Descriptif

This course will examine how anglophone literary movements of the 20th Century respond to political conflicts, crises, and outright war. Examining multiple genres, from poetry to novels, psychoanalysis, memoirs, films, and the visual arts, we will interrogate the role that aesthetic movements played in moments of (global) political crisis, as well as how these genres adapted to represent the previously unimaginable (the devastation of world war, shell shock/PTSD, dispossession, war crimes, etc.). At the level of form, we will ponder the ways in which literary narrative encodes public traumas and creates alternative histories. Classes will include lively discussion, and class requirements include a short paper, midterm exam, and frequent journal entries.