

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**
<https://ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2020-2021 ITAL 299 A1: Special Topics: Introduction to Fascism
(Fall Term)

Note: Remote Delivery

Instructor: William Anselmi
Office: Remote
E-mail: wanselmi@ualberta.ca
Personal Website: n/a
Course Website: n/a

Time: Tue/Thu. 2-3:20
Place: remote
Office Hours: Thu. 3:20 – 4:20
or by appointment

Bachelor of Arts / Major in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies/undergraduate-program-information/prospective-undergraduate-students>

Course Prerequisite: none

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Technology requirements (minimum):

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate technology for the course.

Experiential Learning Component

this course has NO significant experiential learning component

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

No, not needed

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

- Exam registry – Students' Union
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
 - See explanations below
 - Document distributed in class
 - Other (please specify)
- X NA

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

The course, on one level, is a critical introduction to Fascism, its history, its context. As well, it features its continuing persistence in terms of political representation in countries and spaces around the globe under various names (for example Steve

Bannon's appropriation of the term alt-right will be critically considered as a strategic move for an "appropriate" and "ethical" discursive replacement). Fascism is undoubtedly present in cultural manifestations, in communication environments (Facebook, Twitter and the likes), its resonance incorporates white-supremacy, racism, xenophobia, homophobia. On another level, the course is designed to encompass undergraduate and graduate students so as to create a trans-hierarchical community of interested and engaged thinkers. At the end of this course, successful students will be able to engage critically with right-wing thought even in its extreme form.

Course Format: The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of formal lectures, guest presentations, assigned readings and audiovisual materials.

Texts:

Required

Kevin Passmore - *Fascism: A Very Short Introduction*

Recommended

Enzo Traverso - *The New Faces of Fascism*

Additional Course Fees

X No

Important Dates: [See Academic Schedule in current Calendar](#)

First Day of Class: September 1, 2020

Add/Delete Date: September 15, 2020

50% Withdrawal Date: October 2, 2020

Fall Term Reading Week: November 9-13, 2020

Withdrawal Date: November 30, 2020

Last Day of Class: December 7, 2020

Components of Course Grade (see "Explanatory Notes"):

20%	Participation
20%	Journal (due Dec 5, 2020 – 200 words a week)
20%	Final essay (due Nov. 15, 2020 - minimum 1500 words)
20%	Fascist Project (due Dec 7, 2020)
10%	Reason(s) for taking the course (due Sept. 14 – 250 words)
10%	Concentrate analysis of a cultural text (film, song, novel, poem) minimum number of words: 100. Due Nov. 8, 2020.

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

In this course, **participation is mandatory.**

*The **journal** is where you register your thoughts, reflections, comments and the likes, **WEEKLY**. You will not be able to postpone the work or do it at the last moment. If you do you will fail. Apply yourself weekly. Choose a day, I would suggest Fridays, at whatever time is best for you and note your reflections while your thoughts are still fresh. Consider this exercise as a way to keep a permanent record of your course and your involvement. The **final essay**'s subject is your choice, from an analysis of a political situation from around the world or even Alberta, or a particular event in history. You are most welcome to **discuss** with me any ideas you have. The **Fascist Project** should be done cooperatively with a fellow student, and it's the fun part of the course; however, given the present social conditions you can do it alone. What the project involves is strategizing a plan for taking over a country. It's up to you to see how (media, military involvement, financial support etc. and you decide the paraphernalia and allies like bankers and religious figures). But make sure it's a fascist take over (you decide the degree of violence if any). The **reason for taking this course** is a straightforward exercise. The **concentrate analysis** is also a straightforward exercise keeping in mind the fascist element.*

Required Notes:

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.

Student Responsibilities:

Academic Integrity:

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Sexual Violence Policy:

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

Territorial Statement:

“The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.” (*from the beginning of the Calendar*).

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students **is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan**. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

In this course, participation is mandatory.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Students who consult **in advance** with the instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension just one time throughout the course with no penalty. However, if a second excuse will be granted for late assignments, half of the mark assigned for this particular work will be deducted. Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline. Any assignment not handed-in in time or unexcused late assignments will not be given any marks. Late excuses will **not** be accepted for any reason.

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

Accessibility Resources: (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

The Academic Success Centre: (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

The Centre for Writers: (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

Health and Wellness Support: There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds:

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a

student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	A+	4.0	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	B+	3.3	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	C+	2.3	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	D+	1.3	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
Failure.	F	0.0	0-59

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