Instructor: Dr. James Young

Office: CLE B324

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Office Hours: Monday and Thursday, 2:30-3:30 and by appointment

Texts: This course has no required text. Course readings are available online through the University’s library or will be distributed by the instructor. For details of readings, see the below syllabus.

Course Objectives:

To provide students with knowledge of some of the principle contemporary debates in philosophy of art; to cultivate philosophical acuity.

Grading:

Students will write a 5000-word essay on topics of their own choosing. Students must consult with the instructor about the topic of their paper. They will present a draft of the essay in class. Students will then revise their paper on the basis of the feedback they receive from the instructor and their fellow students. The final version of the essay is due on Friday, April 15th at 4 p.m. Students are expected to participate actively in the seminar.

Weighting of assignments:

Essay: 60%
Essay presentation: 20%
General participation: 20%

Students will receive a final grade out of 100 points. Numbers will be converted to a letter grade in accordance with the following scale: 90-100=A+; 85-89=A; 80-84=A-; 77-79=B+; 73-76=B; 70-72=B-; 65-69=C+; 60-64=C; 50-59= D; 0-49=F. Final grades will be rounded to the nearest whole number.

Plagiarism is not tolerated. Ignorance is no excuse. Read: [http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2015-09/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcI.html](http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2015-09/FACS/UnIn/UARe/PoAcI.html).
Schedule of Classes

Week One  4 and 7 January

Topic: Fiction

Week Two  11 and 14 January

Topic: Fiction

Week Three  18 and 21 January

Topic: Literary fiction

Week Four  25 and 28 January

Topic: Fictional objects

Week Five  1 and 4 February

Topic: Fictional objects
Week Six
8 and 11 February

Reading week

Week Seven
15 and 18 February

Topic: Truth in fiction

Week Eight
22 and 25 February

Topic: Fiction and Emotion

Week Nine
29 February and 3 March

Topic: Learning from Fiction
Readings: Peter Lamarque, “Learning from Literature.” *Dalhousie Review,* 77 (1997), 7–21; James O. Young, “Literature, Representation and Knowledge” and “Literature, Perspectives and Justified Beliefs.” (To be circulated)

Week Ten
7 and 10 March

Topic: Owning Fictional Characters

Week Eleven
14 and 17 March

Topic: Student Presentations
Readings: No new readings

Week Twelve
21 and 24 March

Topic: Student presentations
Readings: No new readings
Week Thirteen 31 March

Topic: Student presentations
Readings: no new readings

Week Fourteen 4 April

Topic: Student presentations
Readings: no new readings

N.B.: This syllabus is tentative, and intended only to give students a rough guide to readings, dates and topics. Subject to change. It may be necessary to schedule additional meetings to accommodate all student presentations.