Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

LANG 301.01
Topics in Research Methods and Analysis (Signals, Symbols & Systems)
Winter 2023
Lectures (in person) MWF 13:00-13:50 SS 06

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dr. John H. G. Scott

OFFICE HOURS: CHC 112 TuTh 10:00-12:00 or by appointment (Zoom available)

E-MAIL: john.scott@ucalgary.ca [I will respond to e-mails within 48 hr during weekdays]

TELEPHONE NUMBER: +1 (403) 220-6557

DESCRIPTION
In this course, students encounter research in a variety of frameworks and methods used in the study of language, literature and culture. Students examine different types of research that acquaint them with research design, data collection, research methods, analysis, and presentation of research proposals and/or outcomes. Students apply some theoretical frameworks to propose research and to analyze selected authentic literary texts and cultural artifacts from a variety of languages and cultural traditions. This course is intended to be accessible to all undergraduate students from any faculty.

OBJECTIVES
- To understand key terminology & fundamental concepts of research, research ethics, and theory
- To gain familiarity with broad trends in language acquisition, literature, and cultural research fields
- To recognize and articulate research design in terms of frameworks and research methods
- To familiarize students with various methodological approaches to the study of language acquisition
- To develop an awareness of what it means to apply a theory in literature and cultural studies
- To familiarize students with various theoretical frameworks for the study of literature and culture
- To articulate substantive research questions and select appropriate methods and frameworks
- To propose and develop research projects to investigate language acquisition, literature, and culture
- To gain familiarity with academic writing structure and style in the social sciences and humanities
- To engage in written and oral feedback and peer review processes about original research
- To present a developed original research proposal or theoretical analysis to peers in oral format

OUTCOMES
By the end of this course, you will have a greater understanding of frameworks and approaches employed in the study of language acquisition, literature and culture, including ethical considerations and requirements for conducting research on human subjects. In addition, you will develop your understanding of *theory* as a nuanced, field-specific concept in social sciences and the humanities. By examining a variety of theoretical and methodological frameworks, designing your own research, and applying selected theoretical frameworks to authentic literary texts and cultural performances or artifacts, you will practice the research process from conception and planning through data collection and analysis to peer review, revision, refinement, and oral presentation.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Barry, Peter (2009). *Beginning theory: An introduction to literary and cultural theory* (4th ed.). Manchester, UK: Manchester University. ISBN 978-1-5261-2179-0

Culler, Jonathan (2011). *Literary theory: A very short introduction* (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Oxford University. ISBN 978-0-19-969134-0

E-Book versions of these texts are acceptable.
Please note: The University of Calgary bookstore is organized by AUTHOR LAST NAME.

Although this course is in person, assignment submissions, D2L course site access, and some online homework (including accessing media) will require reliable access to technology, as follows:
• A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
• A current and updated web browser;
• Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
• Stable internet connection
In case public health guidelines trigger a pivot to online delivery, you should also plan for access to
• Webcam/Camera (built-in or external,);
• Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone.

Students will need access to common applications (e.g., MS Word, PowerPoint) that can produce file formats compatible with MS Office (i.e., .DOC, .DOCX, .PPTX) and be able to read and work with documents in .PDF format (e.g., Adobe Reader, Acrobat). University of Calgary students can download Office 365 at no additional cost here: https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/guide-services-students

RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

All other course materials, including selected literature and media, scholarly essays and articles, will be made available in D2L. Students will also need to conduct research using library resources, databases, etc.

COURSE NOTES

D2L: Detailed Course Information, Syllabus, Assignment Instructions, and various resources will be posted on our course site. Frequent access to D2L will be crucial for success in this course.

- Important dates:
  - 1st Lecture: Monday, 09 January
  - *Argonautika*: Friday-Sunday, 10-12 February and Wednesday-Saturday, 15-18 February
    - Drama performance by Calgary SCPA at University Theatre
    - Attendance at **one** showing is required (counts under Preparation and Lecture Engagement)
    - We will designate one showing to attend together as a group (for those who can join us)
    - U of C students may claim a free ticket via Claim Your Seat
  - Term Break (no classes): Sunday-Saturday, 19-25 February
  - Last Lecture: Wednesday, 12 April
  - There is no Final Exam for this course.
  - The Final Presentation will take place during our scheduled Final Exam (Date & Time TBD).
- Regarding absences, please note that it is your responsibility to review the course schedule, D2L materials and readings and to contact classmates to find out what you missed. Class sessions will not be recorded.
- All online assignments must be completed/submitted on D2L and as directed.
- Missed online assignments and projects cannot be rescheduled.
- Attendance at each Lecture and one performance of *Argonautika* is required.
- In the event that the University mandates synchronous Zoom meetings in place of in-person meetings during class time, microphones will be required; webcams are also encouraged.
- During sessions, students are expected to deactivate background distractions, social media and other programs not in use for the session and to focus attention on the session.

Research Coach: Since this is a Course-Based Undergraduate Research Experience (CURE) course, your instructor has secured the support of a graduate student Research Coach through the Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning. Students will have access to individual guidance and writing consultation on research projects with the Research Coach, who will be familiar with the course content and assignments.

Preparation and Participation

Preparation and participation are crucial for success in this course, because the quality of our frequent discussions depends on your ability to follow and discuss, with frequent reference to course texts and other materials. Thus, participation *depends* on preparation as well as intellectual engagement in the classroom. Students are expected to exhibit the following during our class sessions:
- have prepared the readings and/or other materials on schedule
- pay attention to and are respectful of their peers and instructor
- actively listen to and follow discussions
- voluntarily contribute thoughts, ideas, and relevant questions to discussions

Attendance (including absences, punctuality, etc.) will be taken and be scored as the *proportion* of time the student was present each week to exhibit preparation and participation as described above.

Please know that class participation does not always involve speaking in front of the whole class. You will be doing a variety of group and partner discussion formats as well (and online written discussion as appropriate), and I will monitor your participation with others.

ASSESSMENT

Your instructor will provide clear instructions and a schedule of assigned work, readings, and projects. Attention to deadlines is key. If you are having difficulties or experiencing problems with the course, I encourage you to approach me (your instructor) for guidance and assistance.

Preparation and Lecture Engagement (25% of the final grade):

Monday, Wednesday and Friday lecture sessions will be at the time scheduled by the Registrar for that section; attendance will be taken. Lecture sections are the majority of your instructed time, so your attendance reflects the proportion of time that you are present to engage in Lecture sessions.

Lecture sessions will include a mixture of discussing new material and connecting it with key concepts and readings from previous lectures and other course content. The main goal of this course is engagement with authentic texts and cultural media, relevant scholarly writing and a variety of research frameworks and theories, so it is essential that students keep up with assigned readings and come to class prepared to participate. Your readiness and participation in Lecture sessions will be evaluated on a weekly basis by your course instructor. Please see more detailed information under "Course Notes."

For Lecture sessions, students will be expected to:
- **Be prepared**, i.e, …
  - **read** new required material from the textbooks and D2L and other online materials
  - **view videos, films, and performances** by the prescribed dates to facilitate discussion of them
  - **formulate** at least one relevant, focused question to bring to each discussion
- Contribute to group and class discussions and activities in class
- Complete group and individual tasks, such as short analytical discussions, peer review activities, oral or written summaries of group discussions or prepared readings, etc.

The Preparation and Lecture Engagement grade will be based on my observations as well as on **written learning logs and self-assessments**, which give you the opportunity to provide feedback to your instructor and to rate your engagement with the material, and your classmates, as well as your progress and commitment to the course.

TCPS2: CORE-2022 Completion (5% of the final grade, completion credit)

Depending upon framework and method, much research on language acquisition, and some on culture, requires consideration of human subjects research ethics and adherence to institutional protocols and

federal and provincial laws that govern the conduct of human subjects research. In Canada, this entails completion of the TCPS2 CORE-2022 Course on Research Ethics, which is often required to access Tri-Council research grant funding, not only from CIHR (Canadian Institutes of Health Research) but also from SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council), and even potentially from NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada). CORE-2022 consists of 9 online modules and a knowledge consolidation exercise. The course is self-paced; it is possible to complete the different modules over multiple sessions. Altogether, the modules and consolidation exercise should take approximately 4 hours to complete. Once you have completed all modules and passed the consolidation exercise, you must submit your Certificate of Completion to the D2L Dropbox by **Monday, 27 February**. This is a credit/no-credit assignment. Further information will be provided by your instructor in class and on D2L.

Framework Application Writing Projects (3 × 20% = 60% of the final grade)

Students will complete three **short** written projects (approx. 5–7 pages, double spaced, etc.) during the course to practice application of theoretical frameworks and methods explored in each of the course's three units: language acquisition, literature, and culture. The written projects will be assessed on technical accuracy (grammar, spelling, academic style) and content/reasoning/creativity. (Does it make sense as a whole? Does it successfully communicate to the reader? Has the topic been approached in a way that is thoughtful and intellectually interesting?) Assignment guidelines and detailed assessment criteria for each written assignment will be provided closer to their due dates.
- Writing Project I (Language Acquisition Research Proposal): due Saturday, 04 February
- Writing Project II (Analysis of a Literary Work): due Saturday, 04 March
- Writing Project III (Analysis of a Non-Literary Cultural Artifact/Performance): due Saturday, 01 April

A 10% penalty will apply per day to Writing Projects that are submitted late.

Final Oral Presentation Forum (10% of the final grade)

In consultation with the instructor, each student will select one of their three Framework Application Writing Projects to develop further and convert to an oral presentation (including at least, but not necessarily only, PowerPoint slides). Final Oral Presentations will be given in a forum scheduled during the Final Exam period. The date, time, and campus location of the forum will be scheduled to ensure that all students can present in the forum. Students will be required to submit their completed presentation slides via D2L Dropbox at least 24 hours prior to the presentation date, to allow the instructor to organize them for display. The Final Oral Presentation Forum will include a scored peer-review component (e.g., Q & A period, audience worksheets) for those not presenting during their peers' presentations. Presentations will be scored for
- development of the project from its earlier form (incl. incorporation of previous feedback)
- presentation preparation, clarity & academic style (incl. slide design & crediting sources properly)
- a brief review of relevant scholarly theoretical literature
- articulation of arguments and theoretical insights & data presentation (appropriate to project topic)

Students will receive a detailed scoring rubric for the Final Oral Presentation before the end of classes.

Assessment Summary

Preparation and Lecture Engagement (36 lectures, one theatrical performance): 25%

TCPS2: CORE-2022 Completion (approximate 4 hours; credit/no-credit):   5%

Framework Application Writing Projects (5–7 pages each; 3 × 20%):   60%

Final Oral Presentation Forum (presented in forum of peers):   10%

Total: **100%**

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GRADING SCALE

A+ 100-97%   A = 96-91%   A- 90-86%

B+ 85-81%   B = 80-76%   B- 75-71%

C+ 70-67%   C= 66-62%   C- 61-58%

D+ = 57-54%   D= 53-50%   F = 49% and below

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT
All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html).

Academic misconduct
Academic Misconduct refers to student behaviour which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:
https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION
Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy) and requirements of the Copyright Act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT
Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy
for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS
It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at:
 https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations .

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:
https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy

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Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES
Have a question, but not sure where to start?
The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:
· Program advising
· Co-op Education Program
· Arts and Science Honours Academy
· Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102
Phone: 403-220-3580
Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca
Website: https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Tower.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES
Devices such as laptops and tablets are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES
Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines.