

Prof. Joyce Boro  
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Autumn 2020  
Wednesday 1-4pm

## ANG1100 Initiation to English Literary Studies

### Description:

Literature is alive. Its various forms surround us and help to create the vibrant cultural spaces we experience on a daily basis. By attending literary events and engaging in various writing, reading, and cultural activities, students will learn how to access and explore literature within the university and the city so that they can develop their own personal, idiosyncratic relationship with the literary. This course will help students understand their academic programme, its place within the larger discipline of English Literary Studies, and its range of professional applications. Students will learn reading, writing, research, and study skills that will serve them well in all other literature classes.

This is an **online synchronous** class. Class meetings will not be recorded.

This class involves attending online and local (where possible) literary events. All proposed class excursions will be in accordance with government and university regulations. Options will be provided for students who are unable to attend for medical or geographical reasons.

### Objectives:

At the end of this course, students will understand:

- \* the scope of the discipline of English Literature
- \* the professional applications of their programmes
- \* the objectives and the progression of their programme
- \* how to do research
- \* how to approach various literary genres
- \* the place of literature in our society
- \* their own literary world

### Texts:

- \* Selections of poetry and fiction by Montreal writers on StudiUM
- \* Live streams of theatre (TBA, depending on schedules)

### Events (provisional list):

- \* *Relations: Diaspora and Painting*, Fondation Phi. 465 Rue Saint Jean, Montréal, QC H2Y 2R5. (date TBD)
- \* *The Portico Project*, Details TBA. Centaur Theatre, 453 Saint François-Xavier, Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 2T1. (date TBD)
- \* *Les Voisines*, created by Arianna Bardesono, urban audio walk through Outremont and Mile End. Starts at corner of Mont-Royal & Esplanade. (date TBD)

### Other Events TBA:

- \* I will be posting information about online and local lectures, theatre, and literary readings (poetry and prose) that you can attend

### Assignments:

Forum posts	30%
Literary Montreal Presentation/Essay	40%
Literary Map	20%
Participation	10%

### Forum Posts:

You will be required to post to online discussion forums on a weekly basis. You will either be asked to post discussion questions that your classmates will answer or to respond to questions that I post.

Posts should be polite and constructive and should aim to generate conversation, reflection, constructive debate, and/or deepen the discussion.

Each post will be worth approximately 0,5 - 1% of your grade, adding up to a total of 30%. All serious posts that are submitted on time will get full marks.

Posts will be due by the Monday before class at midnight. Responses will be due by Wednesday before class at 11am.

### Literary Montreal Presentation and Essay:

Presentations: November 25

Essay Workshop: December 2

Essays Due: December 9

Montreal is a literary city: it is home to many writers and many of the city's locations are fictionalised in novels, poems, and plays. For this assignment, you will pick a selection from a work of literature that is set in an actual location in the city. This may be a poem or a short extract from a novel, short story, or play. You will do a 10 minute oral presentation and write an essay of 3-4 pages. The oral presentation may be done live or pre-recorded, but you must be "in class" on the day of the presentation. 10% of your grade is based on your presentation. 5% of your grade is based on participating in the essay workshop. The essay is worth the additional 25%. Detailed instructions are posted on StudiUm.

### Literary Map

Due date: November 4

For this assignment, you will create a personal map of your literary world and write a paragraph explaining your creative process. The map may be of your literary journey (how you got to your here and now), of your current literary landscape, of what you long to experience, or a combination of the three. The map can take many forms and be created using a variety of media. We will do a series of memory-generation and cartographic activities through the semester that will help you to conceptualise this project.

### Participation

You will be graded on your contribution to class discussions and on your involvement in group activities. Participation includes both speaking and active listening. It is thus essential that you: attend class regularly; arrive on time; complete the assigned weekly readings, viewings, or experiences, and come to class ready to discuss them; bring your texts to class.

### Additional Information

- \* I encourage you to talk to me if you have any questions or concerns about the course.
- \* The university guide on how to use zoom is here:
- \* [https://wiki.umontreal.ca/display/SIE/FAQ+Zoom?preview=%2F162469304%2F162469306%2FGuide\\_Zoom\\_participant.pdf](https://wiki.umontreal.ca/display/SIE/FAQ+Zoom?preview=%2F162469304%2F162469306%2FGuide_Zoom_participant.pdf)
- \* All written work will be graded on content, organization, grammar, spelling, and quality of writing.
- \* Your work must conform to MLA guidelines. The MLA handbook is available at the library and at all major bookstores in Montreal, including the university bookstore.
- \* Extensions will only be granted for serious reasons. Late work will be penalised at the rate of 3% per day.

If you are absent from class, please contact one of the following two people to find out what you have missed. If they cannot help you, ask me.

Classmate 1 (name + email or tel.): \_\_\_\_\_

Classmate 2 (name + email or tel.): \_\_\_\_\_

### Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism - the stealing or "borrowing" of another person's written work and passing it off as one's own - is a very serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when:

- a) the work submitted was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work;
- b) an entire work (e.g., an essay), is copied from another source, or parts of the work are taken from another source without explicit reference to the author;
- c) an essay copies a sentence or paragraph of another work with minor variations.

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without explicit acknowledgement, but also when original ideas from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography or "works cited" is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; formal modes of citation (i.e., page numbers and the author's name in parenthetical references) must be used for this purpose.

The minimal disciplinary measure for cases of plagiarism is an F on the assignment, essay, or exam. Professors are required to report such cases to the Dean. Further measures can include an F in the course, suspension from the Faculty, and even the requirement to withdraw from the University.

If you are unclear on the definition of plagiarism or you are unsure about how to avoid it, please do not hesitate to ask me. Ignorance is not a valid defence.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.integrite.umontreal.ca>