

# ELA 20-1

*A class designed to prepare you for future post-secondary academia while promoting a deeper analytical and aesthetic appreciation of a variety of literary genres.*

## Projects and Assignments

### Essays - CARL

You will write one or two of these over the semester. This style of essay demonstrates your ability to think critically about a text.

### Creative Writing - PR

You will do two of these over the semester. This style of writing draws on your creativity and ability to write on a theme.

### Personal Essay

This is the first piece of writing you will do in this course. You will tell a story that is meaningful to you. It is a piece we will come back to over the semester and you will be able to improve this piece over the semester with a final submission deadline nearer June.

### Legacy Project

You will be asked to come up with an Inquiry Question that is meaningful to you. Through the exploration of written, visual, and multi-media text, you will organize an answer to that question through a personal response, an essay, and an artifact.

### Pechakucha-Style Talk

The final piece of the Legacy Project and your final exam. You will discuss the answer to your Inquiry Question your learning this semester. You will need to be able to demonstrate how you have met the outcomes of this course and to what degree you have shown mastery.

### Everything Else

You will be working on your reading skills, your writing skills, your speaking skills, your listening skills, your viewing skills, and your representation skills through a variety of class activities and assignments. While not everything will get a mark, it is all worth doing in order to experience success in this program.

### Weighting

Connect, Respect, Collaborate **10%**  
Comprehend and Respond **35%**  
Manage Ideas **20%**  
TextCreation **35%**



## Outcomes

For a full list of outcomes, please see <https://www.learnalberta.ca/ProgramOfStudy.aspx?lang=en&ProgramId=370511#>

**GO 1: Explore thoughts, ideas, feelings, and experiences (Joy!)**

**GO 2: Comprehend literature and other texts in oral, print, visual, and multi-media forms, and respond personally, critically, and creatively (Comprehension. The What and How of a text)**

**GO 3: Manage ideas and information (Inquiry Project. Managing information)**

**GO 4: Create oral, print, visual, and multi-media texts, and enhance the clarity and artistry of communication. (Communicating your ideas. Write! Represent! Present!)**

**GO 5: Respect, support, and collaborate with others. (Group Work)**

Students will work through these GOs as they complete the assignments above.

## Texts

Students will have an opportunity to explore a variety of texts including

**Full Length Novel:** *Cellist of Sarajevo*, *The Great Gatsby*, student choice.

**Feature Film:** *I will announce this soon*, Student Choice

**Shakespearean Play:** *Macbeth*

**Poems:** Variety from multiple eras, genres, countries  
**Short Stories:** *The Destructors*, *Boys and Girls*, *Dogrib*, *Midnight Runners*

**Visual and Multi-media texts:** short films, video clips, and photographs

**Essays:** *Field Notes on Hair*, *Liver: a Fairy Tale Ending*

**Popular Non-Fiction:** news stories, feature articles, reviews, interviews, blogs, and/or other forms of persuasive and technical writing

All required texts are posted to Google Classroom.

## Assessment

In an ELA classroom, you are continuously able to receive formative feedback when you make time to work with the teacher on your assignments during class and Focus. Summative feedback only happens once you hand in the assignment for final evaluation. While deadlines are flexible, only assignments handed in by the specified deadline will receive feedback, written or oral. On average, a class set of essays takes three weeks to mark. Reading Comprehension tests will be graded and posted within the week they are written. Presentations are marked at the time of presentation. Another point to note is that ELA is an arts course; you cannot get a 100% by sheer memorization of facts or formulas, or by doing extra work. Instead, ELA 20-1 is a culmination of everything learned in the previous years, and as such, not all students are going to be in the excellence category. In fact, only about 9% of students score 80% or above. Please be gentle with yourself and celebrate your growth, not your letter grade. If you are here, doing the work, and improving, that is what matters. You got this!