

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

www.mlcs.ualberta.ca

**2015-2016 C LIT 230 A1 Scandalous Fiction
(Fall Term)**

Instructor: Rasoul Aliakbari
Office: 413-c Old Arts Building
Telephone: xxx Fax: 780-492-9106
E-mail: rasoul@ualberta.ca
Personal Website: xxx

Time: T & R 14:00-15:20
Place: T B 5
Office Hours: Thursday 16:00-18:00
or by appointment
Course Website: eClass

Course Prerequisite: xxx or consent of department

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed, no such projects approved.

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

- Exam registry – Students' Union
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class
- Other (please specify)
- NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

This course mainly aims to introduce students to scandal in fiction from antiquity to contemporary times. The course will contain different literary genres and modes such as tale, romance, novella, poetry, and satire as well as cinematic works. The class will examine various types of scandal including religious, political, commercial, and sexual in order to historicize the concept across time and place.

Texts:**Required**

Books available in University Bookstore.
Other materials will be provided during the course.

Recommended

MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. Alternative online resource:
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Class attendance and participation in discussions: 15%

Presentation on course texts: 10%

Mid-term exam: 15% (Oct 8)

Term paper: 25% (5-6 pages, due Nov 17)

Presentation of term paper: 5% (Nov 17)

Final Exam: 30% (Monday Dec 14 @ 14:00)

<http://www.registraroffice.ualberta.ca/en/Examinations/Fall-2015-Winter-2016-Exam-Planner.aspx>

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

January 15, 2016 OR mutually agreeable arrangements prior to January 15 will be made with student(s) eligible for deferred exam

[http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.5.html#23.5.6\(3\)](http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.5.html#23.5.6(3))

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

[Further explanation will be provided in class, and supplementary guidelines will be available on eClass.]

Class attendance and participation

Class attendance and participation are mandatory. Discussions about class materials will be conducted in groups and/or class-wide. Students are expected to study the course materials and do the assignments before class and be ready for the discussions.

Presentation on course texts

Each student will present on a course text of their choice. The presentation is a report on scholarly writings on the text. The report may be on the social and/or political context of the text, how the text has been received by readers, and how it is related to scandal. The sources can be 3 scholarly essays, or 3 chapters of an edited volume, or 1 scholarly book. Each presentation is at least 15 minutes and may be followed by questions from the audience. Making slides is highly recommended.

To find scholarly sources, students are encouraged to browse such databases as MLA International Bibliography, ProQuest, JSTOR, etc. Feel free to contact the instructor or librarians to learn more about using databases.

Mid-term exam

The mid-term exam is designed to evaluate students' learning of the course contents up to the exam's date. Students will be tested on textual and contextual information presented/discussed in the course.

Term paper

Term paper is 5-6 pages excluding pictures, tables, figures, etc. Citing 3 scholarly secondary sources is required. Original to the student, the term paper must contain analytical reflections about the texts in the course. Students are expected to demonstrate their critical and/or comparative reading abilities in the papers. Also, students are encouraged to do comparative studies amongst two/several texts. Essays **MUST** use MLA style and are to be submitted **IN HARD COPY IN CLASS** on November 17. Late submissions will entail grade penalties (5% per day).

Presentation of term paper

Each student will present their paper on November 17. They are expected to orally share the results of their critical and/or comparative thinking with the class. It is important that the thesis statement is clearly stated and brevity is preserved.

Final Exam

The final exam is designed to test students' knowledge of the course materials. It will contain essay questions requiring short/long answers. Questions will be about the textual and contextual offerings in the entire course. Pre-mid-term and post-mid-term materials will comprise 40% and 60% of the exam questions respectively.

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University calendar.”

Academic Integrity:

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment safe and free of discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels this policy has been or is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that directs discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the student ombudservice (<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/>).

Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110> .

Academic Honesty:

All students should consult the information provided by the [Office of Judicial Affairs](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” **Students in languages courses** should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#) .

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

In this course, your participation grade will be based on regular class attendance and informed involvement in discussions and activities.

Policy for Late Assignments:

In-advance consultation with instructor concerning circumstances preventing timely completion of assignments may, at the discretion of the instructor, earn the student an extension. Otherwise, late submission of assignment will entail a 5% penalty per day including weekends and holidays.

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; Email sasrec@ualberta.ca; Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB www.ssds.ualberta.ca).

Grading:

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below (“**MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale**”). The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Letter	%	Pts	Descriptor
A+	95-100%	4.0	Outstanding: Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of the subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94%	4.0	Excellent: Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	86-89%	3.7	Very good: Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	Very good
B	75-81%	3.0	Good: average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	70-74%	2.7	Good
C+	66-69%	2.3	Satisfactory: Basic understanding of the subject matter
C	61-65%	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	58-60%	1.7	Satisfactory
D+	55-57%	1.3	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
D	50-54%	1.0	Minimal Pass: Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49%	0.0	Fail: Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.