

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: ENGL 386

Number of Credits: 4 [Course credit policy \(105\)](#)

Course Full Title: Figurative Language  
 Course Short Title:

Faculty: Faculty of Humanities

Department (or program if no department): English

### Calendar Description:

Students will study figurative language (figures of speech and tropes) by reading key texts in rhetorical and literary theory from Aristotle to the twentieth century, and will assess its significance in poetry and other arts.

Prerequisites (or NONE): Any two 200-level English courses.

Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE): None.

Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE): None.

### Equivalent Courses (cannot be taken for additional credit)

Former course code/number:

Cross-listed with:

Equivalent course(s):

Note: Equivalent course(s) should be included in the calendar description by way of a note that students with credit for the equivalent course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.

### Transfer Credit

Transfer credit already exists: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Transfer credit requested (OREg to submit to BCCAT):

☒ Yes ☐ No (Note: If yes, fill in transfer credit form)

Resubmit revised outline for articulation: ☐ Yes ☐ No

To find out how this course transfers, see [bctransferguide.ca](http://bctransferguide.ca).

### Total Hours: 60

#### Typical structure of instructional hours:

Lecture hours	30
Seminars/tutorials/workshops	30
Laboratory hours	
Field experience hours	
Experiential (practicum, internship, etc.)	
Online learning activities	
Other contact hours:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>

### Special Topics

Will the course be offered with different topics?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes,

Different lettered courses may be taken for credit:

☐ No ☐ Yes, repeat(s) ☐ Yes, no limit

Note: The specific topic will be recorded when offered.

Maximum enrolment (for information only): 25

Expected frequency of course offerings

(every semester, annually, etc.): Every other year

Department / Program Head or Director: John Pitcher

Date approved: November 1, 2013

Campus-Wide Consultation (CWC)

Date of posting: February 17, 2014

Faculty Council approval

Date approved: April 11, 2014

Dean/Associate VP: Jacqueline Nolte

Date approved: April 11, 2014

Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval

Date of meeting: April 25, 2014

**Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and define major figures and tropes;
2. Recognize and apply critical frames to literary analysis;
3. Compare and contrast ideas and theories about figurative language from different literary periods;
4. Describe and analyse the use of figures and tropes in poetry and other arts;
5. Write analytically about the use of root metaphors in social and cultural settings;
6. Use appropriate scholarly conventions and research methods;
7. Conduct guided research and synthesize secondary sources in written and oral work;
8. Present the results of their own research and thinking in a seminar setting;
9. Participate appropriately in class through informal discussions and/or formal presentations.

**Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)**

☒ Yes      ☐ No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because

**Typical Instructional Methods (guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.; may vary at department's discretion)**

Lecture, facilitated and student-led discussion, student presentations, individual assistance in producing seminar and research essay.

**NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.**

**Typical Text(s) and Resource Materials (if more space is required, download supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form)**

<u>Author Surname, Initials</u>	<u>Title (article, book, journal, etc.)</u>	<u>Current Edition</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Year Published</u>
1. Lakoff, G., Turner, M.	More Than Cool Reason: A Field Guide to Poetic Metaphor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2. Sontag, S.	Illness as Metaphor	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3.	Course pack	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4.	Any short anthology of poetry in English	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5.		<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Typical Evaluation Methods and Weighting**

Final exam:	30%	Assignments:	%	Midterm exam:	%	Practicum:	%
Quizzes/tests:	%	Lab work:	%	Field experience:	%	Shop work:	%
Short Analytical Essay	20%	Seminar Presentation	20%	Research Essay	30%	Total:	100%

**Grading system:** Letter Grades: ☒ Credit/No Credit: ☐ Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: Yes ☐ No ☒

**Typical Course Content and Topics**

- Week 1: Definitions and overview; selection from *The Encyclopedia of Rhetoric*; figures and tropes in ancient rhetoric; selection from Aristotle's *Rhetoric* and the *Rhetoric ad Herennium*
- Week 2: Figurative language in early Christian thought: selections from Augustine's *De Doctrina Christiana* and *The Confessions*
- Week 3: Figures and tropes in Renaissance rhetorical education: selection from Erasmus, *De Copia*; George Puttenham, *The Art of English Poesie*; Henry Peacham, *The Garden of Eloquence*; and Brian Vickers, *In Defence of Rhetoric*; representative Renaissance poems.
- Week 4: Figurative language and the interpretation of history; selection from Giambattista Vico, *The New Science*; and Hayden White, *Tropics of Discourse*
- Week 5: The enemies of figurative speech; selections from Plato, *The Republic*; Bacon, *The Advancement of Learning*; Locke, *Essay Concerning Human Understanding*.
- Week 6: Figurative language and linguistics; Roman Jakobson, "Two Aspects of Language and Two Types of Aphasiac Disturbances"
- Week 7: Twentieth-Century Criticism and the interpretation of poetry; selections from Kenneth Burke, Cleanth Brooks, Philip Wheelwright, George Whalley
- Week 8: Metaphor and interpretation; Lakoff and Turner, *More than Cool Reason*
- Week 9: Post-structuralist approaches to figurative language; selections from Paul DeMan, and Hayden White
- Week 10: Metaphor and hermeneutics; selection from Paul Ricoeur, *The Rule of Metaphor*
- Week 11: Figurative language in modern poetry; representative examples from Emily Dickinson, Ezra Pound, W.B. Yeats, T.S. Eliot, Dylan Thomas, Wallace Stevens
- Week 12: Metaphor as cultural construct; Susan Sontag, *Illness as Metaphor*
- Week 13: Figures and tropes in contemporary culture