

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2021-2022 C LIT: 352 A1: Literature and the Other Arts
(Fall Term)

Note: Remote Delivery

Instructor: Elena Siemens
Office: REMOTE
E-mail: elena.siemens@ualberta.ca
Personal Website: N/A
Course Website: eClass

Time: M W F 11:00-11:50
Place: REMOTE
Office Hours: TBA
or by appointment

Bachelor of Arts / Major in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies/undergraduate-program-information/prospective-undergraduate-students>

Course Prerequisite: None

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Technology requirements (minimum): You will need regular access to a computer with an internet connection, working microphone, speakers/headset, and webcam. You will also need basic browser plug-ins (PDF reader, video, audio). It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate technology for the course.

Experiential Learning Component

this course has a significant experiential learning component (15% or more of the course grade)

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

Yes No, not needed

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

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

C LIT 352 focuses on Literature, Popular Culture, and the Visual Arts. This time the course will address the subject of NAVIGATING THE CITY IN TEXT, FILM, AND PHOTOGRAPHY as represented in text (Italo Calvino to Takashi Murakami to Douglas Coupland), film (Martin Scorsese to Wim Wenders to Guy Maddin), photography (Alexander Rodchenko to Daido Moriyama to Jeff Wall), as well as video games, graffiti, commercial and fashion ads. Interdisciplinary in its scope, this course explores literature and visual media by authors and artists of various national and ethnic cultures. Depictions of the city will be discussed in the context of contemporary debates on consumption, globalization, social structures and movements, identity, race and gender. Along with more traditional written and oral assignments, students will be encouraged to complete more creative tasks, such as contributing to a student pop-up exhibit related to the representation of the city in various media.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- 1) Identify key concepts and leading theorists in the field of Urban Studies and related areas of Urban Culture History (Avant-Garde to now); The City in Film; The City in Photography and Advertisement; Urban Culture Blogs; Gendered City; Global Cities; The City and Style Subcultures.
- 2) Discuss major issues within the discipline of Urban Studies and related areas (as above).
- 3) Along with more traditional written and oral assignments, students will learn to complete creative tasks (art exhibits, short photo/video presentations).

Course Format: The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of formal lectures, guest presentations, assigned readings and audiovisual materials.

Texts:

Selected texts and visual material to be distributed by the instructor (see Selected Bibliography below).

Additional Course Fees

Yes No

Important Dates: [See Academic Schedule in current Calendar](#)

First Day of Class: September 1, 2021

Add/Delete Date: September 15, 2021

50% Withdrawal Date: October 4, 2021

Withdrawal Date: November 30, 2021

Last Day of Class: December 7, 2021

Components of Course Grade (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Attendance and Class Participation: 25% (weekly oral & written in-class work)

Homework: 25% (weekly written and oral assignments)

Midterm Project: 20% (on or around October 15, 2021)

Final Project: 30% (on or around December 1, 2021)

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Attendance and participation: Active in-class participation is fundamental to your success in this course and applies whether we meet in a physical room or remotely. In-class participation includes not only evidence of individual preparation and attention, but also contribution to group work. You are also expected to attend class regularly and punctually.

Homework: Students will be asked to complete assignments from the textbook’s website or from other material provided by the instructor. Students are responsible for completing assignments on time. Each student will receive a grade, when appropriate, for homework. Students are responsible for making up work that is missed due to excused absence. The work to be made up must be handed in the day the student returns to class.

Midterm & Final Projects: The midterm project is comprised in such a way as to give students a good idea of their final project. Students are encouraged to contact the instructor with regard to any difficulty.

Selected bibliography:

Anderson, Benedict. "Imagines Communities: Nationalism's Cultural Roots," in Daring, Simon. *The Cultural Studies Reader*. Routledge, 2007. ISBN-10: 0415374138

Barthes, Roland. *The Eiffel Tower and Other Mythologies*. University of California Press, 1997. ISBN-10: 9780520209824

Baudrillard, Jean. *America*. Verso, 2010. ISBN-10: 9781844676828

Benjamin, Walter, et al. *One-Way Street*. The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2016. ISBN-10: 9780674052291

Calvino, Italo, *Invisible Cities*. Vintage Classics. 2002, ISBN-10: 0099429837

Coupland, Douglas. *City of Glass: Douglas Coupland's Vancouver*. Douglas and McIntyre, 2009. ISBN-10: 1553653599

De Certeau, Michel. "Walking in the City," in Daring, Simon. *The Cultural Studies Reader*. Routledge, 2007. ISBN-10: 0415374138

Hebdige, Dick. "Subculture and Style," in Daring, Simon. *The Cultural Studies Reader*. Routledge, 2007. ISBN-10: 0415374138

Lefebvre, Henry. "Notes on the New Town," in During, Simon. *The Cultural Studies Reader*. Routledge, 2007. ISBN-10: 0415374138

Lewisohn, Cedar. *Street Art: The Graffiti Revolution*. Abrams, 2008. ISBN-10: 0810983206

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 [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) 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.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#).

In this course, attendance is mandatory

Policy for Late Assignments:

Students who consult **in advance** with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension just one time throughout the course with no penalty. However, if a second excuse will be granted for late assignments, half of the mark assigned for this particular work will be deducted. Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline. Any assignment not handed-in in time or unexcused late assignments will not be given any marks. Late excuses will **not** be accepted for any reason.”

Required Notes:

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.

Student Responsibilities:

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](#) and avoid any behaviour that 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.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

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, digital or otherwise, 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. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course 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).

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

[The Academic Success Centre](#) provides professional academic support to help students maximize their academic success and achieve their academic goals. We offer appointments, advising, group workshops, online courses, and specialized programming year-round to students in all university programs, and at all levels of achievement and study.

They also administer the University of Alberta's [Duty to Accommodate procedure](#) for students and works with students, instructors, campus units, Faculties and departments, community and government agencies, and on and off-campus service providers to coordinate students' disability-related accommodation needs for participation in university programs.

For general information and to register for services visit the [Academic Accommodations](#) webpage.

[The Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

[The First Peoples' House](#) provides an environment of empowerment for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit learners to achieve personal and academic growth.

[Health and Wellness Support for Students](#) outlines available mental and physical health resources that are offered on-campus and in the community.

[The Office of the Student Ombuds](#) is a confidential service that strives to ensure that university processes related to students operate as fairly as possible. We offer information, advice, and support to students, faculty, and staff as they deal with academic, discipline, interpersonal, and financial issues related to student programs.

Learning and working environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment.

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct.

Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) section of the University Calendar.

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	A+	4.0	95-100
	A	4.0	90-94
	A-	3.7	86-89

Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	B+	3.3	82-85
	B	3.0	75-81
	B-	2.7	70-74
Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	C+	2.3	66-69
	C	2.0	61-65
	C-	1.7	58-60
Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	D+	1.3	55-57
	D	1.0	50-54
Failure.	F	0.0	0-49

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