



English 3333E (550): Forms of Adaptation, A Critical Making Course (2021-2022)

1. Course Information

Course Name, Number, Section: English 3333E

Instructor(s): Dr. Scott Schofield, Dr. John Vanderheide

Contact Information: sschofi4@uwo.ca (Schofield); jvande29@uwo.ca (Vanderheide)

Office: V129 (Schofield); A203 (Vanderheide)

Office Hours: In-person office hours announced first day of classes; remote meetings by appointment

Class Location: HC-W108

Scheduled Class Times: Tues 3:30-5:30; Thurs 2:30-3:30

Prerequisites: At least 60% in 1.0 of any 1000-level English course, or permission of the Department.

2. Course Description

An event-based course where students disseminate their ideas in a public forum. Possible examples may include: an undergraduate conference, a dramatic performance, a community-based roundtable, an interactive website.

Specific Focus:

In this team-taught “event-based” course, students combine traditional reading and researching in literary and cultural studies with a community-based research and “critical making” component. The core theme of the course is ADAPTATION, and its centrality in literary history and modern culture. Exploring different forms of adaptation in a variety of literary, theoretical and other texts, students will engage in traditional and community-based research and a number of possible critical making activities. Our study of forms of textual adaptation will revolve around T.S. Eliot’s classic modernist poem, *The Waste Land*. On the one hand, *The Waste Land* remains shocking in its unprecedented newness, in its strange and difficult mix of voices and narratives. But on the other, the poem is self-consciously traditional, an unconventional adaptation of the literary and theological traditions of Indo-European civilization: everything from ancient Greek mythology, Judeo-Christian and Hindu Scriptures, medieval Grail legend and all the way to texts of modern philosophy and politics. Students will also explore how Eliot’s own adaptations of these texts and these early traditions differ from both his predecessors such as Ovid, Dante or Webster, his contemporaries such as Woolf and Barnes, or later writers such as Ishmael Reed. Part of the research into the “after-history” of the poem may involve the examination, critique and adaptation of a recent digital app of Eliot’s poem produced by Faber and Faber. Students may study and critique the app, and make use of these critiques when building their own digital adaptations. Our study of media adaptation (such as the adaptation of literature to

cinematic and digital media) will be informed by media studies scholarship spanning decades.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

Successful students who complete the course will:

- Develop a critical understanding of T.S. Eliot’s poetry, focused on *The Waste Land*: its cultural significance, its place in literary history, its reception in literary criticism, its adapted sources and poetic techniques
- Develop a critical understanding of the scope and significance of practices of textual and media adaptation in general, in cultures of the past and our own
- Apply this understanding of adaptation in making and performing adaptations of their own
- Develop a critical understanding of the place of the humanities within the digital realm and the place of the digital within the humanities
- Apply knowledge gained from critique of digital products to construct a digital archive on a literary work, figure or movement
- Develop their presentation skills in a formal context

4. Textbooks and Course Materials

Barnes, Djuna. *Nightwood* (New Direction)
 Eliot, T.S. *The Waste Land* (Norton Critical Edition)
 Reed, Ishmael. *Flight to Canada* (Scribner)
 Webster, John. *The Duchess of Malfi* (Norton Critical Edition)
 Woolf, Virginia *Orlando* (Mariner)

5. Methods of Evaluation

| FALL TERM | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| Assignment | Due | Weight |
| The Duchess of Malfi (in adaptation) Reflection | Nov 18, 2021 | 5% |
| Primary Doc Assignment | Dec 7, 2021 | 15% |
| Attendance/Participation | Ongoing | 10% |

| WINTER TERM | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Assignment | Due | Weight |
| Research essay | Jan 20 | 20% |
| Group Assignment | WORTH 40% | |
| App critique | Feb 17 | 10% |
| Performing The Waste Land | Mar 17 | 20% |
| ‘these fragments’ | Mar 24 | 10% |
| Attendance/Participation | Ongoing | 10% |

Any students unable to attend synchronous class sessions due to international travel restrictions must identify themselves to Academic Advising and the instructor. An alternative assessment rubric may be developed.

6. Tentative Class Schedule/ Syllabus

FALL TERM

Week 1 (Sept 9): Introduction to T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*

Week 2 (Sept 14, 16): Eliot's early poetry (selections provided)

Week 3 (Sept 21, 23): Eliot's early criticism (selections provided)

Week 4 (Sept 28, 30): Ovid, *Metamorphoses* (selections provided)

Week 5 (Oct 5, 7): Troubadour poetry (selections provided)

Week 6 (Oct 12, 14): Dante, *The Divine Comedy* (selections provided)

Week 7 (Oct 19, 21): Eliot's essays on Dante (selection provided)

Week 8: Oct 26, 28: John Webster, *The Duchess of Malfi*

FALL READING WEEK (Nov 1-7)

Week 9 (Nov 9, 11): Webster, *The Duchess of Malfi*

Week 10 (Nov 16, 18): Thomas Malory, *Morte D'Arthur* (selection provided)

Week 11 (Nov 23, 25): William Morris (selections provided)

Week 12 (Nov 30, Dec 2): Virginia Woolf, *Orlando*

Week 13 (Tuesday Dec 7): Woolf, *Orlando*

WINTER TERM

Week 1 (Jan 4, 6): Djuna Barnes, *Nightwood*

Week 2 (Jan 11, 13): Barnes, *Nightwood*/Introduction to 19th century Abolitionist literature

Week 3 (Jan 18, 20): Abolitionist literature continued/Ishmael Reed, *Flight to Canada*

Week 4 (Jan 25, 27): Reed, *Flight to Canada*

Week 5 (Feb 1, 3): Adaptation and Critical Making in Contemporary Rap

Week 6 (Feb 8, 10): Group Workshop begins

Week 7 (Feb 15, 17): Workshop continues

WINTER READING WEEK (Feb 21-27)

Week 8 (March 1, 3): Workshop continues

Week 9 (March 8, 10): Workshop continues

Week 10 (March 15, 17): Workshop continues

Week 11 (March 22, 24): Workshop continues

Week 12: March 29, 31 GROUP WORK PRESENTATION WEEK

Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Pandemic Contingency

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf
. The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be

expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may not collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>
Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>
Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>
Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>
Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>
Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca
Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca
Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.