

ENGL 9002A: Advanced Research Methods  
\*Preliminary\* Schedule Fall 2016

\*Subject to substitutions in some types of assignments,  
based on consultation with students in the first week of classes.

Co-Instructors: Donna Palmateer Pennee (Graduate Faculty, English & WSFR) and  
Melanie Mills (Academic Librarian, The D.B. Weldon Library, Western Libraries)

Office Hours: Given the range and complexity of everyone's schedules, we are not  
planning on regular office hours. Please contact us via e-mail to arrange appointments at  
[dpennee@uwo.ca](mailto:dpennee@uwo.ca) or [melanie.mills@uwo.ca](mailto:melanie.mills@uwo.ca)

Guest Instructors: Robin Keirstead, University Archivist; Tom Adam, Copyright  
Librarian; and Professors Richard Moll, Janie Purkis, and Mark McDayter (e-mail these  
guests individually if you have follow-up questions or conversations to pursue).

Mondays, 3:30-5:30pm

Health Science Building, Room 134 (HSB 13) except 7 November: meet in The D.B.  
Weldon Library, Room 120 (next to the Teaching Support Centre)

This schedule of activities is based on the assumption that at least some of you are  
planning to continue your studies (after the MA, or into upper years of the doctoral  
program) and that all of you will have entered your program with some sort of research  
plans, however tentative. Thus, you will find assignments that correspond to stages of  
the research as an iterative process: planning, reading, writing, getting feedback,  
reflecting, doing further searches, and more reading, reflection, research and  
revision. The course activities will complement your fall study activities, whether these  
include applying for external research funding while taking courses or taking courses  
only. Everyone will have a focused and shared opportunity to experience and experiment  
with their own independent research, while also providing and receiving feedback from  
others, and all within a low-risk (and hopefully, high-reward!) community of peers.

Those who are not planning to stay in the academy, or not planning on staying in literary  
or cultural studies for a subsequent degree, may have ideas for assignments that would be  
alternative to some of the ones listed below. The co-instructors will be reading your  
Statements of Intent (for graduate study at Western) prior to the first class so that we can  
have a sense of what other kinds of activities would be useful to you and to us for charting  
your learning in the course. We will consult everyone about the possibilities, but we also  
urge everyone to keep in mind that the skills involved in writing any proposal which  
requires knowledge that you do not presently have will involve research, and so the  
currently scheduled activities and assignments will also be of benefit to you. Only the  
substance of your proposal might differ from proposals of peers who are staying in the  
academy: for example, your proposal might be for a final paper in another course this  
term (though your course instructor's feedback will be the authority on the paper's  
argument in that other course); for a conference paper; for a statement of intent for

application to another academic program; for a project in an actual or potential future workplace; and so on).

Work to be Completed for the Pass/Fail Course Designation:

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sharing work that isn't finished yet, ~~and~~ to make progress towards drafting research

Giving and Taking Feedback: after discussing your concept maps and research plans in the second half of today's class, identify and take (some) next steps prompted by feedback from peers. How will you address their feedback through doing research?

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Outside of Class time, with a due date of not later than 7am 26 September 2016:

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¾ Upload your concept map of your own research plans - ' } ' - " " ' ' š • ' - ž f - † " - š f • y f „ † † x t r † x - † • > ' - " ... ' æ { • f • - " - ... - " † ~ < † TM - š † • ' ' < ' " - ' ... ž f • •

Monday 26 September  
Disciplined Discovery: An Introduction to Research Guides

Research Self-Reflection (i.e., Snapshot #2): What are your current preferences, practices, and behaviors related to independent research?

Research Guides: Anatomies of a Research Process, Theoretical Assumptions, and (Inter)Disciplinary Methods

In-class, Hands-on Search exercises:

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Monday 3 October  
Moving from Drafts to Finished (enough) Proposals

Come to class having read:



Guest Instructor: Dr. Richard Moll on Text Studies (research for creation of scholarly editions of primary sources)

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27-28 October: Fall Study Break  
(note the readings coming up)

Monday 31 October  
Methods, Methodologies, and Changes in the Cultures of Research

Reading for discussion:

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