



**DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION**

**COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2021**

**EN2060 (A2): The Short Story – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks**

Grande Prairie Regional College respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 8 territory, the traditional homeland and gathering place for many diverse Indigenous peoples. We are honoured to be on the ancestral lands of the Cree, Dene/Beaver and Métis, whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work, learn, and live on this land.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Heather Joyce                      **PHONE:** 780 539 2977  
**OFFICE:** C418    **E-MAIL:** hjoyce@gprc.ab.ca  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesdays 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (e-mail in advance to obtain the Zoom link) and by appointment

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

Representative works of writers illustrating the tradition of the short story in English are presented.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** Six credits of Junior English

**REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Class readings will be posted to myClass (D2L). It is your responsibility to ensure that you are able to access and read these works **in advance** of the class in which they will be discussed.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** The course work includes lecture, writing instruction, class discussion, in-class tasks, a seminar presentation, writing assignments, and a final exam.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

In this course, we will explore key moments in the development of short prose fiction from the nineteenth century to the present day. By reading works of short fiction theory and criticism in concert with short stories by writers as diverse as Anton Chekhov, Jorge Luis Borges, and Alice Munro, we will gain a greater appreciation of the theoretical and historical issues involved in defining short prose fiction as a distinct literary genre. We will contemplate the role Edgar Allan Poe's notion of the single effect continues to play in defining the genre, whether or not the short story is a genre particularly well suited to the expression of national identity, and the status the genre holds in comparison to its lengthier prose counterparts.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

After taking this course, successful students will

- be able to articulate the theoretical and historical issues involved in defining short prose fiction as a distinct literary genre
- be able to give examples of the genre and explain how major writers approach it

- be able to use appropriate literary terminology when discussing representative works
- be able to construct a persuasive argument that derives from close reading
- be able to confidently read critical works and use secondary sources to enhance interpretation of primary sources
- be able to articulate and set into action skills crucial to effective composition at the senior level

### 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.transferralberta.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:

- Attendance – 5%
- Participation – 5%
- Quizzes and tasks – 10%
- Seminar presentation – 10%
- Essay one – 20%
- Essay two – 20%
- Final exam – 30%

### GRADING CRITERIA:

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:

- Week 1: Introduction
- Weeks 2-4: Nineteenth-Century Origins
- Weeks 5-7: Early Twentieth-Century Inventions
- Weeks 8-12: Late Twentieth-Century Returns and Reworkings
- Weeks 13-14: Contemporary Constructions
- Week 15: Review

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. **This is a high-flex course. Although you are able to attend in person or remotely, please note that the final exam requires on-site attendance UNLESS you are a student in the VC section of this course. Students in the VC section of the course have the option of writing the exam at an approved testing center (at the student's own expense). VC students are also more than welcome to write the exam under my supervision at GPRC. Students who choose to attend class in person are strongly encouraged to wear masks.**

2. Assignments are to be submitted to myClass (D2L). **I will not accept assignments submitted via e-mail.** The myClass (D2L) site for this course contains everything you need to be successful. Resist the temptation to go outside of the course to consult literary guides, other websites, etc. All of the work you submit **MUST** be your own. We will discuss academic integrity in class. Please note students are required to accept the Turnitin user agreement when submitting assignments.

3. It is the student's responsibility to retain a copy of ALL assignments submitted for grading; in the unlikely event of loss, a duplicate copy must be available upon request.

4. Written assignments are to be submitted *on time*. This means that they are due *at the beginning of class*. Late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% per day with weekends counting as two days.

5. Extensions will be granted for written assignments in extenuating circumstances. Documentation may be required.

6. Students are required to check the myClass (D2L) site for this course before each class to stay informed.

7. Regularly scheduled office hours will be held via Zoom. I am also happy to discuss assignments, etc. with you outside of my official office hours. If you would like to meet, simply contact me via e-mail.

8. To help create a sense of community, students are required to enable video when they log into Zoom. Please make every attempt to minimize distractions (i.e. turn off cell phones, close unnecessary windows, etc.). **Unless there are extenuating circumstances, you must enable video in order to be considered present.**

9. This class will be delivered synchronously; students are expected to attend each class either in person or virtually. Recordings or lecture materials may be made available to students who miss class if extenuating circumstances arise. Documentation may be required.

10. Students who miss more than 10 percent of classes (2-3 classes) will not receive a passing grade for attendance or participation. Students must attend the full class to be considered present.

11. You are more than welcome to contact me via e-mail to ask questions, etc. Please note that you are more likely to receive a quick response if you contact me during the week (Monday to Friday). My response time on weekends will be slower. I will respond to most e-mails within 48 hours (depending on the volume of e-mails I receive). If you have a complicated question or are seeking specific assignment advice (i.e. if you would like me to read drafts, make suggestions regarding essay structure, etc.), you should contact me via e-mail and request to meet via Zoom.

12. Students should avoid making travel plans until after the exam schedule has been set. The registrar will release the exam schedule during the semester; please note that absolutely no alternative examination dates will be considered except in the case of a medical emergency.

**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 College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

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