FALL COURSES


Fall (3)       Dr. Mark Libin

Through the lens of contemporary affect theory, we will be looking at how national identity, in this case, the post-apartheid South African identity, can be consciously shaped through affective forces. Following the end of that period of violent oppression, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings offered hope for a new era of peace and community. The first public reconciliation hearings in history, the public nature of these hearings were designed so that every citizen in South Africa could connect empathetically with the victims as well as the perpetrators of human rights abuses. This empathetic, emotional connection would be the foundation of the “new” South Africa, the “Rainbow Nation.” Following Deleuze and Guattari, as well as Brian Massumi’s elaborations of their work, and other theorists’ perspectives such as Sara Ahmed’s and Lauren Berlant’s, we will study affect not simply as a synonym for emotion, but as a complex of vital potential that is socialized and is directly relational rather than individual. Specifically, we will examine how the ideological imperative to facilitate national healing and reconciliation after the violent history of apartheid spawned a proliferation of the TRC’s message through various creative media including fiction, documentary film, and poetry.

This course is delivered remotely. It uses a combination of synchronous and asynchronous course design. My aim is to cultivate the culture of an in-person seminar course despite the obstacles posed by remote learning. We will be utilizing asynchronous material to help enhance our learning and optimize our synchronous class meetings. Students are expected to log in to UMLearn regularly in order to keep up to date with discussions, readings, and assignments.

Your computer or device, and Internet connection must meet the UM minimum requirements found here https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Student-Connectivity-Recommendations.pdf. These are required for all Fall 2020 classes.

During the term, we may use Webex or Zoom for synchronous class meeting times and individual consultation, so please ensure you can use both. The course will include audio and video files that can be played through UMLearn or downloaded to other devices. Please consult UMLearn for the list of texts to purchase ahead of the course start date.

Like a conventional seminar course, you will be expected to participate actively in synchronous class times, in addition to participation through asynchronous discussions and postings. All synchronous and asynchronous assignments will be designed to both facilitate interactive discussion and to avoid screen time fatigue.
ENGL 4630  Honours Seminar: Victorian Bodies  
Fall (3)  Dr. Vanessa Warne  
This course explores bodily experience and relationships between bodies and social identities in Victorian literature and culture. Topics to be explored include: invalidism, incarceration, sexuality, and sensory disability. Texts for study include: Wilkie Collins’ *The Law and the Lady*, Austin Reed’s *The Life and Adventures of a Haunted Convict*, Bram Stoker’s *Dracula* and Clemence Housman’s *The Were-Wolf*.

This course is delivered remotely. It uses a combination of synchronous and asynchronous delivery. Students will participate in synchronous learning during scheduled class time. Students will log in to UMLearn to stay up to date with discussions, readings, and assignments.

Your computer or device, and Internet connection must meet the UM minimum requirements found here [https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Student-Connectivity-Recommendations.pdf](https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Student-Connectivity-Recommendations.pdf). These are required for all Fall 2020 classes.

This course will remain online all semester. We will use Zoom for synchronous class meeting times and for individual consultations. Students will attend class on online (audio plus video) on Tuesdays (2:45-4:00); classes will combine discussion, learning activities, and short ‘live’ lectures. Students will use UMLearn to: contribute to discussion boards; view and take notes on recorded lectures; and complete other learning tasks, such as quizzes. Please consult the bookstore and UMLearn for the list of required texts for the course.

This course meets the University’s Written English (W) Requirement. Term work (70% of final grade) includes two essays (3000 words in total), quizzes, and participation in both posted discussions and synchronous meetings. You will have one week to complete a take-home final exam (30% of final grade) during the Fall Term exam period. There are required textbooks for this course; they are available for purchase from the U of M Bookstore. Individual online consultations will take place Tuesdays (10-11) and Thursdays (11:30-12:30) or by appointment.

ENGL 4630  Honours Seminar: American Travel Writing  
Fall (3)  Dr. Lucas Tromly  
This course will consider how the experience of travel, both within the U.S. and around the world, has provoked American writers to reconsider their relationship to their nation, to empire, and to each other. We will explore a range of mobilities and touristic scenarios, from joyriding beatniks, to diasporic return to an ethnic homeland, to the familiar figure of the ugly American abroad.

This course is delivered remotely. It uses a combination of synchronous and asynchronous delivery. This course will have weekly synchronous meetings. Students are expected to log in to UMLearn regularly in order to keep up to date with discussions, readings, and assignments. Students will also be required to post material on UMLearn to be shared asynchronously.

Your computer or device, and Internet connection must meet the UM minimum requirements found here [https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Student-Connectivity-Recommendations.pdf](https://centre.cc.umanitoba.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Student-Connectivity-Recommendations.pdf). These are required for all Fall 2020 classes.

This course will remain online all semester. We may use Webex or Zoom for synchronous class meeting times and individual consultation, so please ensure you can use both. The course will
include audio and video files that can be played through UMLearn or downloaded to other devices. Students may choose to use software to create audio, video, or other media, but this is not required.

**WINTER COURSES**

**ENGL 4630  Honours Seminar: Urbanization, Spectacle and Theatre in Early Modern London**
Winter (3) Dr. Glenn Clark

Early modern London was the object of celebration and satire in almost equal measure. This course will consider current perspectives on the relationship between the accelerated urbanization of early-modern London and its remarkably ambiguous representations on the dramatic stage. We will consider the theatrical aspects of the city, and the urban and urbanizing aspects of its theatre. We will identify various kinds of urban roles, performances and perspectives, and examine them in terms of their appeal to particular urban audiences. Among other factors, we will attend to the development of dense layers of government and regulation, capital accumulation, ideologies of settlement, and the transformation of marketing practices and innovations in consumption. Primary texts to be considered will include *A Midsummer Night's Dream, Measure for Measure, The Shoemaker's Holiday, A Chaste Maid in Cheapside, Bartholomew Fair, the Queen’s Majesty’s Passage*, and poetry by Isabella Whitney and Ben Jonson.

**ENGL 4630  Honours Seminar: Mediating the Mystical**
Winter (3) Dr. Jonah Corne

This course looks at the treatment of mysticism and mystical experience across a wide range of cinematic, literary, and philosophical texts. We will consider questions about the mystical—and in particular about its famously fraught mediation—in experimental, science-fiction, horror, and art cinema, and in writers such as the psychologist William James, the historian of Kabbalah Gershom Scholem, and the modern-day mystic Simone Weil. Students in no way need to come equipped with a committed belief in the transcendental, merely an openness towards, and curiosity about, ventures to push and exceed the boundaries of human understanding. Ultimately, we will also be thinking about the place(lessness) of mysticism in contemporary society, reading recent theorists who imagine possibilities for the mystical in the face of criticisms against it, who see it as something other than a strictly bad (delusory, naive, exoticizing, etc.) object.

**ENGL 4630  Honours Seminar: Past the Plantation in Toni Morrison and Zora Neale Hurston**
Winter (3) Dr. Dana Medoro

In this course, we will study selected novels by two Black women writers: Toni Morrison's *Song of Solomon* and *A Mercy*; and Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. Written in the 20th and 21st centuries, these novels explore the American slave-institution’s effects on Black women (both during and after slavery) and the forms of self-invention their characters practice and acquire. Development of close-reading skills and facility with contemporary theory on the plantation (and plantationocene) are the aims of this course.