

Course ID:	Course Title:	Winter 2019
EN 480	Capstone Seminar	Prerequisite: Restricted to students in the English major program and to be taken in the last year of study
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	Monday	Instructor:	Dr. Rita Dirks	First day of classes:	Thu, Jan 3
Time:	12:30-1:45	Email:	rita.dirks@ambrse.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Jan 13
Room:	RE 146	Phone:	(403) 410-2000, ext. 5900	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Mar 11
Lab/ Tutorial:		Office:	L2067	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri, Mar 22
		Office Hours:	1:00-2:30 pm T/Th	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Fri, Mar 29
Final Exam:	n/a			Last day of classes:	Fri, Apr 5

Course Description

Run as a seminar, this course serves as an occasion for graduating students to integrate and consolidate their literary training. A variety of methodological, theoretical, and practical questions that animate the discipline of English will be addressed throughout the course. The research paper forms the core of the capstone, for at some 7500 plus words the paper serves as the equivalent of an honours thesis at the baccalaureate level.

Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Students will read texts, articles, and literary theory critically
2. Students will master leading class discussions, after learning key ideas, particularly the ideas's strengths, weaknesses, consequences, tensions, and applications.
3. As the culmination of their experiences in the English program, students will write a final paper, "What is English?"
4. Each student will write a scholarly research paper or mini-thesis (30-45-pages), integrating a critical apparatus with interdisciplinary scholarship.

Textbooks

- Felski, Rita. *Uses of Literature*. Malden/Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2008.
- Huysmans, Joris-Karl. *Against Nature (A Rebours)*. Trans. Robert Baldick. London: Penguin, 2003.
- Watson, Sheila. *The Double Hook*. Toronto: McLelland & Stewart, 1989.
- Wilde, Oscar. *A Picture of Dorian Gray*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1998.

Recommended Readings

- Beckson, Karl, ed. *Aesthetes and Decadents of the 1890s: An Anthology of British Poetry and Verse*. Chicago: Academy Chicago P, 1981.
- Bentley, D.M.R. *The Confederation Group of Canadian Poets, 1880-1897*. Toronto: U of Toronto P, 2004.
- . *The Gay]Grey Moose: Essays of the Ecologies and Mythologies of Canadian Poetry, 1690-1900*. Ottawa: U of Ottawa P, 1992.
- Betts, Gregory. *Avant-Garde Canadian Literature: The Early Manifestations*. Toronto: U of Toronto P, 2013.
- Boyiopoulos, Kostas. *The Decadent Image: The Decadent Image: The Poetry of Wilde, Symons and Dowson*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP, 2015.
- Bradbury, Malcolm, and James McFarlane. *Modernism: A Guide to European Literature, 1890-1930*. London: Penguin, 1976.
- Burrow, J.W. *The Crisis of Reason: European Thought, 1848-1914*. New Haven: Yale UP, 2000.
- Cevasco, G.A. *The Breviary of Decadence: J.-K. Huysmans's A Rebours and English Literature*. New York: AMS P, 2001.
- Desmarais, Jane, and Chris Baldick. *Decadence: An Annotated Anthology*. Manchester: Manchester UP, 2012.
- Dirks, Rita. "Hierophants of Decadence: Bliss Carman and Arthur Symons." *Volupté: Interdisciplinary Journal of Decadence Studies* 1 (2018): 35-55.
- Ellmann, Richard. *Oscar Wilde*. New York: Knopff, 1988.
- Fox, Paul, ed. *Decadences: Morality and Aesthetics in British Literature*. Stuttgart: Ibidem P, 2014.
- Gilman, Richard. *Decadence: The Strange Life of an Epithet*. New York: Farrar, Strauss, and Giroux, 1979.
- Hall, Jason David, and Alex Murray, eds. *Decadent Poetics: Literature and Form at the British Fin de Siècle*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.
- Hogg, Roberts, ed. *An English Canadian Poetics*. Volume I: The Confederation Poets. Vancouver: Talonbooks, 2009.
- Irvine, Dean, ed. *The Canadian Modernists Meet*. Ottawa: U of Ottawa P, 2005.
- Kolocotroni, Vassiliki, Jane Goldman, and Olga Taxidou, eds. *Modernism: An Anthology of Sources and Documents*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP, 1998.
- Kröller, Eva-Marie, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Canadian Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2004.
- Ledger, Sally, and Roger Luckhurst. *The Fin de Siècle: A Reader in Cultural History c. 1880-1900*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2000.
- Lynch, Gerald, ed. & intro. *Bliss Carman: A Reappraisal*. Ottawa: U of Ottawa P, 1990.
- O'Brien, Kevin. *Oscar Wilde in Canada: An Apostle for the Arts*. Eugenia: The Battered Silicon Dispatch Box, 2010.
- Reed, John R. *Decadent Style*. Athens: Ohio UP, 1985.
- Stephan, Phillip. *Paul Verlaine and the Decadence, 1882-1890*. Totowa: Rowman and Littlefield, 1974.
- Trehearne, Brian. *Aestheticism and the Canadian Modernists: Aspects of a Poetic Influence*. Kingston: McGill-Queen's UP, 1989.
- Weir, David. *Decadence: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2018.

---. *Decadent Culture in the United States: Art and Literature against the American Grain, 1890-1926*. Albany: SUNY P, 2008.

---. *Decadence and the Making of Modernism*. Amherst: U of Massachusetts, P, 1995.

Course Schedule

January	7	Introduction to Capstone
	14	Felski, <i>Uses of Literature</i> : Introduction and Chapter 1
	21	Felski, Chapter 2 and Chapter 3
	28	Felski, Chapter 4 and Conclusion
February	4	What Is English? Submission of Thesis Topic
	11	Decadence/Symbolism/Aestheticism/Fin de Siècle
	25	Baudelaire, Verlaine, Dowson, Johnson, Pater
March	4	Huysmans, <i>Against Nature</i>
	11	Wilde, <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>
	18	Decadence and Modernism in Canada
	25	Bliss Carman
April	1	Watson, <i>The Double Hook</i>

Requirements

Discussion of theory, criticism, and literature	40%
Reflection Paper (What Is English?)	15%
Scholarly Project (30-45 pages)	45%

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory, in order to graduate.

Grade Summary

Letter Grade	Percentage
A+	96-100
A	91-95
A-	86-90
B+	82-85
B	75-81
B-	72-74

C+	68-71
C	63-67
C-	60-62
D+	59-59
D	50-55
F	0-49

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a

laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.