#### ARTSSCI 4MN1 – Local Explorations (2023-24, Term II) Narrative Medicine in Clinical Practice: Honouring Patients’ Stories

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| Course Description There will be a one-hour presentation to introduce narrative medicine as a concept and to illustrate its utility in clinical practice. The remainder of the module will be spent on discussion of narrative medicine literature and close reading of literary texts. The students will experience close reading of literary works and appreciate how close reading of literature enhances empathy. The students will also have an opportunity to write in response to literary works and to discuss their writing. | Class Times Th 11:30-1:20pm  11, 18, 25 January  1, 8 February  Location details to be shared with enrolled students InstructorDr. Margaret Nowaczyk MUMC 3N16  905.521.2100 x73042  [nowaczyk@hhsc.ca](mailto:nowaczyk@hhsc.ca)  *Office Hours:*  Th after class or by appointment |  |  |

## Objectives

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

1. Understand the concepts of narrative medicine and its role in providing superior health care.
2. Analyse and engage meaningfully with literary fiction and poetry.
3. Reflect carefully and with nuance on the ways in which they learn from reading literary fiction and poetry.
4. Appreciate the role reading literary works has in improving empathy and mental well-being.
5. Appreciate the role reflective writing has on maintaining mental health.

## Required Texts:

Nowaczyk, M. Chasing Zebras. A Memoir of Genetics, Mental Health & Writing. Wolsak & Wynn, Hamilton, 2021.

## Assignments and Evaluation:

This course is assessed on a Pass/Fail basis. ALL assessments must be completed and passed to pass the course.

Course Reflection 8 February

Participation Throughout term

## Assignment Descriptions & Evaluation Criteria:

### Course Reflection

**Following the fourth workshop (1 February), you will need to write and submit a brief (~700-1000 word) reflection. This reflection should primarily showcase your thoughts on close reading (e.g., what effects does close reading have in promoting the understanding of the text studied?), the workshop discussion (e.g., how does the discussion allow for a nuanced understanding of the text and unbiased appreciation of various viewpoints?), and reflective writing (e.g., how does reflective writing in the shadow of a literary work promote empathy and emotional well-being?) You may also describe your future plans in using close reading and reflective as a means of promoting emotional well-being and empathy.**

### Participation

Participation will be assessed by considering your engagement (throughout the term) during class meetings. You will be expected to attend class regularly (though isolated absences due to illness, religious observances, etc. are understood), participate in the discussion of the literary works, contribute to class discussion (while also making space for others’ contributions), complete class activities, listen actively and respectfully, and engage with others’ comments to further our shared understanding of issues. If you wish, you may also demonstrate your engagement by submitting brief written reflections on course readings or class discussions (via email).

## Course Schedule

**Week 1 (January 11): Introduction to Narrative Medicine**

* + **45-minute slide presentation** 
    - **Introductory workshop**

**Week 2 (January 18): Introduction to Close Reading**

* + **Required Reading:**
    - R. Charon (2006). Close Reading. In Narrative Medicine, pp. 107-129
    - **Close reading workshop**

**Week 3 (January 25): Close Reading Workshop**

* + **Reading provided in class**

**Week 4 (February 1): Close Reading Workshop**

* + **Reading provided in class**

**Week 5 (February 8): Close Reading Workshop**

* + **Reading provided in class**

## Course Policies

Assignment Deadlines & Missed/Late Work:

Students are expected to hand in all assignments on the specified due dates. Submissions more than 5 days late (for which approved accommodations have not been made via the relevant policies) will not receive a passing grade.

*Please note that ALL assignments must be completed and passed to earn a passing grade in the course.*

Sustainable Written Work Submission Guidelines

All written work should be submitted in the following format: double-sided pages, reduced line spacing (1.5 lines), exclusion of title page, sans-serif font. Most work will also be submitted and returned online.

## SENATE-APPROVED ADVISORY STATEMENTS

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. **It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.**

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [*Academic Integrity Policy*](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/Academic-Integrity-Policy-1-1.pdf)*,* located at [https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures- guidelines/](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-%20guidelines/).

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

* plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
* improper collaboration in group work.
* copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

AUTHENTICITY / PLAGIARISM DETECTION

**Some courses may** use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. **All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld** (e.g., online search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster’s use of Turnitin.com please go to [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](https://mcmasteru365-my.sharepoint.com/personal/rbishop_mcmaster_ca/Documents/www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity).

COURSES WITH AN ONLINE ELEMENT

**Some courses may** use online elements (e.g. e-mail, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in a course that uses online elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

ONLINE PROCTORING

**Some courses may** use online proctoring software for tests and exams. This software may require students to turn on their video camera, present identification, monitor and record their computer activities, and/or lock/restrict their browser or other applications/software during tests or exams. This software may be required to be installed before the test/exam begins.

CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the [*Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities*](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/Code-of-Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities.pdf) (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, **whether in person or online**.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](https://sas.mcmaster.ca/) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s [*Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities*](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/Academic-Accommodations-Policy.pdf) policy.

REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC TERM WORK

In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the [*Policy on Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work*](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/Requests-for-Relief-for-Missed-Academic-Term-Work-Policy-on.pdf).

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the [RISO](https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/2019/02/Academic-Accommodation-for-Religious-Indigenous-and-Spiritual-Observances-Policy-on.pdf) policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office ***normally within 10 working days*** of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors. The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done either by the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.

NOTES FOR ALL ARTS & SCIENCE COURSES

1. Some of the statements above refer to a “Faculty Office”; please note that the Arts & Science Program Office serves in this capacity.
2. It is the responsibility of students to check their McMaster email regularly. Announcements will be made in class, via A2L, and/or via the course email distribution list.
3. For additional information regarding requests for accommodation, relief for missed term work (e.g. MSAF), deferred examinations, etc., students should read carefully the [Requests](https://artsci.mcmaster.ca/forms-requests/) and [Resources](https://artsci.mcmaster.ca/current-students/resources/) pages on the Arts & Science Program website.