

ENGL 103A Case Studies in Research

3 credits, 3 hours lecture

This variable content course introduces methods of literary research as an in-depth process through one or more case studies.

Prerequisite: English 30 or 30-1 or equivalent

NOTE: Not to be taken by students with 6 credits in approved junior English

Instructor

Ryan J Cox
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Office Hours

Tuesdays 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Wednesdays 11:00 - 12:00 am
Thursdays 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Hours of Instruction

Monday 1:00 – 1:50
Wednesday 1:00 – 1:50
Friday 1:00 – 1:50

Required Resources

The World of Lucha Libre Levi, Heather, ISBN 978-0822342328
Steel Chair to the Head Sammond, Nicholas, ISBN 978-0-8223-3438-5
Professional Wrestling Mazer, Sharon ISBN 9781578060214
Sisterhood of the Squared Circle Larade and Murphy ISBN 978-1770413078
MLA Handbook ISBN 978-1603292627
Writing about Movies Gocsik et al ISBN 978-0393265231

Additional resources will be available on the course's Moodle site

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall be able to:

- Deploy effective research methodologies
- Use research to critically engage texts and ascertain meaning

- . Integrate research effectively into a variety of scholarly activities

Evaluation

Viewing Notes	10%
Writing Conference	10%
Research Journal	10%
Research Proposal	15%
Research Project	45%
Participation	10%
Total	100%

A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.

Viewing Notes

Students will watch the assigned film or videos and complete the assignment sheet. The intention of this assignment is to help students understand and develop the skills necessary when conducting primary source research, to teach students how to take research notes, and to gauge the student's mastery of the provided texts. The assignment sheet should be completed in full, and students are expected to follow the provided directions.

Research Journal

In the research journal, students will keep their notes on the course materials read each week as well as ongoing research on the case studies. They are also expected to use the journal to develop ideas and do the prewriting/research for their research projects. Participation in the Keyano College University Studies Conference will provide a 2-point bonus to the overall Research Journal grade.

Proposal

At the beginning of any research project it is necessary to establish the questions that one wishes to pursue and the critical space in which you will explore those questions. This is done, typically, by defining a set of questions or a question and looking at key texts in the area or discipline to start refining those questions, moving towards conclusions and an essay/project. Over time, the collection of key texts will work to form an archive of knowledge that informs your research and process. This assignment is intended to help students understand the material of study better, but also how to develop expertise as researchers—how to learn the general contours or foundations of an area of study, as well as the specific scholarly discourses surrounding the text or issue being examined. It is also intended as the launch point for the research project they will engage in throughout the semester and should establish both the central questions of that project and begin the work of research on those questions. For further information consult the assignment sheet on moodle.

Writing Conference

Students will meet with the instructor for a ten (10) minute meeting to discuss progress towards the final research project. They are expected to come prepared and conduct themselves professionally. The sign-up sheet for appointments will be posted outside of Dr. Cox's office the week before the conferences. It is the responsibility of the student to schedule an appointment and attend. For further information consult the assignment sheet on moodle.

Research Project

Choose either option 1 or 2

Option 1

You will be expected to write a detailed, well researched, thesis driven essay on a text or texts from the course. This essay should demonstrate your mastery of the text(s), your ability to effectively integrate your research into your writing, a familiarity with the current critical discourses surrounding your topic, and your ability to write at the university level. Final Essay 10 pgs.

Option 2

You will be expected to execute on a project that blends the theory and critical study of professional wrestling with creative practice. This project should demonstrate not only your ability to move from theory to praxis, but also an understanding of the critical discourses surrounding your topic, your ability to plan and research your project, and your ability to execute the project. You will also be expected to write a four (4) page author's note in which you discuss the critical value of the project (what does it demonstrate? what does it tell us about professional wrestling and its position in/relationship to culture? what can we learn from the activity? etc). The author's note should make reference to your research.

Participation

This course seeks to foster a learning community in which students engage the material actively and gain insight from each other as well as the instructor. The goal is to develop the analytic and argumentative skills necessary for successful scholarly activity by testing those ideas in conversation, to actively position oneself in critical discourses by engaging in discourse, and to demonstrate the collaborative nature of scholarly activity. Students are expected to come to class prepared for classrooms discussions, actively and vigourously engage in those discussions, and generally contribute to the course's critical conversation. Sharing information, insights and research on the case studies on the online forum is also part of participating in the course. ATTENDANCE IS NOT EQUIVALENT TO PARTICIPATION.

Late Policy

Late work will only be accepted until 3pm on the second day following the due date and it will be penalized at a rate of 10%/Day. If work is not submitted by 3pm on the second day following the due date, it will not be accepted and the student will receive a 0(zero) on the assignment. It should also be noted that late material will receive no feedback from the instructor. It is your responsibility to meet the due dates for the assigned material.

Standards for Written Assignments

Learning how to follow house style sheets is one of the most important skills a writer can develop. To aid you in your quest to learn these skills I have provided a document entitled "Standards for Written Assignments" on Moodle. If your paper does not conform to these standards, expect to lose marks.

All work must be TYPED, double spaced, and have proper MLA documentation (unless instructed otherwise). Do NOT submit work to me by e-mail.. Hard copies are not only preferred, they are required. Be sure to keep a copy of any essay that you hand in.

Sensitivity, Respect, and Subject Matter

Some of the material we will be covering this semester is of a charged nature—whether in terms of form, content or politics. As critics, we cannot shy away from this material; however, we must

understand that this material may generate a wide variety of reactions and opinions among our colleagues in the classroom. Thus, it is imperative that we remain aware of, and sympathetic to the reactions and opinions of our classmates. Respect and sensitivity will produce a stronger learning environment and generate better, more nuanced discussions.

Grading System

Descriptor	Alpha Grade	4.0 Scale	Percent	Rubric for Letter Grades
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory Progression	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
Minimum Pass	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

Proposed Schedule of Topics

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments	Notes
Jan 8-12	Introduction: Asking the question			
Jan 15-19	Match Stipulations: Defining the object of Study & Understanding the Text	Barthes, "The World of Wrestling" (SCTH); Kerrick, "The Jargon of Professional Wrestling" (Moodle);		
Jan 22-26	Work Rate and Calling the Spots: Developing a Critical Understanding through Analysis and Research	Levi, Chapters 1 & 3; Mazer, Chapter 1; (It is recommended that students seek out a variety of wrestling matches and promos to help gain an understanding of wrestling as practiced)		

Jan 29-Feb 2	Breaking Kayfabe: Theory to Praxis	Okada/Omega 2, Bayley/Sasha Ironwoman	Viewing Notes Due: Jan 29	
Feb 5-9	Signal to Noise: Building your Archive	MLA Handbook, Chapters 1.1-1.7 Levi 17-22		
Feb 12-16	Case Study 1: "The Work, The Shoot, The Worked Shoot: Wrestling, Documentary, and the Multivalent Real"	See Research Starter on Moodle	Proposal Due: Feb 14	
Feb 19-23	Reading Week			Family Day/Reading Week: No Class
Feb 26-Mar 2	Case Study 1: Cont'd			
Mar 5-9	Case Study 2: Wrestling on Film: Wrestling as Cultural Phenomenon	<i>The Mummies of Guanajuato</i> OR <i>No Holds Barred</i>	Research Journal due: Mar 5	
Mar 12-16	From Work to Text: Moving from Research to Writing	MLA Handbook, Chapters 1.8-9, Gocsik et al Chapters 6-9	Viewing Notes Due: Mar 12	
Mar 19-23	Preliminary Reports		Sign up for an appointment	There will be no in class instruction this week, students must sign up for an appointment
Mar 26-30	Case Study 3: Revolutionary Gazes: The Women's Wrestling Revolution	See Research Starter on Moodle		College Closed (Good Friday)/ Last Day to Withdraw: March 30
Apr 2-6	Case Study 3 Cont'd		Research Journals Due: Apr 2	College Closed (Easter): April 2
Apr 9-13	Case Study 4: "Anywhere but Canada, Anyone but HBK: The Montreal Screwjob and the Performance of National Identity"	See Research Starter on Moodle		Last Day of Classes: April 13
Apr 16-20			Research Project Due: Apr 16, 3PM	

Please Note: Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

Performance Requirements

Student Responsibilities

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College credit calendar.

More specific details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a students' learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and / or notes that may be due.

Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating)
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications
- The willful distortion of results or data
- Substitution in an examination by another person
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Student Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on ilearn.keyano.ca. Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work will not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

Specialized Supports

Counselling and Accessibility Services

Counselling Services provides a wide range of specialized counselling services to prospective and registered students, including personal, career and academic counselling.

SKILL Centre

The SKILL Centre is a learning space in the Clearwater Campus at Keyano College where students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects and get new perspectives on learning from our tutorial staff.

The SKILL Centre, through a variety of delivery methods, provides assistance in skill development to Keyano students. Assistance is provided by instructors, staff and student tutors. Individuals wishing to improve their mathematics, writing, grammar, study, or other skills, can take advantage of this unique service.

Authorization

This course outline has been reviewed and approved by the Program Chair.

Ryan J. Cox, Instructor

Louis Dingley, Chair

Date Authorized

Vincella Thompson, Dean

Date Authorized

Signed copies to be delivered to:

Instructor

Registrar's Office