

**ENGL 103A Case Studies in Research**

*3 credits, 3 hours lecture*

This variable content course introduces methods of literary research as an in-depth process through one or more case studies.

*Prerequisite: English 30 or 30-1 or equivalent*

*NOTE: Not to be taken by students with 6 credits in approved junior English*

**Instructor**

Ryan J Cox  
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[@RyanJCoxPhD](#)

**Office Hours**

Due to COVID, Office hours are by appointment. Students are encouraged to use MS Teams chat for informal communication with instructor

**Hours of Instruction**

Tuesday 10:30 – 11:50 am  
Thursday 10:30 – 11:50 am

**Required Resources**

Neuromancer Gibson ISBN 978-0441569595  
Full Metal Indigiqueer Whitehead ISBN 978-1772011876  
Autonomous Newitz ISBN 978-0765392084

Additional resources will be available on the course's Moodle site

**Course Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall be able to:

- Deploy effective research methodologies
- Use research to critically engage texts and ascertain meaning

- . Integrate research effectively into a variety of scholarly activities

### Evaluation

Viewing Notes	10%
Writing Conference	10%
Research Journal	10%
Research Proposal	15%
Research Project	45%
LB/Participation	10%
Total	100%

*A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.*

### Viewing Notes

Students will watch the assigned film or videos and complete the assignment sheet. The intention of this assignment is to help students understand and develop the skills necessary when conducting primary source research, to teach students how to take research notes, and to gauge the student's mastery of the provided texts. The assignment sheet should be completed in full, and students are expected to follow the provided directions.

### Research Journal

In the research journal, students will keep their notes on the course materials read each week as well as ongoing research on the case studies. They are also expected to use the journal to develop ideas and do the prewriting/research for their research projects. Templates will be provided for dealing with texts.

### Proposal

At the beginning of any research project it is necessary to establish the questions that one wishes to pursue and the critical space in which you will explore those questions. This is done, typically, by defining a set of questions or a question and looking at key texts in the area or discipline to start refining those questions, moving towards conclusions and an essay/project. Over time, the collection of key texts will work to form an archive of knowledge that informs your research and process. This assignment is intended to help students understand the material of study better, but also how to develop expertise as researchers—how to learn the general contours or foundations of an area of study, as well as the specific scholarly discourses surrounding the text or issue being examined. It is also intended as the launch point for the research project they will engage in throughout the semester and should establish both the central questions of that project and begin the work of research on those questions. For further information consult the assignment sheet on moodle.

### Writing Conference

Students will meet with the instructor for a ten (10) minute meeting to discuss progress towards the final research project. They are expected to come prepared and conduct themselves professionally. The sign-up sheet for appointments will be posted on teams the week before the conferences. It is the responsibility of the student to schedule an appointment and attend. For further information

consult the assignment sheet on moodle. All meetings will be conducted via Zoom, and, for this particular assignment, cameras are required to be on.

### Research Project

Choose either option 1 or 2

#### Option 1

You will be expected to write a detailed, well researched, thesis driven essay on a text or texts from the course. This essay should demonstrate your mastery of the text(s), your ability to effectively integrate your research into your writing, a familiarity with the current critical discourses surrounding your topic, and your ability to write at the university level. Final Essay 10 pgs.

#### Option 2

You will be expected to execute on a project that blends the theory and critical study of the course topic (CYBERPUNK) with creative practice. This project should demonstrate not only your ability to move from theory to praxis, but also an understanding of the critical discourses surrounding your topic, your ability to plan and research your project, and your ability to execute the project. You will also be expected to write a four (4) page author's note in which you discuss the critical value of the project (what does it demonstrate? what does it tell us about the course topic (CYBERPUNK) and its position in/relationship to culture? what can we learn from the activity? etc). The author's note should make reference to your research.

### The Living Bibliography and Participation

Students will work collectively on a bibliography of both primary and secondary texts related to the topic of the course (CYBERPUNK). These entries are to be categorized (primary/secondary; specific topics ie. posthumanism, the history of science fiction, hackers) and arranged alphabetically within the categories. These entries must conform to current MLA Style. Students are expected to share a minimum of THREE (3) entries, and these entries must be a mix of primary and secondary sources (students who do the minimum could have 2 primary and 1 secondary, or 1 primary and 2 secondary, but not 3 of one type; they are encouraged to exceed the minimum). Students are expected to post after adding to the Living Bibliography in the general channel of Living Bibliography channel on Teams explaining what they added and why they categorized it as they did. Students are expected to participate actively in any discussion that their post generates. Additionally, students are expected to meaningfully participate in teams discussion threads over the course of the semester. Meaningful participation means critically engaged, thoughtful, informed, and respectful responses. It does not mean one word responses or responses that demonstrate the student has not read the original post and has nothing significant to add to the conversation. Behaviour that the instructor determines to be abusive will result in a failing grade.

This assignment will also factor in your participation in the classroom. **ATTENDANCE IS NOT EQUIVALENT TO PARTICIPATION.** Meaningful participation in the classroom should follow a similar model to that described above. Students are expected to come to class prepared for classrooms discussions, actively and vigorously engage in those discussions, and generally contribute to the course's critical conversation.

### Late Policy

Late work will only be accepted until 3pm on the second day following the due date and it will be penalized at a rate of 10%/Day. If work is not submitted by 3pm on the second day following the due date, it will not be accepted and the student will receive a 0(zero) on the assignment. It should also be

noted that late material will receive no feedback from the instructor. It is your responsibility to meet the due dates for the assigned material.

### **Standards for Written Assignments**

Learning how to follow house style sheets is one of the most important skills a writer can develop. To aid you in your quest to learn these skills I have provided a document entitled “Standards for Written Assignments” on Moodle. If your paper does not conform to these standards, expect to lose marks.

All work must be TYPED, double spaced, and have proper MLA documentation (unless instructed otherwise). Do NOT submit work to me by e-mail. All students should submit two versions of their assignments: a hard copy submitted at the beginning of the class the day the assignment is due and a digital copy submitted through the appropriate dropbox on moodle by the beginning of that class. If one of these copies is missing the assignment will not receive a grade. Please also understand that digital submission of the work will be treated as acknowledgement that the work is free from plagiarism and other forms of academic misconduct and that the work being submitted is in full compliance with Keyano College Policy 110.1: Student Code of Conduct Procedure (Academic Misconduct: cheating and plagiarism).

### **Sensitivity, Respect, and Subject Matter**

Some of the material we will be covering this semester is of a charged nature—whether in terms of form, content or politics. As critics, we cannot shy away from this material; however, we must understand that this material may generate a wide variety of reactions and opinions among our colleagues in the classroom. Thus, it is imperative that we remain aware of, and sympathetic to the reactions and opinions of our classmates. Respect and sensitivity will produce a stronger learning environment and generate better, more nuanced discussions.

### **Pronoun Usage**

Every student deserves the basic respect of being referred to by the appropriate pronouns. To that end, if there are particular pronouns that you wish to use please feel free to let me know either in person or via email. If I misgender you, please feel free to correct me and I will work to avoid doing so in the future. The pronouns that I use are he/his.

### **Territorial Acknowledgement**

Keyano College is located on Treaty 8 lands This area has been and continues to be home to the Cree, Dene, and Metis peoples. As a scholarly community we recognize that we are treaty people and work to live up to the responsibilities that come with that.

**Grading System**

<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>Alpha Grade</b>	<b>4.0 Scale</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Rubric for Letter Grades</b>
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	<b>Progression</b> C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
<b>Minimum Pass</b>	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

**Proposed Schedule of Topics**

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments	Notes
Jan 6-10	Introduction: Asking the question			
Jan 11-17	Case Study 1: Anticipating Cyberpunk	Dick, "We Can Remember it for you Wholesale" Tiptree, "The Girl who was Plugged in"		
Jan 18-24	Case Study 2: The Canonicity of the colour of a television tuned to a Dead Channel	Gibson, <i>Neuromancer</i>		
Jan 25-31	Case Study 2: Cont'd	Bukatman, selections from <i>Terminal Identity</i>		
Feb 1-7	Signal to Noise: Building your Archive		Viewing Notes 1 Due Feb 4	
Feb 8-14	Case Study 3:	The Wachowskis, <i>The Matrix</i> ; Hayles, selections from <i>How We</i>	Proposal Due: Feb 14	

		<i>Became Posthuman</i>		
Feb 15-21	Reading Week			Family Day/Reading Week: No Class
Feb 22-28	Case Study 4: Playing Punks!	Pondsmith, <i>Cyberpunk 2020</i> ; <i>Shadowrun</i>		
Mar 1-7	Case Study 5: What kind of bodies can be cybernetic?	Whitehead, <i>Full-Metal Indigiqueer</i> ; Donna Haraway, "The Cyborg Manifesto"		
Mar 8-14	From Work to Text: Moving from Research to Writing	Gocsik et al Chapters 6-9; Oshii, <i>Ghost in the Shell</i>	Viewing Notes Due: Mar 8	
Mar 15-21	Preliminary Reports		Sign up for an appointment	There is no class this week, class time will be used for writing conferences please sign up for an appointment; Last Day to Withdraw, March 27
Mar 22-28	Case Study 6: Robot Love and Canadian Health Care	Newitz, <i>Autonomous</i>		
Mar 29-Apr 4	Case Study 6: Cont'd		Research Journals Due: Mar 29	
Apr 5-11	Conclusions from Meatspace and Serving the Enduser	Students will be offered a menu of readings for this week, which selections will be read will be determined through collective discussion		
Apr 12-14	Upload Complete		Research Papers Due April 9	Last Day of Classes: April 9

**Please Note:** Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

## Performance Requirements and Student Services

### Student Responsibilities

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the [Keyano College credit calendar](#). The Keyano College credit calendar also has information about Student Rights and Code of Conduct. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

### **Student Attendance**

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and notes that may be due.

### **Academic Misconduct**

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own;
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating);
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work;
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications;
- The willful distortion of results or data;
- Substitution in an examination by another person;
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment; and
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on [ilearn.keyano.ca](http://ilearn.keyano.ca). Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work may not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

### **Specialized Supports**

The Student Services department is committed to Keyano students and their academic success. There are a variety of student supports available at Keyano College. Due to the continuing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic, the offered support services will be implemented differently this semester by being provided mostly virtually. In-person service can be requested as needed. All Alberta Health Services guidelines will be followed for in-person appointments—wear a mask, maintain two meters of physical distance, use hand sanitizer, and stay home if you are unwell.

All student services are available during Keyano business hours: Monday to Friday, 8h30-16h30.

**Accessibility Services:** provides accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with documented disabilities, or who suspect a disability, can meet with a Learning Strategist to discuss their current learning barriers and possible accommodations. Students who have accessed accommodations in the past are encouraged to contact us to request them for the semester. Please note that requesting accommodations is a process and requires time to arrange. Contact us as soon

as you know you may require accommodations. For accessibility services supports and to book a virtual appointment, please contact [accessibility.services@keyano.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@keyano.ca).

Accessibility Services also provides individual and group learning strategy instruction for all students, as well as technology training and supports to enhance learning. Meet with a Learning Strategist to learn studying and test-taking strategies for online classes. Schedule an appointment with the Assistive Technology Specialist to explore technology tools for learning. Book an appointment today by emailing [accessibility.services@keyano.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@keyano.ca)

**Wellness Services:** offers a caring, inclusive, and respectful environment where students can access free group and individual support to meet academic and life challenges. Mental Health Coordinators offer a safe and confidential environment to seek help with personal concerns. All individual appointments will continue virtually.

Wellness Services welcomes students to participate in any of the virtual group sessions offered throughout the academic year addressing topics including mindfulness and test anxiety.

Individual virtual appointments can be made by emailing [wellness.services@keyano.ca](mailto:wellness.services@keyano.ca).

**Library Services:** provides students with research and information supports as they engage in their studies. Library staff are available to support you both virtually and in person throughout the semester. For a detailed list of library supports and services, go to [www.keyano.ca/library](http://www.keyano.ca/library). For any inquiries, please email [askthelibrary@keyano.ca](mailto:askthelibrary@keyano.ca).

[Begin your research with the Library's FIND page. Search for sources using OneSearch, the Library's Catalogue, or by searching in a specific database selected from the A-Z Database List.](#)

[Individual support with the Information Librarian is available virtually. Appointments can be requested by using the Book A Librarian online form.](#)

Research and Subject Guides are helpful resources when beginning your research or addressing other information needs. To view a subject or course specific guide, go to the Subject Guide webpage [here](#).

To access additional research resources, including Citation Guides (APA, MLA, Chicago, or IEEE), go to the [Research Help Library page](#).

The Loanable Technology collection is available to support students in their online learning pursuits. Items available for borrowing include mobile projectors, webcams, noise cancelling headphones, Chromebooks, and laptops. For an up-to-date list of technology available for borrowing, go to the Library's [Loanable Technology webpage](#).

**Skill Centre:** Provides academic support services to students registered in credit programs at Keyano College in the form of tutoring, assignment/lab support, writing support groups, facilitated study groups, workshops, and study space. This service is free and is available for all Math, Sciences, Humanities and Trades courses offered at Keyano.

While most courses are being offered online, the Skill Centre will be offering mostly virtual services and in-person sessions as requested. Please email [Skill@keyano.ca](mailto:Skill@keyano.ca) to get in contact with our Academic Content Specialists. The Skill Centre is located in CC-119 at the Clearwater Campus.

For the most up to date information on how to book a session, please view the [Keyano Skill Centre homepage](#).



**Academic Success Coaching:** offers you support and access to resources for your academic success to help you to find the Keys to your Success. The Academic Success Coach will work with you to develop an academic success plan, develop your study and time management skills, and connect you with the right resources here at Keyano. [Academic.success@keyano.ca](mailto:Academic.success@keyano.ca) is the best way to access resources during virtual service delivery. The Academic Success Coach is located in the Skill Centre in CC-119 at the Clearwater Campus.

### **E-Learning**

Technology and internet will impact your online learning experience. It's important that you are able to watch an online video and other course materials, take online quizzes, and participant in a live class with your instructor and other students.

Keyano College operates in a Windows based environment and having the correct tools for online learning is important. Here's a list of recommended system requirements.

### **Internet Speed**

Minimum Internet speeds of 5 Mbps.

Recommended Internet speeds of 25 Mbps (especially if you are sharing your internet at home). Check your internet speed with [Fast.com](http://Fast.com).

### **System requirements:**

Microsoft Windows	Apple
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<p><b>Minimum Requirements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Windows 10 <b>computer/laptop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum 4GB of RAM.</li> </ul> </li> <li>10GB+ available hard drive storage.</li> <li>Enough available hard drive space to install the Microsoft Office suite (approximately 3GB). <a href="#">Microsoft Office</a> software is free to all Keyano students and employees.</li> <li>Microphone, webcam and speakers. A headset with a microphone is recommended.</li> <li>System updates must be regularly installed.</li> <li>Anti-Virus / Anti-Malware software</li> </ul>	<p><b>Minimum Requirements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Macintosh (V10.14 and above) <b>computer/laptop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum 4GB of RAM.</li> </ul> </li> <li>10GB+ available hard drive storage.</li> <li>Enough available hard drive space to install the Microsoft Office suite (approximately 3GB). <a href="#">Microsoft Office</a> software is free to all Keyano students and employees.</li> <li>Microphone, webcam and speakers. A headset with a microphone is recommended.</li> <li>System updates must be regularly installed.</li> <li>Anti-Virus / Anti-Malware software.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommended Requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8GB of RAM</li> <li>A method of backing up/synchronizing to local or cloud-based storage such as OneDrive is highly recommended. This is included if you complete the setup of KeyanoMail and download MS Office using your Keyano email for free.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Recommended Requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8GB of RAM</li> <li>A method of backing up/synchronizing to local or cloud-based storage such as OneDrive is highly recommended. This is included if you complete the setup of KeyanoMail and download MS Office using your Keyano email for free.</li> </ul>
<p>Chromebooks are <b>not</b> recommended as they are not compatible with testing lockdown browsers.</p> <p>A Microsoft Surface or iPad or iPad Pro may be possible alternatives in some program areas.</p>	

**Specific Department Requirements:**

Business and OA programs require Windows 10.  
Other programs may utilize Windows based tools as well.

**Computer Software**

Students will be able to get access to Microsoft Office 365 for free using Keyano credentials by [clicking here](#).

**Recording of Lectures and Intellectual Property**

Students may only record a lecture if explicit permission is provided by the instructor or by Accessibility Services. Even if students have permission to record a lecture or lecture materials, students may not share, distribute, or publish any of the lectures or lecture materials, this includes any recordings, slides, instructor notes, etc. on any platform. Thus no student is allowed to share, distribute, publish or sell course related content (instructor, or students) without permission. It is important to recognize that the Canadian Copyright Act contains provisions for intellectual property. The [Academic Integrity Policy](#) provides additional information on Keyano College’s expectations from students as members of the intellectual community.

**ITS Helpdesk**

If you are having issues with your student account, you can contact the ITS Helpdesk by emailing [its.helpdesk@keyano.ca](mailto:its.helpdesk@keyano.ca) or calling 780-791-4965.