

## Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

### COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2023

#### EN1220 (D3): Texts and Contexts – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Craig Smith                      **PHONE:** 780-539-2894  
**OFFICE:** C308    **E-MAIL:** crsmith@nwpolytech.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Mondays 10:30-11:30, Wednesdays 1:00-1:45, or by appointment

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** This course will explore a specific issue (to be determined by the instructor) using a variety of genres and media. Instruction will include essay writing skills. Because the course content will vary among instructors, it is strongly recommended that students consult an academic advisor or the Department of Arts and Education for more specific descriptions regarding the course focus.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** English 30-1, EN0130, or equivalent

#### **REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Levi, Primo – *Survival in Auschwitz*  
Wiesel, Elie – *Night*  
Delbo, Charlotte – *Auschwitz and After*  
Rosenbaum, Thane – *Golems of Gotham*

Other class readings will be posted to MyClass (D2L); it is your responsibility to ensure that you are able to access and read these documents well in advance of the class in which they will be discussed.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** The course work includes lecture, class discussion, in-class quizzes, and written assignments

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course will explore the origins and development of Holocaust literature. Reading a variety of genres, we will discover how testimonies, fiction, poetry, and film have helped to make sense of an atrocity of staggering proportions. As the course progresses, we will also attempt to come to an understanding of the challenges – artistic, political, spiritual, and ethical – posed by the event and its representations.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** After taking this course, the successfully participating students will demonstrate the following:

- Knowledge of, and the ability to use, a critical vocabulary suited to the discussion of English literature
- An ability to locate events relating to the Holocaust and its aftermath on a timeline
- An ability to contextualize Holocaust literature, with reference to national contexts
- Familiarity with terminology appropriate to discussion of the Holocaust and its literary representations
- Skills crucial to effective college-level composition

**TRANSFERABILITY:**

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

Participation – 10%

Reading Quizzes – 5%

Recap Tasks – 20%

Essay – 20%

Midterm – 15%

Final Exam – 30%

**GRADING CRITERIA: (The following criteria may be changed to suite the particular course/instructor)**

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
-------------	--------------------	-----------------------	-------------	--------------------	-----------------------

A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

**COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

- Weeks 1-6: Early Responses: Survivor testimony and the poetics of atrocity
- Weeks 7-10: Issues of Holocaust Remembrance: Gray zones, analogies, and trauma
- Weeks 10-12: The Americanization of the Holocaust
- Weeks 13-15: Second-generation Holocaust writing

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Unless otherwise indicated, all written work be uploaded to MyClass (D2L) **AND** submitted as a hard copy. Students must accept the Turnitin agreement to submit written work.
2. Written assignments are to be submitted *on time*. Late assignments will incur a penalty of **5%** per day, with weekends counting as two.
3. Extensions will not be granted for written assignments except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation will be required.
4. My expectation is that students who are healthy will attend **all** classes. Students who are ill or need to be absent for other legitimate reasons should contact and inform me. Excused absences will have no impact on a student’s grade; however, unexcused absences will negatively affect the participation component of a student’s grade and could result in a failing grade for that component of a student’s final mark.
5. Students are required to check MyClass before each class to stay informed concerning the schedule of readings as well as course updates and announcements.
6. Students do not need to make appointments to meet with me during my office hours. Anyone who wants to meet with me outside of my scheduled hours may contact me to arrange an alternate meeting time. Students wishing to meet via Zoom rather than in my office may request a virtual appointment. Please note that I will not meet with you outside of regular working hours.

7. Cellphones should be out of sight during class time. Students who are repeatedly on their cellphones during class will receive failing grades for participation.
8. The date for the midterm can be found on the more detailed schedule of readings and assignments available on the myClass page for this course. The midterm **will not** be rescheduled except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation **will be required** for any student wishing to write the midterm on an alternate date.
9. Students should feel free to email me with questions or concerns at any point during the semester. I will do my best to respond to your emails as quickly as possible, but emails sent outside of regular working hours will not receive immediate replies.
10. The final exam for this class will be scheduled by the registrar and will take place in April. The exam **will not** be rescheduled except in extenuating circumstances. Documentation **will be required** for any student wishing to write the final exam on an alternate date.

#### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the Northwestern Polytechnic Calendar at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/programs/calendar/> or the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy which can be found at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>.

\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.