

Faculty of Health Sciences
School of Kinesiology
Western University

Kin 3378F/Eng 2680F - Sport in Literature
Fall 2016

Instructor: Matthew Waddell

Location: AHB 1B08

Lectures: Tuesdays (9:30AM-11:30AM) and Thursdays (10:30AM-11:30AM)

Email: mwaddel2@uwo.ca

Office: Room 2141, Thames Hall

Office Hours: Thursdays - 11:30AM - 1:30PM or by appointment

Introduction:

During this course, we will explore the nature of sport and human relationships with its practice as reflected in fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. By engaging in comparative reading across varied sources of literature, we will develop and define understandings of recurring themes. The primary objective of this course is to develop critical reading, writing, and thinking skills in response to the challenge posed by engaging with these texts and the opinions of others in the classroom.

Course Readings:

- 1) *Shoeless Joe* by W.P. Kinsella
- 2) *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway
- 3) *The Bone Cage* by Angie Abdou
- 4) *Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing* by Tomson Highway
- 5) *Friday Night Lights* by H.G. Bissinger
- 6) *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* by Daniel James Brown
- 7) *Night Work: The Sawchuck Poems* by Randall Maggs
- 8) Additional readings uploaded to OWL.

All texts are available at the UWO Book Store. From time to time, additional readings will be uploaded to OWL that are meant to complement these works. We will establish an approximate schedule for the readings during the first two sessions of class so that you will be able to complete them ahead of when they will be reviewed and discussed.

Course Format and Expectations:

All assigned readings must be completed in advance of the classroom session in which they will be discussed. Expect all classes to involve a mix of both lecture-style presentation as well as open discussion. Your participation in classroom sessions is both expected and encouraged. All opinions on or about the texts will be respected, however you must be prepared to support your argument with evidence based on a close reading of the written work(s).

The use of computers for the purpose of note-taking in class is permitted. Programs meant for purposes other than word processing are not to be used during class time (internet browsers, email, games, etc.).

Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted unless approval has been sought from the instructor in advance.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- a) **Identify and delineate** theoretical terms and concepts related to literary analysis (Knowledge)
- b) **Deconstruct** poems, essays, and novels through literary analysis (Analysis)
- c) **Synthesize and develop** a thematic argument or thesis based on one or more of the course texts (Comprehension)
- d) **Support and expand** on that argument with specific reference to textual evidence (Application)
- e) Understand the assigned reading material to the point that they can **prompt and lead engaging discussions** on it with others (Reflection)

Assignments and Grading:

Mid-Term Examination: 25%

Teaching a Poem or Short Essay: 10%

Essay: 30%

Participation: 5%

Final Exam: 30%

Mid Term Examination: The exam is essay format. Students will be provided with five potential questions in advance of the exam, and be required to answer two of them. The choice of which questions must be answered will be made by the instructor. (25%)

Date: October 18th, In Class

Teaching a Poem or Short Essay: You will be randomly placed in small groups and asked to teach a sport-themed poem or piece of fiction. Group size will be determined based on final class enrolment. A list of possible poems will be posted to OWL, however independently chosen submissions are encouraged if approved by the course instructor. (10%)

Date: Starting October 25th, In Class

Essay: This essay is to be a full analysis of either a sport literature novel of your choice or a collection of poems/short stories/essays about sport. All choices of subject texts must be approved by the instructor by Thursday, October 13th. A hard copy must be submitted in class, as well as an electronic copy uploaded to OWL in Word format by the start of class. (30%)

Date: November 17th, In Class

Participation: Your participation in class discussion will be graded on both frequency as well as quality of contribution. (5%)

Date: In Class

Final Exam: The exam is essay format. Students will be provided with seven potential questions in advance of the exam, and be required to answer three of them. The choice of which questions must be answered will be made by the instructor. (30%)

Date: TBD, during exam period

Course/University Policies

Lateness/Absences: Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the assigned due date and will not be accepted late, except under medical or other compassionate circumstances. Electronic submission of assignments will not be accepted (unless otherwise specified) under any circumstances. Submitting a late assignment without appropriate documentation will result in a zero (0) grade. Appropriate documentation for assignments worth less than 10% should be submitted to the Undergraduate office. A missed mid-term examination without appropriate documentation will result in a zero (0) grade. The course policy is not to allow make-ups for scheduled midterms, presentations or final exams, nor to assign a grade of Incomplete without acceptable and verifiable medical (or equivalent compassionate) reasons. Acceptable reasons might include hospital stays, serious illness, family emergencies (like serious accidents or illness, death) or similar circumstances.

Written documentation: Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. stating specific reasons and dates. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner. Documentation for any request for accommodation shall be submitted directly, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Academic Counselling Office of the student's Faculty/School of registration not to the instructor, with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. These documents will be retained in the student's file, and will be held in confidence in accordance with the University's Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy. See <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> for specific policy and forms relating to accommodation.

Grades: Where possible assignment objectives and rubrics will be posted on OWL. Should you have a concern regarding the grade you received for an assignment or feel that it is unfair in any way, you must wait 24 hours from the receipt of the assignment to approach the instructor. In doing so, please make an appointment and prepare in writing, with evidence, why you feel your grade is inappropriate. Please be aware that in requesting a grade reassessment, your grade could go up/down/or stay the same. Note that calculation errors should be brought to my attention immediately.

Scholastic Offences: They are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

- a) Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar and the note on plagiarism below). All required papers might 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 Western University and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>)

- b) Computer marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. dfasdffas

Examination Conflict Policy: “A student who is scheduled to write more than two examinations in any 24-hour period may request alternative arrangements through the office of their Academic Counsellor.” *This policy does NOT apply to mid-term examinations. There will be no make-up for the mid-term exam. Students who miss this exam with a valid reason will have the final re-weighted accordingly.

Classroom Behaviour: Class will begin promptly at the time specified at the top of page one of this syllabus. In the event that you must arrive late, please enter the classroom with a minimal disturbance to the class. I reserve the right to lock the classroom door and deny entrance if lateness becomes a common occurrence. Excessive talking during class time is disruptive, disrespectful, and will not be tolerated. Students engaging in such behaviour may be asked to leave the room. Cellular phones and text-messaging devices are disruptive when they are used in class. If you must bring these with you, please place them on silent mode or turn them off during class. Failure to do so may result in your being asked to leave.

Support Services: There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

Student Development Centre -- <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/>

Student Health -- <http://www.shs.uwo.ca/student/studenthealthservices.html>

Registrar’s Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>

Ombuds Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

English Proficiency for the Assignment of Grades: Each student granted admission to Western must be proficient in spoken and written English. Students must demonstrate the ability to write clearly and correctly. Work presented in English in any subject at any level, which shows a lack of proficiency in English and is, therefore, unacceptable for academic credit, will either be failed or, at the discretion of the instructor, returned to the student for revision to a literate level.

Plagiarism Policy: Excerpted from Senate Regulations:

“Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). The University of Western Ontario uses software for plagiarism checking. Students may be required to have their written work submitted, by the instructor to a program called Turnitin for plagiarism checking.” Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated in this course, and penalties will be assessed against those students found to have infringed on these regulations. The minimum consequence will be a grade of 0% on any assignment in which plagiarism is detected.

Prerequisites and Anti-requisites: Please note that you are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an anti-requisite course. Lack of a prerequisite or the completion of an anti-requisite cannot be used as

a basis for appeal. If you are found ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will not receive an adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed.