



# ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

## St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo

Department of English  
English 201 (041) Fall 2020

### The Short Story

Online. Lectures to be uploaded Tuesdays or by the latest on Wednesdays, with other communications by e-mail.

**Instructor:** Mark Spielmacher [msspielm@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:msspielm@uwaterloo.ca)

My office in Sweeney Hall is inaccessible due to COVID-19. I will hold regular "office hours" by frequently checking my e-mails throughout the day on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

### Course Description

English 201 "deals with the history and techniques of the short story, with emphasis upon works by . . . British, American, and Canadian writers" (University of Waterloo Undergraduate Calendar). Along with close readings of texts and class discussions, we will also spend time discussing successful strategies for developing arguments and planning and composing English essays.

### Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

Students will develop a vocabulary for identifying the generic conventions of short fiction, as well as for analyzing texts, applying critical concepts, and comparing and discussing literary works comfortably and clearly; students will gain confidence in creating and defending critical and analytical arguments about literary works; students will also improve skills in organization, composition, and expression of ideas.

### Required Texts

You will require *English 201: The Short Story*, which can be obtained through [this link](#). There is no cost for this ebook, but does require the use of Adobe Editions to read it. If you don't already have a Adobe Editions account, you will need to make one. The process is pretty straightforward. To download the book, use your WATIM credentials and check out using the link. You will then get instructions on

how to download the software (if you don't already have it installed) and the actual book as well. If you run into any troubles, please contact the following support email: [support@campusebookstore.com](mailto:support@campusebookstore.com)

In order to start the course on time, you should obtain the course material as soon as possible.

Recommended resource: link to [Purdue University's Online Writing Lab \(OWL\)](#)

### Course Requirements and Assessment

Assignment descriptions are found below; more guidelines will be provided.

|                               |                       |     |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----|
| Participation                 | (throughout the term) | 10% |
| Short analysis paper, draft 1 | Oct. 6                | 5%  |
| Short analysis paper, draft 2 | Oct. 20               | 10% |
| Short essay, draft 1          | Oct. 27               | 5%  |
| Short essay, draft 2          | Nov. 10               | 15% |
| Term paper outline            | Nov. 17               | 5%  |
| Term paper                    | Dec. 3                | 30% |
| Take-home test                | Dec. 3                | 20% |

1. Participation: make sure you read the assigned stories in advance of the week's on-line presentation. Each week, you will be assigned a few questions about the current week's readings. Provide brief written responses to two or more of these questions each week; these responses will help me to assess your preparedness and thoughtfulness. (10%)
2. Short analysis paper (draft 1): you will select a passage to analyze from a story from the course text (feel free to read ahead); the first "draft" will involve the completion of a handout designed to guide your thinking. This draft/handout is due on October 6<sup>th</sup> and will be returned within a couple of days. (5%)
3. Short analysis paper (draft 2): use the feedback from your returned draft to compose a formal written analysis (500 words), due October 20<sup>th</sup> (the first class back after the study break). (10%)

4. Short essay (draft 1): you will get a list of potential topics and be asked to generate some rough analytical work and a working thesis. This draft is due on October 27<sup>th</sup> and will be returned within a couple of days. (5%)
5. Short essay (draft 2): consider the feedback on your returned draft and compose your essay, to be submitted by November 10<sup>th</sup>. (15%)
6. Term paper outline: this 1-2 page document, due on November 17<sup>th</sup>, will provide a sense of your thinking and organization for your term paper. More details and suggested topics will be provided. (5%)
7. Term paper: your term paper outline assignment will be returned as soon as possible. If I have indicated serious concerns, I encourage you to get in touch with me to discuss your ideas further. The term paper (1,200 – 1,500 words) will be due by December 3<sup>rd</sup>. (30%)
8. Take-home test: this test will be started on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and you will have 36 hours to complete it. The test will cover the second half of the term. (20%)

### **Course Outline / Class Schedule**

September 8: brief lecture on the form of the short story

September 15: Hawthorne

September 22: Poe and Bierce

September 29: Gilman, Chopin and Crane

October 6: Melville and Leacock

October 20: Joyce

October 27: Glaspell and Thurber

November 3: Woolf

November 10: Baldwin and Dahl

November 17: Munroe, Kincaid and Paley

November 24: Griggs and McCormack

December 1: Concluding lecture

**Late Work**

Late assignments will be under normal circumstances be penalized 2% per day; however, I recognize that we are living in stressful times, so I am generally willing to relax this policy. Please do your best to let me know in advance if you feel you will need additional time to finish work, and provide reasonable excuses along with appropriate documentation where appropriate. In particular, do your best to submit drafts of assignments on time so that I can get feedback to you as soon as possible. Assignments must be entirely the student's own work, with all citations properly referenced.

**Correspondence**

When contacting me by e-mail, please provide your full name and any other details that might be helpful. I am teaching three different courses this term, so reminding me of the context will be appreciated.

**OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION [REQUIRED LANGUAGE APPROVED BY SJU SENATE COUNCIL]**

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. [Check [www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/) for more information.]

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances, [www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/upload\\_file/PLCY\\_AOM\\_Student-Petitions-and-Grievances\\_20151211-SJUSApproved.pdf](http://www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/upload_file/PLCY_AOM_Student-Petitions-and-Grievances_20151211-SJUSApproved.pdf). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the St. Jerome's Advising Specialist, Student Affairs Office, who will provide further assistance.

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. [Check [www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/) for more information.] A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules"

for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline, [www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY\\_AOM\\_Student-Discipline\\_20131122-SJUSApproved.pdf](http://www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY_AOM_Student-Discipline_20131122-SJUSApproved.pdf). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to University of Waterloo Policy 71, Student Discipline, [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm). For typical penalties, check the Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties, [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm).

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals, [www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY\\_AOM\\_Student-Appeals\\_20131122-SJUSApproved.pdf](http://www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY_AOM_Student-Appeals_20131122-SJUSApproved.pdf).

**Note for students with disabilities:** AccessAbility Services, located in Needles Hall (Room 1401) at the University of Waterloo, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term, [www.uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/).