

Summer 2020

AP/EN 2220 6.0A (SU)

Canadian Literature

Course Director:

Dana Patrascu-Kingsley
Email: danapk@yorku.ca

Delivery Format:

Fully Online

Time:

N/A

Description:

This course is a survey of literary culture in Canada from the eighteenth century to the present. We will read and discuss first contact narratives, pioneer memoirs, confederation poetry, modernist and contemporary writing, and we will consider how the concept of nation has changed in the Canadian imagination. Early constructions of Canada as a colony and the place of First Nations peoples in these constructions will be set in dialogue with later understandings of the Canadian nation as a more heterogeneous construct. Students are encouraged to look at the socio-historical context of the texts they are reading, as well as to examine the meanings of these texts in the contemporary context.

The texts selected are representative of the variety of voices that exist in Canadian literature. Various literary genres and the ways in which they depict and are influenced by time, location, gender, class, and ethnicity/race will be investigated in order to get an overview of the complexities of Canadian literature.

Category:

C

Historical Requirement:

Period II (1700-1900)

Requirements:

1000-word close reading assignment (15%); 2000-word research essay (25%); open-book midterm (20%); weekly participation in forum discussions (20%); open-book final test (20%).

Reading List:

TENTATIVE Readings:

Anthology TBA
Gabrielle Roy—*The Tin Flute* (New Canadian Library)
Michel Tremblay—*Les Belles Soeurs* (Talonbooks)
Tomson Highway—*The Rez Sisters* (Fifth House Books)
Michael Ondaatje—*In the Skin of a Lion* (Vintage Canada)
Dionne Brand—*What We all Long For* (Vintage Canada)

Open To:

Years 2, 3