

Effective Semester: Spring 2026

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title: Canadian Literature

Course Number: ENGL 103

Credits: 3

Total Weeks: 14 (Fall, Spring)
12 (Summer)

Total Hours: 39

Course Level: First Year Second Year
 New Revised Course
 Replacement Course

Department: English

Department Head: B. Lord

Former Course Code(s) and Number(s) (if applicable):
N/A

Pre-requisites: (one of the below)

- English 12 minimum C+
- Minimum overall score of 6.0 on the IELTS (Academic) with a minimum score of 6.0 on the writing component
- Minimum overall score of 60 on the PTE (Academic) with a minimum score of 60 on the writing component
- Minimum overall score of 80 on the TOEFL iBT with a minimum score of 19 on the writing component
- Minimum score of 70 on the writing band of CAEL
- Coquitlam College ENGL 099 with an "S" grade (minimum 60%)
- Acceptable achievement on the Coquitlam College University English Assessment Test

Co-requisite Statement (List if applicable or type NONE): None

Precluded Courses: N/A

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course students are introduced to the major themes in Canadian literature. The course is intended for students who have a strong interest in literature and who have shown themselves to be good writers. Students are expected to compare and analyze various works for style, content, historical perspective and literary history, and for their own response to the act of reading. The course includes the study of poetry, short fiction, the novel and some secondary criticism.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Be a more supple reader of texts.
- Have familiarity with genres, and a diversity of Canadian texts.
- Understand the forms, construction, history, and development of Canadian Literature, and which has gained international respect and recognition.
- Close read, deep read a text, identifying its argument, essential critical ideas.
- Read against the grain for greater textual excavations.
- Write the literary analysis essay
- Do an MLA- style literary analysis presentation on a text; preceded by writing a proper proposal.
- Analyze a text using various modes of discourse and critical concepts; understand such concepts as sensibility, ideology as paradigmatic; and situate cultural concepts within modernist, postmodernist, and where apt, transhumanist discourses.
- Apply said theories to the genres we read.
- Gain experience with all aspects of the writing process, including generating a topic, focusing your topic, creating a focused thesis statement, writing paragraphs with analysis of textual evidence as support, conclusions, quoting and paraphrasing using MLA style, and revision.

INSTRUCTION AND GRADING

Instructional (Contact) Hours:

Type	Duration
Lecture	39
Seminars/Tutorials	
Laboratory	
Field Experience	
Other (<i>specify</i>):	
Total	39

Grading System: Letter Grades Percentage Pass/Fail Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Other

Specify passing grade: 50%

Evaluation Activities and Weighting (total must equal 100%)

Assignments: % <i>Specify number of, variety, and nature of assignments:</i>	Lab Work: %	Participation: 20% <i>Attendance – 5% Participation – 15%:</i>	Project: 20% <i>Specify nature of project:</i>
Quizzes/Test: %	Midterm Exam: 30%	Final Exam: 30%	Other: %

TEXT(S) AND RESOURCE MATERIALS

Provide a full reference for each text and/or resource material and include whether required/not required.

Donovan, Kevin. *The Billionaire Murders: The Mysterious Deaths of Barry and Honey Sherman*.
 McLachlin, Beverley. *Truth Be Told: My Journey Through Life and the Law*.
 Simpson, Leanne Betasamosake. *This Accident of Being Lost: Songs and Stories*.
 Wagamese, Richard. *One Story, One Song*.
 Key handout, or a set of master keys: “Elements of Fiction: Decoding Fiction, and Non-fiction.”

References

Barry, Peter. *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory*.
 Buckley, Joanna. *Fit to Print: The Canadian Student’s Guide to Essay Writing*. Latest ed.
 Culler, Jonathan. *Literary Theory: An Introduction*.
 Ephron, Hallie. *...Mystery Novel...*
 An authoritative English-English dictionary which gives the etymology of words.
 A comprehensive book of idioms.
 Reading news and features in English on related cultural developments in Canadian literature, arts & culture as well as ways of living.

COURSE TOPICS

List topics and sequence covered.

Week	Topic
Week 1	Introduction and Handouts. Genres, Rhetoric, Narrative, Structuring/s “Elements of Fiction”: Setting the Tone and the Pace
Week 2	Bream Gives Me Hiccups...(J.Eisenberg)
Week 3	Bream Gives Me Hiccups...(J.Eisenberg) Team Formation Deep Mining: L.M. Simpson’s Acuity This Accident... (L. M. Simpson); Literary Analysis Project Overview
Week 4	Deep Mining: L.M. Simpson’s Acuity This Accident... (L. M. Simpson); Literary Analysis Project Overview
Week 5	Writing Refreshers Workshop; More Narrative Analysis–Film: East End Sushi MIDTERM
Week 6	More Narrative Analysis–Film: East End Sushi LA Project Consultations
Week 7	LA Project Consultations; Presentations Begin
Week 8	Presentations Canadian Noir: Hermeneutic Puzzle-Solving (the Classic and the [Post]Modern
Week 9	Murder Stone (L. Penny)
Week 10	Murder Stone (L. Penny)
Week 11	Murder Stone (L. Penny) Local and Global: A Canuck Perspective (it’s the Economy) The King of Shanghai (I. Hamilton)
Week 12	The King of Shanghai (I. Hamilton)
Week 13	The King of Shanghai (I. Hamilton); Comparing the Knowledge Quests in Stone and in King
Week 14	Overall Review FINAL EXAM

NOTES

1. Students are required to follow all College policies. Policies are available on the website at: [Coquitlam College Policies](#)
2. To find out how this course transfers, visit the BC Transfer Guide at: bctransferguide.ca

Last Reviewed: December 2025

Last Revised: December 2025