

FW 2024-25

AP/EN 4005 3.0A (F)	<i>Literature and Animals</i>
Course Director:	Name: Allysha Vineberg Office: TBA e-mail: vallysha@yorku.ca
Time:	Mondays, 4 p.m.-7 p.m. Room: RS 101
Delivery Format:	SEMINAR
Description:	What do we mean by the term “animal”? What do we do with the animals we encounter in literature? How do we write about consciousnesses and lives that are largely unknown to us? How do contemporary political, historical, and social frameworks shape the way we write about animals and their literary effects? This seminar explores the ways in which a range of texts represent animals in literature: metaphorically, rhetorically, instructively, and (if possible) realistically. We will encounter a range of genres, medias, and forms in studying the way animals make up a living and evolving system in literary studies. By combining critical and theoretical writing with the primary works, this seminar investigates how the literary production of animals is informed by questions of ethics and aesthetics, gender and sexuality, and post-colonial and cultural identities.
Category:	A
Historical Requirement:	N/A
Requirements:	Method of Evaluation: Participation (15%) Response Papers (3 x 5% each, 15% total) Presentation (20%) Proposal and Annotated Bibliography (15%) Final Paper (35%) <i>*Assignment Descriptions and Grade Breakdown will be available on eClass and syllabus.</i>
Reading List:	Books: Alexis, André, <i>Fifteen Dogs</i> (2015) Coetzee, J.M., <i>The Lives of Animals</i> (1999) Córdova, Gerardo Sámano, <i>Monstrilio</i> (2023) Du Maurier, Daphne, “The Birds” (1952) Johns, Jessica, <i>Bad Cree</i> (2023) Kafka, Franz, <i>The Metamorphosis</i> (1915) Plath, Sylvia, “The Bee Meeting,” “The Arrival of the Bee Box,” “The Swarm,” “Wintering” (1965) Spiegelman, Art, <i>Maus I: A Survivor’s Tale: My Father Bleeds History</i> (1986)

	<p>Van Pelt, Shelby, <i>Remarkably Bright Creatures</i> (2022)</p> <p>Film: Hitchcock, Alfred, <i>The Birds</i> (1963)</p> <p><i>*This list is tentative and subject to minor changes.</i></p> <p><i>** Each reading will be accompanied by selected passages and texts from corresponding theoretical and critical works.</i></p>
Open To:	Year 3 & 4