**Tantárgy neve:** Kanadai irodalom és kultúrtörténet  
**Kódja:** NBBAN118G2  
**Kreditszáma:** 2

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**Tantárgyleírás**

This course aims at expanding the scope of North American studies with a touch of Canadian culture and letters. It provides an overview on the main tendencies and outstanding figures of Canadian literary history as well as on the correlations between literature and the changes in the currents of thought and national psyche. Following a brief glance at the colonial period literary beginnings, the First Nations’ oral tradition.

Then the major tendencies in recent English-Canadian literature are discussed, with special regards to the variety of regional and ethnic minority voices, the shifting grounds of genres and narrative strategies, significant tendencies in literary criticism and the influence of post-colonial writing are presented through the example of some literary texts. Basically this seminar provides opportunity to enrich one’s vocabulary, practice presentation and writing skills and argumentative discussions. Thus it serves the development of student competencies in various areas of literary and language studies. Besides, by learning about a wide array of values, it stimulates critical thinking about one’s own values, culture and definition of identity. It builds upon the previously obtained American literary studies, too, encouraging students to draw correlations and comparisons. This seminar prepares students for the exam on Canadian literature, too.

**Topics**

**Week 1 introduction**

Presentation Skills (how to make a presentation)

**Week 2 the sense of place in Canlit special focus on prairie**

S. Ross: "A Field of Wheat"

**Week 3 prairie and family, and foreign experience**

M. Laurence: “To Set Our house in Order”  
“The Tomorrow- Tamer”

**Week 4 Emblem**

H. Hood: “Flying a Red Kite”

**Week 5 English Language Writing in Quebec**

H. Hood: "To Look Down from Above"

**Week 6 Writing technique and writing technique in Ontario**
A. Munroe: “Something That I’ve Been Meaning to Tell you”
“The Moons of Jupiter”

Week 7 Writing from and about of elsewhere

M. Gallant: “Above Geneva”

Week 8 poetry

L. Cohen: “The Only Tourist in Havana…”
M: Waddington: “Canadians” (OACL)

Week 9 modernism

Callaghan: “Watching and Waiting” “A Predicament”

Week 10 Novel I.

F. Mowat: *Never Cry Wolf*

Week 11 Aboriginal Poetry – Contemporary (Ojibway)

David Groulx’s poetry

Week 12 Novel II.

Yann Martel: “Life of Pi”

Week 13 end-term paper and evaluation

Requirements

Attendance and active class participation (25%)

As this is a discussion-based class, attendance is mandatory. Moreover, it is imperative that you are prepared for class discussions and have completed all your readings. Should it become necessary over the course of the semester, unannounced plot quizzes may be used to test whether you have done your reading. Lack of preparation will be counted as an absence for that class period. If there is an urgent reason for why you could not prepare for class, please contact me beforehand, and we can try to arrange an alternative solution.

presentation (20%)

Each student is expected to give a short at least 30-minute introductory presentation. The purpose of the presentation is to introduce key terms and concepts to the rest of the class and to raise questions for in-class discussion. Please note that you will be required to consult with me at least one week before your scheduled
presentation date. I expect you to have a ready presentation by that time. If you do not consult with me, you will not be allowed to present in class and your presentation will be graded an automatic fail.

**Test 20%**

The final exam will be comprehensive in nature and cover all the topics we have discussed in class. It will include term identifications and short essay questions, in which you will be asked to contextualize and discuss important issues.

**Short Paper 35%**

**Academic dishonesty and plagiarism**

(failure to acknowledge and note the use of another writer’s words and ideas) is both unethical and illegal and will result in a failure of the course. If you have a compelling reason for arriving late or leaving early, speak with your instructor about the problem. If you regularly cut the beginning and/or the end of class sessions, it can add up to unexcused full-class-time absences.

**Plagiarism policy:** There will be absolutely no tolerance for any kind of plagiarism or academic dishonesty. All forms of plagiarism will result in an automatic failure of the class.

**Deadline is discussed: if you do not meet the deadline your paper automatically fails. (hard copy and email)**

**Course logistics:**

Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings. They are also expected to have the primary sources with them in the classroom. Optimum attendance and active participation are required. Points will be taken off for handing in issue papers late, except for reasonable reason provided and proved. Also, the reading assignments are checked with the help of the comprehension questions provided, and students need to complete and submit it on the last but not week of the term. In case a student cannot prepare properly or needs more time for a home assignment, s/he should contact the instructor on that in time and settle a new deadline for the given assignment.

**Reading:** Reading assignments will be discussed on a week-by-week basis.

**Plagiarism policy:** There will be absolutely no tolerance for any kind of plagiarism or academic dishonesty. All forms of plagiarism will result in an automatic failure of the class.

**Grading:** Grades will be calculated according to the following matrix: 0-59%: fail (1), 60-69%: poor (2), 70-79%: average (3), 80-89%: good (4), 90-100: excellent (5).

**Further Rules**

If you must miss a class, please let me know, and make arrangements to complete any work missed. Students are kindly requested to contact their tutor at least a day before class if they are to make a presentation but cannot attend. If you do not turn up on occasions when course assignments (presentation, quizzes) are due and you fail to notify the tutor you will lose all the credit points on the particular assignment.

There is no excuse not to come to class when the end-term is due.
Your final grade will be based on the depth of your understanding as well as the substance, creativity, and critical thinking exhibited in your classroom contributions, oral and written work. If one wishes to improve the grade the instructor gives, s/he will have an oral testing on last week and that will cover all the term's learning materials and topics.

Additional information

Most readings are available online or in PDF format from the teachers.

THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO CANADIAN LITERATURE

Set readings: see the topics and schedule for primary literature. (copies are available from the tutor)

Secondary resources and some anthologies: (available at EKU Lib.)
N. Frye: "Preface to the Bush Garden" (OACL)
J. Kadar ed. Perspectives on English-Canadian Literature (textbook)
Open Letter (essays) (online)
N. Frye: “Conclusion to The Literary History of Canada” (ACLE)
L. Hutcheon: A Poetics of Postmodernism
        The Politics of Postmodernism
        Splitting Images—Contemporary Canadian Ironies
M. McLuhan: “The Phonograph” (OACL)
        “Literature in a New Country” (ACLE)
S. Kamboureli ed. Making a Difference: Can Multicultural Literature (MD)
R. Weaver and Toye eds. The Oxford Anthology of Canadian Literature (OACL)
R. Brown and D. Bennett eds. An Anthology of Canadian Literature in English (ACLE)

Suggested online sources:
http://canlit.ca/
https://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/canadian-literature

Szakfelelős: Dr. Vermes Albert (PhD) tanszékvezető, Anglisztika Tszk. vermes@ekf.hu

Tantárgy felelőse: Takács Attila (tanárségéd) Amerikanisztika Tanszék

Tantárgy oktatásába bevont oktató: név, beosztás, szervezeti egység

Az oktató fogadóórájának időpontja, helye és a bejelentkezés módja:
by appointment

Az oktató által előnyben részesített elérhetőség: tattilatakacs@gmail.com,
attilatakacs@ekfck.hu, takacs.attila@uni-eszterhazy.hu

A csoportos online kommunikáció módja és helye: gmail, FB, NEPTUN