

## *Summer 2017*

**AP/EN 1006 3.0A (S1)**

### ***A Writer's Introduction to Literary Forms***

**Course Director:**

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**Delivery Format:**

Fully Online

**Time:**

NA

**Description:**

This course explores the technical details of literary texts. We will consider the way form shapes content: how is something said in a poetic form, like a sonnet, different from the same thing being said in a narrative form, like a novel, and how does that in turn differ from the same thing being said in a script? We will look at how elements of form operate as the “deep structures” of texts. This course is divided into three modules: poetry (traditional and modern forms), prose (fiction and non-fiction) and script (from paper to screen). In each section we will unpack how the structures of the text work to create meaning. After looking at the various ways poetry uses and relies on form to evoke feelings, to reinforce ideas and to unsettle meanings, we will turn our attention to a modern novel. We will learn about the various ways the narrators rely upon, and subvert, our expectations as readers. We will then read a non-fiction essay to consider how the same techniques used by a fictional narrator are used by a 'real' narrator. Finally, we will look at a screenplay which relies on generic conventions and blends ideas of reality and fiction as we ask, ultimately, “what is real”?

The goals of this course include:

- improving essay writing
- becoming familiar with the way form conditions content
- and becoming comfortable with applying critical concepts to enable a close reading of a text.

**The course consists of lectures and discussion forums posted to Moodle on Mondays and Thursdays. Students are expected to participate in the course at least 4 times a week.**

**Category:**

NA

**Area:**

NA

**Period:**

NA

**Historical Requirement:**

NA

**Requirements:**

Forum Discussions: 20% (all term)

Poetry test: 15% (held May 11/12 on moodle)

Poetry essay (750-1000 words): 20% (due May 15 uploaded to moodle by 11:55pm)

Narrative essay (1250-1500 words): 25% (due June 1 uploaded to moodle by 11:55pm)

Exam: 20% (available June 12; uploaded to moodle by June 15 11:55pm)

**Reading List:**

Poetry (available on moodle)

Flynn, Gillian. *Gone Girl*

D'Agata, John and Jim Fingal. *The Lifespan of a Fact*

Flynn, Gillian. *Gone Girl Shooting Script* (available on moodle)

These books are available through the York University Bookstore. Used bookstores around Toronto as well as online bookstores often have these books in stock. You can also find them in the York Libraries.

**Open To:**

Any year level