

**ENG 4200/6200 & WGS 4000/6000**

Subversive Bodies: Carter &amp; Winterson

**Spring 2020****TR 2:00 pm—3:20 pm****143 Medical Sciences****Professor:** Dr. Hope Jennings**Office Hours:** TR 3:30-4:30 pm*or by appointment***Office:** 451 Millett Hall**E-mail:** hope.jennings@wright.edu**Course Description**

In this course, we will examine texts by contemporary British authors Angela Carter (1940-1992) and Jeanette Winterson (1959- ), focusing on how their works explore bodies as they are constructed by knowledge, power, and discourse. Their textual subversions emphasize the imaginative power of transgressive desires and the use of feminist utopias and dystopias as literary strategies and spaces that work toward refiguring the body. Often privileging grotesque or carnivalesque bodies, they attempt to reshape feminist politics and theories that challenge patriarchal, heteronormative, and other oppressive discourses. Through intertextual practices, their fiction engages with and challenges the literary canon's representations of gender and sexuality, and their revisionary approaches toward classical myth, fairy tale, folklore, as well as their rewriting of Shakespearean texts, contribute to our understanding and rethinking of literary pasts, presents, and futures. We will also read Virginia Woolf's *Orlando* as an influential modernist novel that informs Carter's and Winterson's postmodern sensibilities, their explorations of narrative time and space, and their representations of subversive bodies as vehicles for writing subversive texts.

*This is an **Integrated Writing** course for English and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors, which requires at least 5000 words of writing, at least half of which will be evaluated formally and all of which will count as part of students' performance in the course. Writing assignments will be evaluated for content, form, style, and overall writing proficiency. Students will be required to complete all writing assignments and are expected to produce writing that:*

- *Demonstrates their understanding of course content,*
- *Is appropriate for the audience and purpose of a particular writing task,*
- *Demonstrates the degree of mastery of disciplinary writing conventions appropriate to the course (including documentation conventions), and*
- *Shows competency in standard edited American English.*

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**Required Texts****Virginia Woolf***Orlando*. Mariner Books, 2006. **ISBN:** 9780156031516**Angela Carter***Heroes and Villains*. Penguin, 1991. **ISBN:** 9780140234640*The Passion of New Eve*. Virago Modern Classics, 1992. **ISBN:** 9780860683414*Nights at the Circus*. Penguin, 1986. **ISBN:** 9780140077032*Wise Children*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007. **ISBN:** 9780374530945**Jeanette Winterson***Sexing the Cherry*. Grove Press, 1998. **ISBN:** 9780802135780*The Passion*. Grove Press, 1997. **ISBN:** 9780802135223*The Stone Gods*. Mariner Books, 2009. **ISBN:** 9780156035729*The Gap of Time*. Hogarth, 2016. **ISBN:** 9780804141376

## Course Evaluation/Requirements (1,000 points total)

<b>Participation &amp; Attendance</b>	150
<b>Questions &amp; Summaries (8x25 pts each)</b>	200
<b>Critical Response Essays (2x200 pts each)</b>	400
<b>Final Paper: Research or Creative</b>	250

The grading scale is as follows:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

**Participation & Attendance (15%):** Students are expected to attend class fully prepared to contribute to discussion, which includes completing all reading assignments, bringing the assigned readings with you to class, and being able to respond to questions and engage respectfully with peers. If you meet all of these expectations then you will receive full credit (FC/fully present); if you arrive late or leave early, leave class multiple times and/or for extended periods, or are clearly unprepared or unwilling to participate, you will receive partial credit (PC/non-participatory); if you are absent or engage in any disruptive behaviors (see general conduct rules below), you will receive no credit (NC/absent). Simply showing up to class does not mean you are fully present, and absences are factored into your final participation grade, which is based on the average of full credit, partial credit, and no credit points that you've earned. **Attendance Policy:** Attending higher education is voluntary, and so it is your choice whether you show up for class and participate. If you use the time of the class meeting to do something else, that is your decision. Missing class is not an excuse for missing assignments or submitting things late. If you miss class, you should refer to the syllabus, class calendar, and/or a classmate for information about what was covered on that day. Do not expect me to do this work for you. **NB:** *Missing more than 6 classes, including partially missed classes, will lead to at least a full letter grade deduction (100 points) from your overall final grade for the course.*

**Questions and Summaries (20%):** For these assignments, you need to select a significant quotation or passage from the assigned text and create a substantive discussion question prompted by your selection. You should also provide a brief paragraph summary analysis of your selection, explaining why you think it's significant to a major theme in the text and/or how it relates to broader issues or debates explored in this class. You must do a total of eight (8) Q & S (25 pts. each), one for each novel by Carter and Winterson. You may turn these in at any time but no later than the last day we discuss the assigned reading (see class calendar). You should submit a copy to the dropbox by the start of class and be prepared to share your question during class discussion. Please follow the same formatting and organization as shown in the sample assignment available in Pilot. **Grad Students:** you will also be required to lead a portion of at least one class discussion working from this assignment; a sign-up sheet will be available for determining the class session that you lead discussion.

**Critical Response Essays (40%):** Both essays must provide analysis of assigned readings for the first two units, comparing/contrasting at least one text by Carter with one by Winterson (Essay 1, Weeks 3-7 assigned texts; Essay 2, Weeks 9-12 assigned texts). Your essays should explore how the two texts relate to any one or more of the thematic and/or theoretical elements discussed in this class while also incorporating at relevant and scholarly secondary sources to support your analysis. Each essay is due any time before the last day of its corresponding unit. See detailed guidelines, requirements, and rubric for undergraduate and graduate students.

**Final Paper: Research or Creative Paper (25%):** For this assignment, you have two options. You may submit a literary research essay that significantly revises and develops material from one or both of your critical response essays. The paper may provide a comparative analysis between Carter and Winterson or focus on just one author; regardless of your approach, your essay should have a clear arguable thesis that develops analysis of your chosen text(s) in relation to significant contexts, themes, or issues explored in this class. For the second option, you may submit a creative paper in which you rewrite a myth, fairy tale, Shakespearean text, a feminist dystopia/utopia, or an alternate history. Your story should employ similar strategies explored by Carter and/or Winterson and demonstrate a clear understanding of literary adaptation, and you will need to submit a short reflection essay that outlines your critical approach. Detailed guidelines, requirements, and rubrics for undergraduate and graduate students available on the course webpage.

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### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR WRITING ASSIGNMENTS**

All critical response and research essays must be formatted according to the most recent MLA style guidelines, using Times New Roman 12-point font, 1" margins with clearly indented paragraphs and no extra spacing between paragraphs. The word count should be indicated at the end of the paper (e.g. "WC: 1,500"), excluding the Works Cited page. You must submit electronic copies of all written work, including the questions and summaries, to the Pilot dropbox in a Word attachment (.doc, .docx, or .rtf); if you do not submit a copy to the dropbox or submit your paper in a format that cannot be opened, it will not be graded. The Pilot dropbox will remain open and I will use the timestamp of your submission to confirm whether you submitted by the 11:59 pm deadline. If you experience trouble with Pilot when trying to submit, then you should immediately send me the essay in an email attachment so that I know you completed the assignment on time—you will still need to submit a copy to Pilot and you will not receive a grade until you do so. The paper submitted must match the one originally sent by email.

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### **GENERAL EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR ALL WRITTEN WORK**

- A = Demonstrates advanced critical thinking skills and outstanding knowledge of the readings and other course content. Ideas are original and depth of analysis is excellent. Writing is clear, concise, free of basic errors, easy to follow **and** shows excellent command of language and disciplinary style.
- B = Demonstrates solid critical thinking skills and familiarity with readings and other course content; provides interesting illustrations and examples. Writing is coherent, concise, easy to follow, and **nearly** free of basic errors.
- C = Demonstrates basic understanding of the readings and other course content and can provide a good summary of material but only provides superficial analysis and support for issues raised. Writing is coherent and easy to follow but wordy, repetitious and/or marred by numerous errors.
- D = Demonstrates minimal understanding of readings and course content; ideas are vague or not supported by any analysis and shows overall lack of effort. Writing lacks general coherence and shows little to no command of the English language.
- F = Demonstrates serious lack of understanding of readings and other course content; serious lack of analysis and/or effort. Writing is incoherent and impossible to follow

### ACADEMIC HONESTY GUIDELINES & POLICY

Penalties for academic dishonesty and student procedure in academic dishonesty prosecution are clarified in the *Wright State University Student Handbook* and on the Office of Community Standards & Student Conduct website at: <http://www.wright.edu/students/judicial/integrity.html>. Plagiarism is using other people's ideas and/or words without crediting them and is considered intellectual theft; paraphrasing also requires citations and page numbers. For further information about plagiarism, refer to: <http://www.wright.edu/academics/writingctr/resources/plagiarism.html>. **INSTRUCTOR POLICY ON PLAGIARISM: If any portion of submitted work is plagiarized, you will receive a "0" on that assignment; if you commit a second offense, regardless of circumstances, you will receive an F for the entire course and may be subject to disciplinary action.**

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### GENERAL CONDUCT & COURSE POLICIES

***NB:*** Failure to follow these guidelines may lead to dismissal from the class.

- You are expected to compose yourself as if in a professional environment. This includes attending class regularly and on time, being prepared for each class session, and contributing to course requirements as if you were in a workplace. Unprofessional behavior will imperil your ability to get a good grade, but also your ability to receive a letter of recommendation from me should the need arise. I request that you address me as Dr. Jennings and not by first name. For some of the contexts and reasons behind this general preference and standard of professional etiquette, I recommend reading this [New York Times essay](#).
- Electronic devices such as laptops and tablets may only be used for taking notes and/or referring to assigned readings. Cell phones must be on silent and audio or video recordings of class discussions are not permitted.
- Respect toward peers and the instructor includes active listening and refraining from bigotry and intolerance toward others. Although your individual opinions about the texts and issues explored in this class are encouraged, you must be able to present your interpretations or stance through an informed lens, using critical thinking and/or verifiable evidence beyond personal beliefs or anecdotal experiences (such as reference to textual examples, reliable secondary sources, or socio-cultural, historical, and political contexts).
- You are expected to follow the class calendar and assignment guidelines. If you are confused about any of these it is your responsibility to ask for clarification, and NOT the night before something is due. I do not accept late submissions and any missing assignment will receive a zero. All submission deadlines are posted in the class calendar below as well as in Pilot.
- Extensions are granted ONLY in cases of extreme illness or emergency, which must be documented and, if possible, communicated to me *before* the due date. Regardless of circumstances, I reserve the right to deny any requests for extensions and will only grant incompletes to students who have consistently attended class and are missing no more than 1-2 assignments (excluding exams). I do not offer individual extra credit opportunities; extra credit assignments are rarely provided and only as an option available to the entire class.
- Raider Mail is the best way to communicate with me. You can expect to receive a reply within a 24-hour period on weekdays; I normally do not respond to e-mail on weekends. Check the newsfeed on the course homepage in Pilot for any class updates or info. If I make changes to the syllabus or class calendar, I explain these in class and post them in Pilot.

## USEFUL CAMPUS & ONLINE RESOURCES

**University Libraries:** The University Libraries are the scholarly information center for the University. In support of the University's mission of educational excellence, the Libraries collect, organize, preserve, and facilitate access to scholarly resources in all formats; support teaching, learning, and research in an intellectually open environment; and provide instruction in the use of traditional and new information resources and technologies. The libraries' online catalog, databases, and interlibrary loan service is essential for conducting research. Web page: <https://www.libraries.wright.edu/>

**CATS:** Faculty are not experts in trouble shooting Pilot. The quickest way to resolve technical issues is by contacting the HELP Desk: 937-775-4827 or 1-888-775-4827.

**The Student Technology Assistance Center (STAC):** Located in the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, the STAC provides Wright State students with the tools to make productive use of multimedia. In a unique peer-to-peer learning environment, knowledgeable mentors are available to assist students with their projects several hours each week. At other times, the STAC is open and available as a DIY space with access to the latest software applications. The library also has technology to borrow for your multimedia projects and students can schedule appointments with STAC staff for individual help on projects. <https://libraries.wright.edu/stac/>

**New Media Incubator (Inc):** The Inc is an innovative and welcoming space where students get hands-on training with professional production equipment and processes. The editing suites are equipped with industry standard technologies where students learn to create long and short form marketing spots, documentaries, podcasts, news segments, cultural programs, and other projects. Web page: <https://liberal-arts.wright.edu/about/new-media-incubator>

**Disability Services:** If you require course accommodations due to a disability, please inform me so we can make arrangements early in the quarter. For more information about support services offered by Disability Services (E186 Student Union), call 775-5680; TTY: 775-5844. Or visit their Web page: [http://www.wright.edu/students/dis\\_services/](http://www.wright.edu/students/dis_services/)

**Counseling and Wellness Services:** If you are suffering from depression or have any other mental health concerns, please be aware that counseling services are available on campus. Counseling and Wellness offers a wide range of services to the Wright State University community, including the following: group, individual, couples, and family counseling, crisis intervention, and outreach. They offer specialized services on a variety of mental health, multicultural, diversity, and wellness issues. Location: the bottom level of the Student Union off the Atrium and below the Admissions Office in suite 053. Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Call 775-3407 or stop by to set an appointment. Web page: <http://www.wright-counseling.com/>

**Class Calendar**  
(Schedule subject to changes)

WEEK	DATE	Reading Assignments & Due Dates
ONE	1/14	<b>Intro to Course:</b> Syllabus, Texts and Themes
	1/16	Woolf, <i>Orlando</i> , Chap. I & II
TWO	1/21	Woolf, <i>Orlando</i> , Chap. III & IV
	1/22	Woolf, <i>Orlando</i> , Chap. V & VI
<b>Rewriting Fantasy and Desire</b>		
THREE	1/28	Winterson, <i>Sexing the Cherry</i>
	1/30	Winterson, <i>Sexing the Cherry</i>
FOUR	2/4	Carter, <i>Heroes and Villains</i>
	2/6	Carter, <i>Heroes and Villains</i>
FIVE	2/11	Carter, <i>The Passion of New Eve</i>
	2/13	Carter, <i>The Passion of New Eve</i>
SIX	2/18	Carter, <i>The Passion of New Eve</i>
	2/20	Winterson, <i>The Passion</i>
SEVEN	2/25	Winterson, <i>The Passion</i>
	2/27	Winterson, <i>The Passion</i>
	2/29	<b>DUE: Critical Response Essay One (Sat 11:59 pm)</b>
EIGHT		<b>Spring Break</b>
<b>Rewriting Future Histories</b>		
NINE	3/10	Carter, "The Scarlet House" and "Alice in Prague or The Curious Room" (PDF)
	3/12	Carter, <i>Nights at the Circus</i> (London)
TEN	3/17	Carter, <i>Nights at the Circus</i> (St. Petersburg)
	3/19	Carter, <i>Nights at the Circus</i> (Siberia)
ELEVEN	3/24	Winterson, "Disappearance I" and "Disappearance II" (PDF)
	3/26	Winterson, <i>The Stone Gods</i>
TWELVE	3/31	Winterson, <i>The Stone Gods</i>
	4/2	Winterson, <i>The Stone Gods</i>
	4/4	<b>DUE: Critical Response Essay Two (Sat 11:59 pm)</b>
<b>Rewriting Shakespeare</b>		
THIRTEEN	4/7	Winterson, <i>The Gap of Time</i>
	4/9	Winterson, <i>The Gap of Time</i>
FOURTEEN	4/14	Winterson, <i>The Gap of Time</i>
	4/16	Carter, <i>Wise Children</i>
FIFTEEN	4/21	Carter, <i>Wise Children</i>
	4/23	Carter, <i>Wise Children</i>
Exam Wk.	5/2	<b>DUE: Research Essay or Creative Paper (Sat 11:59 pm)</b>