

WRIT 1700 9.0
Writing: Process and Practice
SU 2023

Course Instructor: Maxine Wood

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Office hours and location: Please email for a virtual appointment

Land Acknowledgment

York University recognizes that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships with the territories upon which York University campuses are located that precede the establishment of York University. York University acknowledges its presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Huron-Wendat. It is now home to many First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities. We acknowledge the current treaty holders, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region

Course Overview:

This course considers a wide range of written expression such as fiction, nonfiction, poetry and other genres, with an emphasis on the theory and practice of writing.

Course Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Develop skills to critically examine the writing process
- Practice a range of reading, writing, and thinking strategies
- Critically examine the form and content of diverse forms of writing including film and life writing
- Produce work appropriate to the genre and context of the writing assignments

Course Format and Organization

This course is fully online and asynchronous. There are no scheduled class meetings. Instead, we will work through material and activities together at the same pace using discussion forums. Course content will be delivered via video lectures and written transcripts in order to be as accessible as possible. Please inform your tutorial leader of the best ways to meet your learning needs.

Participating Faculty: contact information, office hours, and email policy

Lecture: Posted by Monday at 12 noon on eClass

Tutorial #	Tutorial Leader	Contact Info	Office Hours
01	Maxine Wood	maxinew@yorku.ca	Visit your tutorial on eClass for office hours and email policy
02	Snezhana Harizanova	snezh@yorku.ca	Visit your tutorial on eClass for office hours and email policy

03	Benjamin Freedman	freedman@yorku.ca	Visit your tutorial on eClass for office hours and email policy
04	Dion Tubrett	dtubrett@yorku.ca	Visit your tutorial on eClass for office hours and email policy
05	Rositza Georgieva	rositag@yorku.ca	Visit your tutorial on eClass for office hours and email policy
06	Janet Melo-Thaiss	janetmt@yorku.ca	Visit your tutorial on eClass for office hours and email policy

Technical requirements

Several platforms will be used in this course (e.g., eClass, Zoom, etc.) through which students will interact with the course materials, the Course Director, TA, as well as with one another.

Using Zoom

Students shall note the following:

- Zoom is hosted on servers in the United States and Canada. Recordings done since May 4, 2022 are stored in Canada. For more information, please refer to the notes on [Zoom Privacy and Security](#) provided by Information Security at York.
- If you have privacy concerns about your data, provide only your first name or a nickname when you join a session.
- The system is configured in a way that all participants are automatically notified when a session is being recorded. In other words, a session cannot be recorded without you knowing about it.

Here are some useful links for student computing information, resources, and help:

- [Student Guide to eClass](#)
- [Zoom@YorkU Best Practices](#)
- [Zoom@YorkU User Reference Guide](#)
- [Student Guide to eLearning at York University](#)

To determine Internet connection and speed, there are online tests, such as [Speedtest](#), that can be run. If you need technical assistance, please consult the [University Information Technology \(UIT\) Student Services](#) web page. For more specific assistance, please write to askit@yorku.ca.

Please note that there is a public discussion board for general questions about assignments, schedules and other course challenges. Your peers may have similar questions, so it will benefit everyone to ask publicly. Feel free to assist your peers if you know the answer. Your Instructor/TA will monitor and respond when necessary. Personal issues should be communicated with your Instructor/TA outside of this forum.

Course Evaluation

Assessment	Due date	Value (% of final grade)
Academic Writing Portfolio		
Part 1	May 26	10%
Part 2	June 9	Peer assessment
Part 3	June 16	10%

Part 4	July 7	20%
Life Writing Portfolio		
Part 1	July 14	Peer assessment
Part 2	July 21	10%
Part 3	July 28	15%
Film Analysis	August 11	15%
Discussion Posts	Ongoing	20%

Optional Grace Period of 72 hours extension for Final submission of most assignments including the Final Portfolios. No approval is needed but no written feedback is provided. The optional grace period is not applicable to the Drafts of Portfolios or to the Peer Reviews as these are collaborative in nature. It is also not applicable to the Film Analysis.

NOTE: Course marks are allocated as per Senate guidelines, no extra credit assignments are possible.

Coursework is composed of two writing portfolios and a film analysis. Each portfolio includes several smaller assignments/drafts that will help you to succeed on the final version of your project. You must complete all the exercises and/or drafts to receive a grade for the final assignment. Keep all pre-assignments and drafts in a portfolio and hand in all work to date with each assignment. There are no exceptions to the portfolio requirements. Incomplete portfolios will result in a loss of marks.

Required Course Materials

All course readings will be available on the course eClass page.

Required Films (These films are available from the York library)

Black Panther

Do the Right Thing

IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

Assignment submission: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received by the due date specified for the assignment. **If you cannot make a due date, it is your responsibility to negotiate with your Tutorial Leader.** Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized and will not be accepted after 10 days. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by your Tutorial Leader but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor's letter).

Papers are expected to demonstrate the use of correct scholarly conventions. Clarity and precision of thought in written form is required on all assignments. Appropriate references must be included and properly documented. Good grammar and spelling are expected. Please refer to the style guides found by following the "Footnotes, Bibliographies and RefWorks" link on the library's homepage: <http://www.library.yorku.ca/ccm/jsp/homepage.jsp>. All papers should be typed double-spaced with one-inch margins in 12pt font. Your name, student number and the title of the assignment should appear on the first page of your assignment.

Assignments are to be submitted as a Word or PDF document to the dropbox in eClass.

Grading

The grading scheme for this course conforms to the 9-point system used in undergraduate programs at York University. For a full description of the York grading system, visit the York University [Academic Calendar](#).

GRADE	GRADE POINT	PERCENT RANGE	DESCRIPTION
A+	9	90-100	Exceptional
A	8	80-89	Excellent
B+	7	75-79	Very Good
B	6	70-74	Good
C+	5	65-69	Competent
C	4	60-64	Fairly Competent
D+	3	55-59	Passing
D	2	50-54	Marginally Passing
E	1	(marginally below 50%)	Marginally Failing
F	0	(below 50%)	Failing

Assignments are due on the dates noted. Only under certain circumstances can alternate submission dates be arranged. If this becomes necessary, it is your responsibility to notify your Tutorial Leader in advance to negotiate alternative arrangements. When unexpected circumstances arise, as they sometimes do, it is necessary to speak to your Tutorial Leader about an extension **prior to the due date**.

All course assignments should use the MLA style for citation.

- Information on the MLA style can be found online at https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/index.html
- Proper citation is required for all coursework. You must properly attribute every source that you either quote or paraphrase from, including books, articles, films, director's commentaries, newspapers, and internet websites.
- If you can find sources from which to plagiarize, your instructor can also find them.
- The consequences of plagiarism can range from a grade of zero on the assignment to removal from the university and the withholding of your academic degree. Do not jeopardize your academic career with any form of academic dishonesty!
- Accordingly, the course director would like to credit Professors Janet Melo-Thaiss, Jon Sufrin, Andrea MacKenzie, and Stevie Bell for their ideas and guidance on assignment structure and course content for WRIT 1700.
- Full citation for course articles can be found on the course's eClass website.

Academic Honesty and Integrity

In this course, we strive to maintain academic integrity to the highest extent possible. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing the [SPARK Academic Integrity module](#) before you submit your first portfolio. SPARK provides excellent online

guidelines, tutorials and checklists to assist you in your academic work, including writing essays, citing sources and avoiding plagiarism. Your instructor takes academic integrity very seriously and will be checking to make sure that the work you submit is your own work, and that you paraphrase, quote and cite your sources appropriately. Breaches of academic integrity range from cheating to plagiarism (i.e., the improper crediting of another's work, the representation of another's ideas as your own, etc.). All instances of academic dishonesty in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities, and can be punishable according to the [Senate Policy on Academic Honesty](#). York students are required to maintain high standards of academic integrity and are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. The York University Senate Policy on Academic Honesty provides serious penalties for representing someone else's work as your own, including failing the course (<http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/>).

Access/Disability

York provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials. These services are made available to students in all Faculties and programs at York University.

Students in need of these services are asked to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Please note that registering with disabilities services and discussing your needs with your professors is necessary to avoid any impediment to receiving the necessary academic accommodations to meet your needs. Additional information is available at <https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/>

Religious Observance Accommodation

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should an assignment to be completed in a lab, practicum placement, workshop, etc., scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course director immediately. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained online at <https://secure.students.yorku.ca/pdf/religious-accommodation-agreement-final-examinations.pdf>. The university's religious observances accommodation policy can be found at <https://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-accommodation-for-students-religious-observances-policy-guidelines-and-procedures/>

Student Conduct

Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate

academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. A statement of the policy and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available on the York website <http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=82>

Please note that this information is subject to periodic update. For the most current information, please go to the CCAS webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents):

<https://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/senate/>

Enrolment and Drop Deadlines

Last date to add course without permission of the instructor:	May 22, 2023
Last date to add course with permission of the instructor:	June 5, 2023
Last date to drop course without receiving a grade:	July 7, 2023
Withdrawal Period (receive a “W” on transcript):	July 17-August 15, 2023

Special note for Summer 2023

York University is hosting the Congress of Learned Societies this year. As a result, there will be a Congress Break, scheduled for May 27-June 2, 2023. This is a pan-university break that applies to all courses, including online offerings, during this period. While the university will remain open during this time, no classes will be held.

Extra Learning Supports and Resources for Students:

The Writing Centre supports students as they develop the skills and strategies required to become effective, independent writers through one-to-one tutoring. You may book appointments through the Writing Centre to work with a writing instructor on assignments at any stage in your writing process from understanding your assignment and getting started to substantive revision of drafts. Please note that the Writing Centre is not an editing service. In order to uphold your academic integrity, you are to play an active role in all decisions related to your writing. To sign up or book an appointment click [here](#) or visit the Writing Centre website at:

<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/writing-centre/sign-in/>

The ESL Open Learning Centre offers support in reading writing and speaking, to English as a Second Language students. Tutors do not edit your work but help you to improve your skills and to learn new ones. To sign up or book an appointment, visit <https://www.yorku.ca/laps/eslolc/> or click [here](#)

Week # & Dates	Topic	Readings, Activities & Due Dates
Week 1 May 8-12	Introduction to the course & Reading with awareness/mindful reading	Ami, Nancy et al., "Reading Academic Writing" Carillo, Ellen. "Developing a Repertoire of Reading Strategies" & "Further Strategies That Make Reading Visible"
Week 2 May 15-19	Academic writing and the writing process	Irvine, Lennie. "What is Academic Writing?" Ede, Lisa. "Understanding the Writing Process." Ami, Nancy et al., "Writing Processes"
Week 3 May 22-26	The Art of Rhetoric: Ethos, Logos, and Pathos	Carroll, Laura Bolin "Backpacks vs: Briefcases: Steps Towards Rhetorical Analysis" Kelly, Erin et al., "Everything's Persuasion" King, Jr. Martin Luther. "Letter From Birmingham Jail." Due: Annotation of reading (Part 1.1 of Academic Portfolio)
Congress Break: May 27-June 2, 2023		
Week 4 June 5-9	Drafting the essay Summaries and paraphrasing	Carillo, Ellen. "Writing and Revising Academic projects" Graff, Gerald & Birkenstein, Kathy. "The Art of Summarizing" Due: Rough draft (Part 1.2 of Academic Portfolio)
Week 5 June 12-16	Revising and peer editing	Perl, Sondra. "Understanding composing" DePeter, Ron. "How to Write Meaningful Peer Response Praise" What It Means to be a Peer Reviewer https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OzqSs4e5emI How to write effective peer review comments https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kMWZBDUIHUA Due: Peer Review (Part 1.3 of Academic Portfolio)
Week 6 June 19-23	Tying it all together	Meyer, Craig. "The Evolution of Imitation: Building Your Style" Graff, Gerald & Birkenstein, Kathy. "Ain't So/Is Not" & "The Art of Metacommentry" Academic Integrity quiz https://spark.library.yorku.ca/academic-integrity-Week-objectives/
Summer Break: June 27-July 2		
Week 7 July 3-7	Personal essays, personal arguments	Kincaid, Jamaica. "On seeing England for the first time" Orwell, George. "Shooting an Elephant" https://www.orwellfoundation.com/the-orwell-foundation/orwell/essays-and-other-works/shooting-an-elephant/ Due: Academic Portfolio

Week 8 July 10-14	The art of narrative	Beard, Joanne. "The Fourth State of Matter" Chupack, Cindy. "In Marriage Beware of Big Boxes" Due: Rough draft (Part 1 of Life Writing Portfolio)
Week 9 July 17-21	Writing from the margins	hooks, bell. "Writing From the darkness" King, Thomas. "Borders" Due: Peer review (Part 2 of Life Writing Portfolio)
Week 10 July 24-28	Understanding criticism as a genre/film	Bordwell, David. "Making Films Mean" Edwards, Erica & Esposito, Jennifer. "Reading Film Intersectionally" Coogler, Ryan. (dir.) <i>Black Panther</i> Due: Final Portfolio (Part 3 of Life Writing Portfolio)
Week 11 July 31-Aug 6	The limits of criticism	Radtke, Jennifer. "Do the Right Thing in Black and White: Spike Lee's Bi-cultural Method" Lee, Spike. (dir.) <i>Do the Right Thing</i>
Week 12 Aug 7-11	Course wrap up	Due: Film criticism analysis.