

## ***Fall/Winter 2018-2019***

**AP/EN 1006 3.0M (W)**

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

**Course Director:**

Megan Hillman  
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Office Hours: Thursdays 12-1pm or by appointment

**Delivery Format:**

Seminar

**Time:**

Seminar: Thursdays 8:30-11:30am

**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 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 a three hour seminar each week which will include lecture and discussion.

**Category:**

N/A

**Historical Requirement:**

N/A

**Requirements:**

Poetry essay (750-1000 words)	15%	January 31, 2019
Poetry test	20%	February 7, 2019
Final essay (1250-1500 words)	25%	March 14, 2019
Final exam	25%	Held during the winter examination period
Participation	15%	

**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 and libraries around Toronto as well as online bookstores often have these books in stock. The edition does not matter.

**Open To:**

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