will be able to formulate a logical argument and be able to engage with complex considerations raised by a text as well as additional sources. (Critical Thinking)
3. Students will be able to formulate a thesis and pursue a line of inquiry about a text. Students will be able to identify the presence and use of literary devices, genres and periods. Students will be able to ask sophisticated questions about a text and explore these ideas formally in their writing. (Inquiry and Analysis)
4. Students will be able to identify and examine issues of social justice raised by a literary text. Students will be exposed to various considerations of race and culture, and become adept at

recognizing, respecting and then appropriately reconciling tensions therein. (Social Awareness and Engagement)

5. Students will acquire editing and revision skills. Students will be able to respond to criticism and incorporate feedback into the amelioration of their work. (Problem Solving)

6. Students will become aware of their own social location and dignity through the act of empathetic as well as informed reading. (Self Awareness and Development)

7. Students will gain confidence and acumen in entering an academic conversation with self and mutual respect. Students will be able to draw upon how the humanities help us discern what it means to be human. (Valuing)

Course Policies:

All work must be your own original work. All campus guidelines regarding plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct will be followed. (See, too, *A Note on Plagiarism* below.)

Assignments: All assignments will be carefully explained in class lectures with supporting documentation posted on Owl. Formal assignments, exams and due dates are established well in advance.

Stay current on lectures and assignments. Please be sure to read assigned material before watching lectures. A list of short stories with links and assigned dates is available on Owl. It is your responsibility to bring any questions or concerns about any assignment to my attention before the deadline/exam date. Be sure to watch lectures and to take notes.

All work must conform to assignment guidelines.

Submission of Work: *Take full responsibility for your work, the first time around.* Other than drafts for workshops or appointments, I do not accept re-writes or offer extra-credit incentives/work. An important part of handing in your work is actually *handing in your work*. It is your responsibility to edit and ensure the receipt of your work *on time* and in *professional stylistic form*. Hand in all work on Owl under the appropriate Assignment on the due date. **DO NOT** submit via dropbox. ***Email submissions are not accepted. PDF submissions are also NOT accepted.***

Late policy: All formal assignments are due on the designated date. A penalty of 10% per day for up to three days applies to late work; a grade of zero will apply by the fourth day. Honouring a deadline offers many life skills which complement the academic ones offered by this course. Moreover, negotiating different due dates is unfair to your peers who have managed their time and commitments to make the original deadline. When missing tests and assignments worth 10% or more, students must meet with an academic advisor to provide documentation for accommodation.

Responsible Communication: Life happens, and while I hold high expectations for my students, I also aim to be fair. If you are struggling, please reach out to your academic advisor. If you are struggling with an assignment, please reach out to me *before* the due date. The more we can practice responsible and proactive communication, the more we can work out viable and just

solutions in a way that is fair to your peers and helps ensure a rich learning experience for all. Even if you just want to chat, please drop by the zoom office hour!

A Note on Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when a person falsely presents someone else’s ideas as his/her own work. This misrepresentation constitutes theft. It is unethical, dishonest, and ultimately destructive – it shows disrespect toward your peers, your instructor, your institution, and the intellectual community with which you are in dialogue. Most significantly, it whittles away at your own integrity and self-worth. Earning a degree is an achievement of the whole person – it reflects a development in spiritual, intellectual and ethical maturity. If you are tempted to breach the premise of trust on which our academic conversation and growth are based, you will suffer severe professional as well as personal consequences. Plagiarism will be addressed thoroughly in class; please also consult university resources. If any doubts remain, however, please see me *before* you hand in your work.

Schedule of Classes and Assignments

Date: Week of...	Topics/Readings	Assignments
January 9	Introduction to Course Introduction to narrative A list of assigned short stories is available on Owl – be sure to read the ones assigned by that week’s lecture.	
January 16	Introduction to narrative (continued) Figurative language, more on form. Short essay assignment explained and topics distributed.	Quiz
January 23	Writing formal essays; Primary vs secondary sources; MLA documentation; citing sources	
January 30	<i>The Wars</i>	Quiz
February 6	<i>The Wars</i>	Short Essay Due (February 9)
February 13	<i>The Wars</i>	Quiz
February 20	Reading Week	NO CLASS
February 27	Short stories	Mid-term
March 6	<i>The Handmaid’s Tale</i>	Quiz
March 13	<i>The Handmaid’s Tale</i>	
March 20	<i>The Handmaid’s Tale</i>	Quiz
March 27	<i>The Handmaid’s Tale</i>	
April 3	Short stories	Quiz
April 10	Last class: Wrap up/Prep for exam	Novel Essay Due (April 10)
TBD	Final Exam	Final Exam

2022-23 Brescia University College Academic Policies And Regulations

1. Policy Regarding Academic Accommodation

The complete policy regarding Accommodation for Illness - Undergraduate Students can be found at

https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_135

Students who have long-term or chronic medical conditions which may impede their ability to complete academic responsibilities should seek Academic Accommodation through Student Accessibility Services

(https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10).

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.

Students who experience an illness or extenuating circumstance sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

1. For medical absences, submitting a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner;

2. For non-medical absences, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to their Academic Advisor. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Advisor to clarify what documentation is acceptable.

Request for Academic Consideration for a Medical Absence

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 for illness 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 their academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated.

The following conditions apply for students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds:

1. Students must submit their Student Medical Certificate (SMC) along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. An SMC can be downloaded from https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf;

2. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period;

3. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, scheduled tests or examinations, and other academic requirements;

4. Students must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the SMC to clarify how they will fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence;

5. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the course instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements, arranging Special Exams (make-ups), re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawal without academic penalty.

2. Academic Concerns

If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge 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 are not normally considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor

(https://brescia.uwo.ca/enrolment_services/academic_advising/book_an_appointment.php).

If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines; please contact your Academic Advisor or see the list of sessional dates in the Academic Calendar

(<https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>

). 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.

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.

Please note that for asynchronous online courses, attendance or participation requirements may be different than for synchronous or in-person courses.

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 and warranted.

It is important to note that the Academic 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 (https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_64).

4. Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence at: https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. 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 Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, 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.

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 is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, they may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, they may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal and if the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the SRBA. For information on academic appeals consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

https://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14.

Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. Prerequisites

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written Special Permission from the 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 prerequisite(s).

7. Support

Support Services

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. Students can access supports through Brescia's Student Life Centre (<http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/student-life/>) and Learning Development & Success at Western (<https://www.uwo.ca/sdc/learning/>).

Mental Health and Wellness

Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can obtain information about how to obtain help for yourself or others through Health & Wellness at Brescia,

https://brescia.uwo.ca/student_life/health_and_wellness/index.php

and Health and Wellness at Western, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html.

Sexual Violence

All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence.

If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at https://brescia.uwo.ca/safe_campus/sexual_violence/index.php.

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 of Western Ontario.
