

THFM-2311-001

FILM COMEDY

Fall/Winter: 2023/2024
Classes every Wednesday: 14:30-17:15
Room OT10

Instructor: John Kozak
Office: Room 3T11
Phone: 786-9951
e-mail: j.kozak@uwinnipeg.ca
Office Hours by appointment

All classes and labs are on-campus/in-person.

Announcements will be posted on the class Nexus site.

The best way to contact me is by email at j.kozak@uwinnipeg.ca I will check my email daily and respond within 24 hours.

Please note: Do not contact me through Nexus Mail. I will not be using it.

I may occasionally send announcements through your University of Winnipeg Webmail address. Check your U of W webmail address regularly.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course will look at film comedy, from the pioneering silent film comedies of Max Linder and John Bunny to the comedies of Seth Rogen and Edgar Wright, from the perspective of the cinematic techniques used to achieve a comic action or comic perspective. Though the course will study comedy forms and styles and take an historical perspective on the development of film comedy, the emphasis will be on an exploration of the cinematic tools of the comedy filmmaker.

LABS

There will be 2 Lab assignments

Students will form groups and shoot a series of short scenes highlighting the implementation of two different comedic strategies: 1). Suspense (Tension and Release) and 2). Surprise (Concealment of Information).

Each Lab is worth 10% of your final grade

EVALUATION

Grade evaluation will be based on the four (4) assignments as outlined below, plus the 2 Labs and Class Participation.

Class Participation

Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in class exercises and class demonstrations and contribute to the set-up and breakdown of equipment in class.

Your contributions to the script outline analysis sessions are an important aspect of your participation grade.

Students are also expected to spend a reasonable amount of time outside of class on pre-production for their film shoots. Class Participation is worth 10% of your final grade and is graded on attendance, attitude and participation in class and labs.

Mark Breakdown

Script Outline (Due October 25).....	10%
Final Draft script (Due January 10).....	10%
Major Film Project (Due March 20).....	30%
Essay assignment (Due April 10).....	20%
Labs (2 X 10%).....	20%
Class Participation	<u>10%</u>
Total	100%

There Is No Final Exam

Penalty for Late Assignments: Late assignments will be marked down at the rate of 1% per calendar day after the due date.

Presentation of Assignments: All written assignments must be handed in unless otherwise stipulated. All written assignments must be submitted typed, on standard 8½ X 11 paper, with 1 staple in the top left corner. No binders or folders of any kind please. Written assignments must be double-spaced and single-sided. Number the pages.

CONVERSION SCALE

A+	90 - 100%	GPA	4.5
A	85 - 89.9 %	GPA	4.25
A-	80 - 84.9 %	GPA	4.0
B+	75 - 79.9 %	GPA	3.5
B	70 - 74.9 %	GPA	3.0
C+	65 - 69.9 %	GPA	2.5
C	60 - 64.9 %	GPA	2.0
D	50 - 59.9 %	GPA	1.0
F	below 50 %	GPA	0

Work not submitted will be graded as 0.

TEXTS

No Required Text

Recommended - *Film Comedy* by Geoff King

Class Participation

Participation is marked out of 100 and is worth 10% of the final grade.

Attendance will be taken at each class and student Nexus activity will be monitored.

Each unexcused absence will result in 2% off the total.

The remainder of the grade is based on attentiveness, respectful participation in class, Nexus activity and contributions during the outline table read.

Voluntary withdrawal date without academic penalty is Friday, February 16, 2024

STUDENT EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR PRACTICAL FILM COURSES

- **Students are required to provide their own portable external hard drives for project storage and editing. The minimum requirement is a 1TB USB2 7200RPM drive formatted for Mac computers. Drives with USB, USB-C, and Thunderbolt connections are supported.**
- **Note: Computers in OT14 will not retain any saved data once turned off so any project files will have to be saved at the end of each session to either your personal external hard drive or the NAS (Network Attached Storage) that is located in the film lab.**
- Students are required to provide their own headphones.
- We also recommend you have an additional hard drive to back up all of your media files and work.
- **STUDENTS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO OWN A MAC PERSONAL COMPUTER.** Instructors will provide information on working on files between Mac and PC based computers.
- Students should also have a flash drive (also formatted for Mac computers) available for every in-person class/lab to copy assignments and media, and to hand in film work. Please note, they are very unstable storage devices and are not to be used in place of a hard drive.
- Students are required to provide their own media cards on which to record their video assignments. It is advised to bring them to every in-person class/lab. Recommended is a Class 10 16 gig card.
- When possible, students will be expected to work on the Media Lab computers (OT14) on the Apple-based editing software.
- Acceptable editing software includes Adobe Premiere, Apple's Final Cut Pro 7 and Final Cut X, DaVinci Resolve, AVID, iMovie or Windows Movie Maker. Consult your instructor regarding any other editing software.

NOTE: Cellular phones MUST BE TURNED OFF during classes, both in the lecture room and in the Editing room. Students discovered talking on their cell phones during class time will be asked to leave the class. Ringing cell phones will be confiscated for the duration of the class.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

FIRST TERM

September 6 to 13 - Comic modes

September 20 - Comedy and narrative & the elements of character

September 27 - Cinematic techniques in comedy

October 4 – Lab 1 – Suspense (Detailed assignment parameters will be handed out in class)

October 8 – 14 – READING WEEK

October 25 – Complete Lab 1 and review

1st Assignment: Script Outline

Write a 3 to 4 page Outline for a 5 to 10 minute comedy film.

Submit by email as a PDF

Each student will present their outline in class on November 22 for analysis and discussion. This will be the outline for the film which students will shoot in second term.

Due October 25

October 25 – Lab 2 – Surprise (Detailed assignment parameters will be handed out in class)

November 1 – Complete Lab 2 and review

November 8 – Clash of context

November 15 – Verbal comedy

November 22 – Table read: In-class script outline review

November 29 – Screenplay format

2nd Assignment: Final Draft Script

Students will write an 8 to 10 page script, based on their assignment # 1 outline, to be used for their final film assignment.

Hand in as a hard copy

Scripts will be graded on narrative structure, comic tone, character perspective and the application of the comedic principles of set-up and pay-off, suspense and/or surprise. Students will also be graded on correct screenplay format.

Due January 10

SECOND TERM

January 10 to March 27 – The History of Comedy (Tentative Schedule)

January 10 – Max Linder to Harry Langdon

January 17 – Charlie Chaplin & Buster Keaton

January 24 – Marx Brothers, W.C. Fields & the Three Stooges

January 31 – Comedy in the 1940s – Abbott & Costello & Preston Sturges

February 7 – Jerry Lewis

February 14 – Comedy in the 1960s – Blake Edwards & Billy Wilder

February 16, 2024 - Voluntary withdrawal date

February 18-24 – READING WEEK

February 28 - Comedy in the 1970s – Mel Brooks & Woody Allen

March 6 - In-class editing on film projects

March 13 – In-class editing on film projects

March 20 – Comedy in the 1990s

March 27 – Contemporary comedy

April 3 – Screening of class film projects

3rd assignment: Film Project

Shoot a short 5 - 10 minute comedy film. Detailed assignment parameters TBA

Delivery Format TBA

Due March 20

4th assignment: Essay

Students will write an essay of approximately 1000 – 1500 words (4 – 6 pages double-spaced).

Topics and detailed assignment parameters TBA

Due: April 10

The University of Winnipeg is in Treaty One territory, the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples and the birthplace and homeland of the Métis Nation.

COSTS FOR PRACTICAL FILM COURSES

This is a practical hands-on course in filmmaking utilizing video and film equipment and students should take note of certain costs involved.

There is a **\$50.00 non-refundable Technology Fee** to help defray the costs of regular equipment maintenance. **You paid this fee with your tuition.**

In addition to the non-refundable Technology Fee, students are required to pay a **\$200 refundable Damage Deposit** for this class. The Damage Deposit is to allow students to borrow department equipment, use our Film Lab including hardware and software, and use of studio and building spaces (when available) for film shoots. If you lose or damage equipment while it is in your care, or damage software/hardware in the film lab, or incur damages to a space, the Damage Deposit will be applied to the costs of repair or replacement, but note: **you are responsible for the total value of the loss even if it is more than this deposit.** Any unused portion of your Damage Deposit will be returned to you, usually by the end of June.

The deadline for payment of the Damage Deposit will be confirmed shortly, and will be set for the end of September. If you fail to pay in full **you will not be permitted to sign out or use any equipment or book space, including time in the editing lab, at the ACTF.**

Instructions on the Damage Deposit payment process and deadline will be distributed in the first week of classes.

Once you have paid, send proof of payment to Melinda Tallin at m.tallin@uwinnipeg.ca, following which:

- You will be required to complete and sign an electronic *Equipment Loan Damage Deposit Agreement*.
- You must keep a copy of the Agreement to present (electronically or in print form) to the Equipment Manager the first time you attempt to sign out equipment.

(NB: if you are taking more than one course requiring a Damage Deposit, you only pay the Damage Deposit once during the Fall/Winter term.)

MANDATORY FILM EQUIPMENT ORIENTATION SESSIONS

The Department of Theatre and Film holds scheduled Equipment Orientation Sessions on the following dates:

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 at 12:30 pm

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 at 5:20 pm

ATTENDANCE AT ONE SESSION IS COMPULSORY for students enrolled in THFM-2310 Filmmaking I (both sections).

It is also compulsory for students in THFM-2311 Film Comedy who have not taken THFM-2310 in the past.

Failure to attend one of these sessions will result in:

- your being prohibited from borrowing equipment (without which you cannot pass your course);
- an automatic deduction of \$25 from your Damage Deposit; and
- a required separate meeting with our Equipment Manager.

Students in THFM-3312 Sound Editing and THFM-3310 Film II are encouraged to attend particularly if they have not attended before, or as a refresher.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION POLICY

Theatre & Film are communal art forms in which a number of interdependent artists and crafts people co-operate to create a work of art. This fact is necessarily transferred to the learning situation, and is reflected in many of the Department's courses. Consequently, it is the Department's policy that students are required to: complete homework such as reading, line-learning, script analysis, prop lists, design drawings, etc.; attend classes; attend rehearsals, meetings or shoots both within and outside of class times; and, in short, exhibit commitment towards the inevitably shared endeavours of our field of study.

Any student failing to fulfil these requirements is harmful to the progress of dedicated students and may, after due warning, be asked to withdraw from any individual Departmental course.

COURSE CONTENT NOTE

Dramatic Literature depicts a wide variety of human action, both elevated and base, public and private, physical and psychological, sexual and non-sexual, etc. The Department of Theatre and Film will not undertake to censor the subject matter of dramatic works.

Students who have concerns about dealing with the full range of content and style in drama/film are urged to discuss these concerns with the course instructor.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Human Rights and Diversity

All students are encouraged to visit the University's Human Rights and Diversity website (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/index.html>) to familiarize yourself about your rights, the

University's policies, and resources in place to support you. This site includes links to the University's Sexual Violence Policy and Procedures (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/sexual-violence-policy-and-procedures.html>), as well as resources for getting and providing support and clear steps for disclosing or reporting sexual violence.

Sexual Violence Resources on Campus

From the UW Human Rights & Diversity website:

The University takes all disclosures and reports of sexual violence seriously; survivors of all backgrounds and experiences will be treated with dignity, respect, and care. If you have experienced sexual violence, there are trained staff to help you in whatever way suits you best."

Disclosing is telling a member of the UW Community that you have experienced sexual violence. This could be someone you trust or feel comfortable with, like a professor, coach, another staff person, or a member of the Sexual Violence Response Team (**SVRT**). A disclosure can be made in order to receive support, accommodation, or to be connected to other resources. The Sexual Violence Response Team (**SVRT**) is a small team of specially trained, well-situated staff that coordinates and organizes services for survivors in a confidential manner. For example, if you personally do not feel comfortable talking to your professors about extensions or deferring work, they would be able to arrange changes for you without telling the professor why you need accommodation.

Contact SVRT by phone at 204-230-6660. [You can find more information on disclosing here.](https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/sexual-violence/get-support.html) (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/sexual-violence/get-support.html>)

Reporting is making a statement to the **Human Rights & Diversity Officer (HRDO)** with the intention of seeking remedy, sanction, or consequences through the university. Once a report is made, the **HRDO** will review your report and discuss your options. Your options could include an investigation process, or informal resolution (if you wish to resolve it without an investigation). The **HRDO** can still connect you with support, accommodation, or external organizations while the investigation is taking place.

You can contact the HRDO by phone at 204-988-7508 or by email at hrdo@uwinnipeg.ca
[You can report online here »](https://uwinnipeg.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4ONi2EP1gcXjyBv) (https://uwinnipeg.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4ONi2EP1gcXjyBv)

PUBLIC HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

A permitted or necessary change in mode of delivery may require adjustments to important aspects of course outlines, like class schedule and the number, nature, and weighting of assignments and/or exams.

Should public health and university regulations require it, the schedule and content of the course may be subject to change on short notice. Every effort will be made to inform students of these changes, to deliver the course content in the best way possible under the circumstances, and to evaluate students fairly.

HEALTH AND ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Life happens to everyone. If you are experiencing a crisis in your life, or if you have a physical or mental health issue, communicate with your Professor or Accessibility Services – let us know so we can provide support or direct you to those who can. The earlier we know, the earlier we can discuss what resources might be available. Students with documented disabilities, or temporary or chronic medical conditions requiring academic accommodations for

tests/exams/presentations (e.g., private space or more time) or during lectures/labs (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential. If you are registered with Accessibility Services, do not assume that Accessibility Services (AS) has informed your instructor that you have registered with them. Please see <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>. If you do not register with AS, you cannot be granted special consideration (e.g. extra time to write exams/tests, attendance issues because of physical or mental health conditions, etc.).

The University of Winnipeg promotes a scent-free environment. Please be respectful of the needs of your fellow classmates and your instructor by avoiding the use of scented products while attending on-campus lectures and labs. Exposure to perfumes and other **scented products (such as lotion)** can trigger serious health reactions in persons with asthma, allergies, migraines or chemical sensitivities. We are asking for your cooperation to create a scent-free environment **on campus** by students, faculty and staff.

"THE REAL THING" LECTURE SERIES

During the FW terms, the Department of Theatre and Film presents a series of lectures held on Wednesdays during the free period (12:30-13:20). This series will feature speakers from a range of areas in the performing arts: technical, performance, design, management, film, directing, playwriting, etc. and are open to all students. The speakers will specifically address issues related to "the business of the business."

Lectures will take place in-person in the Theatre, Wednesday 12:30 – 13:20 on the following dates (subject to change):

- **12:30 pm September 27, 2023**
- **12:30 pm November 8, 2023**
- **12:30 pm January 17, 2024**
- **12:30 pm February 28, 2024**

Guests will be announced prior to each lecture.

MANDATORY ATTENDANCE FOR SENIOR AND HONOURS STUDENTS: Attendance at EVERY lecture is mandatory for ALL Honours students in Theatre (that is, anyone taking 4000-level courses in any area), as well as students in THFM-3101 Acting III Advanced Practice, THFM-3110 Screen Acting, THFM-3201 Styles in Design, and THFM-3801 Production II, and THFM-3920 Musical Theatre. Sign-in sheets are posted outside the theatre before each lecture.

All students are encouraged to attend these fun and informative lectures. Please see our department website in the Fall for information.

ORIENTATION ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 12:30 pm – 1:20 pm

Our THFM Orientation Assembly in the Theatre welcomes students to the new term; introduces our new students to faculty and other students; provides information about the department, its

various activities and those of its professors, TAFSA, and the UWSA; and delivers news about what's coming up.

ALL STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED AND WELCOME TO ATTEND!

TAFSA

All students enrolled in at least one theatre or film class are automatically members of TAFSA, the Theatre and Film Students' Association, which plans a number of exciting activities each academic year. Activities organized by TAFSA include regular **Performance Jams**, **Department parties** and **Socials**; other events have included **DioFest** (a new play festival featuring student written and produced plays), and **24/7** (an event in which students move into our building and several plays are written, rehearsed, produced, and presented – all in a period of 24 hours!).

Please find out more at TAFSA's meetings, held every second Monday in the Fall/Winter terms from 12:30-13:20 pm. It's a great opportunity for students to connect with other like-minded people and a way to get involved in the department events. Visit the TFSA Instagram account at [@tafsauw](https://www.instagram.com/tafsauw) or email them at tafsa.uw@hotmail.com.

BUILDING SECURITY

The Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (home to the Department of Theatre and Film) is open from 8:00 am to 5 pm weekdays only. Students are permitted to be in the building between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm seven days per week (except statutory holidays when the University is closed) **BUT PLEASE NOTE:** outside of regular building hours, it is **MANDATORY** that everyone in the building (students, faculty and community renters) **EITHER** carry an access card **OR** have a booking confirmation form in their possession (hard copy or electronic). **ALL EVENING STUDENTS in the building for classes must have a UW ID card.** If a Security Guard checks and you do not have proper accreditation, **you may be evicted.**

These rules are in place to protect our students and our equipment; please respect them.

All studios and labs are locked outside of building hours. Evening and weekend access can be added to your student card by visiting Melinda in the Department office, 3T03.

SECURITY PHONE (General, non-emergency, Safe Walk and Safe Ride): 204-786-9272

SECURITY EMERGENCY NUMBER: 204-786-6666

The Asper Centre for Theatre and Film is equipped two phones (one by the House Manager's office in the lobby, one in the basement by the elevator) to contact Security.

Students are encouraged to visit the UW Security Services webpage for complete information about campus security and emergency procedures:
<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/security/index.html>

ONLINE CLASSES

Instructors whose mode of delivery includes Zoom or a similar platform will clarify expectations for appropriate remote classroom behaviour or decorum (e.g., being on time, muting/unmuting, raising hand, reacting, etc.), and make appropriate allowances in order to respect the privacy of students (e.g., clarifying need to have video on/off).

Performance classes online: No eating, chewing gum, or wearing a mask during on-line work.

RECORDING ON-LINE CLASSES

Should a class be held online, the instructor may choose to record a zoom or video class if there are online connectivity issues, absences, or to post to Nexus for later review.

If a lecture is recorded, students will be given notice (via the course outline or on a case-by-case basis) that their personal information may be captured; informed of how long the recording will be retained; and whether the recording will be used for evaluation of any kind. Students will also be given the option to turn off their cameras/microphones and use pseudonyms to remain anonymous (except where class participation is required).

Students with concerns or who wish to seek alternate arrangements may discuss the matter with the instructor.

Access to recordings will be limited to the academic staff, students, and others with a legitimate need. Recordings containing student personal information will not be posted publicly, but only on UW-approved servers.

No student is allowed to disseminate recordings outside of the class or post recordings publicly. Access to the recordings will be limited to the instructor and the students.

ELECTRONIC COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDA

Department Website: <https://theatre.uwinnipeg.ca> or <https://film.uwinnipeg.ca>

Please refer to the website for department information, but particularly regarding:

Fire and Safety Information for ACTF: Students must check our website and review the [Fire Safety Instructions in the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film](https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film/docs/fire-evacuation-procedures_2020.pdf) (https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film/docs/fire-evacuation-procedures_2020.pdf) and [Access Card/Building Use Policy](https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film/rentals/access-card-and-building-use-policy.html) (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film/rentals/access-card-and-building-use-policy.html>).

Room Bookings for Class Assignment Work: Students may book rehearsal room space class-related work or outside projects. Priority will be given to class assignment work. Please see our website links to *Room Booking Instructions* and electronic *Online Room Booking Form* found on our department website at <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film/rentals/access-card-and-building-use-policy.html>. Please read and note all instructions carefully. Room booking availability is subject to change according to public health and university policies.

GENERAL NOTES

- Students can find answers to frequently asked questions related to the University's Covid-19 policies for the 2023-24 year here: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/covid-19/index.html>
- Students should check their UWinnipeg e-mail addresses daily as this is the most direct way instructors and the University will contact students regarding such things as important information about health and safety, policies and registration, and Faculty will contact you about changes to class schedules, cancelled classes, etc.
- This course outline should be considered a guideline only. Time constraints and other unforeseen factors may require that some topics be omitted or covered in less detail than indicated.
- Archival records such as video/sound recordings and photographs may be made or taken during class or lab times. The University uses such materials primarily for archival, promotional, and teaching purposes. Promotional use may include display at open houses or conferences, or use in advertising, publicity, or brochures. In reading and accepting the terms in this course outline, students acknowledge consent for such use by the University. Should a student not wish to convey such consent, they should withdraw from this course immediately.
- Unless necessary for accessing class, cellular phones should be turned off during classes and examinations. Texting is not permitted in class.
- Any student attending a test or final examination may be required to present proof of identity; photo identification is preferred.
- It is the student's responsibility to retain a photocopy or computer disk copy of **ALL** assignments submitted for grading; in the event of loss or theft, a duplicate copy is required.
- When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, instructors will make every effort to inform students via UWinnipeg webmail (and/or using the preferred form of communication, as designated by the instructor), as well as the Departmental Assistant and Chair/Dean. ***Students are reminded that they have a responsibility to regularly check their UWinnipeg e-mail addresses to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from the university and/or their course instructors.***
- Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make up work or examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found in the 2023-24 Undergraduate Academic Calendar: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>
- Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams or during lectures/laboratories are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204.786.9771 or

- <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility-services/> to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.
- Reference to the appropriate items in the Regulations & Policies section of the *Course Calendar*, including Senate appeals and academic misconduct (e.g. plagiarism, cheating) <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>. Instructors should become familiar with the procedures for dealing with alleged academic misconduct at <https://pace.uwinnipegcourses.ca/sites/default/files/pdfs/publications/Academic%20Misconduct%20Procedures.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>
 - All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn, and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found at <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/>.
 - When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, every effort will be made to inform students via University of Winnipeg email (and/or using the preferred form of communication, as designated in this outline).
 - **Regulations, Policies, and Academic Integrity.** Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Regulations and Policies found in the University Academic Calendar at <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>. Particular attention should be given to subsections 8 (Student Discipline), 9 (Senate Appeals), and 10 (Grade Appeals). Please emphasize the importance of maintaining academic integrity and the potential consequences of engaging in plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct. Even unintentional plagiarism is a form of academic misconduct. Similarly, uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or trader sites (filesharing sites that are known providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) is a form of misconduct, as it involves aiding and abetting plagiarism. An updated and expanded U of Winnipeg library site outlining principles of Academic Integrity can be found at <https://library.uwinnipeg.ca/use-the-library/help-with-research/academic-integrity.html>.
 - Important information is outlined in the Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://pace.uwinnipegcourses.ca/sites/default/files/pdfs/publications/Academic%20Misconduct%20Procedures.pdf>
 - **Academic Integrity and AI Text-generating Tools**
 - Students must follow principles of academic integrity (e.g., honesty, respect, fairness, and responsibility) in their use of material obtained through AI text-generating tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Bing, Notion AI). If an instructor prohibits the use of AI tools in a course, students may face an allegation of academic misconduct if using them to do assignments. If AI tools are permitted, students must cite them. According to the MLA (<https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/>), "you should

- cite a generative AI tool whenever you paraphrase, quote, or incorporate into your own work any content (whether text, image, data, or other) that was created by it
- acknowledge all functional uses of the tool (like editing your prose or translating words) in a note, your text, or another suitable location
- take care to vet the secondary sources it cites”

If students aren't sure whether or not they can use AI tools, they should ask their professors.

- **Respectful Learning Environment.** Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner on campus and in the learning environment irrespective of platform being used. Behaviour, communication, or acts that are inconsistent with a number of UW policies could be considered non-academic misconduct. See the Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect/respect-policy.html>) and Acceptable Use of Information Technology Policy (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/acceptable-use-of-information-technology-policy.pdf>). More detailed information is outlined in the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf> and <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf>
- **Copyright and Intellectual Property.** Course materials are the property of the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides—irrespective of format. Students who upload these materials to filesharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy. Students must also seek prior permission of the instructor/presenter before, for example, photographing, recording, or taking screenshots of slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board. Students found to be in violation of an instructor's intellectual property rights could face serious consequences pursuant to the Academic Misconduct or Non-Academic Misconduct Policy; such consequences could possibly involve legal sanction under the Copyright policy <https://copyright.uwinnipeg.ca/basics/copyright-policy.html>
- **Research Ethics.** Students conducting research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, including a family member, must obtain research ethics approval before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities done in class as a learning exercise. For submission requirements and deadlines, see <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/ethics/human-ethics.html>
- **Privacy.** Students should be reminded of their rights in relation to the collecting of personal data by the University (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/admissions-privacy-notice.html>), especially if Zoom is being used for remote teaching (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-privacy-notice.html>) and testing/proctoring (<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-test-and-exam-proctoring.html>)

- Clear expectations for assignments, tests, and exams should be set for students to avoid instances of “unintentional” misconduct. For instance, if an exam is “take-home”, students should be advised on permitted resources, being able to collaborate (or not) with other students, *etc.*
- Instructors whose mode of delivery includes Zoom or a similar platform should clarify expectations for appropriate “remote classroom” behaviour or decorum (being on time, muting/unmuting, raising hand, reacting, *etc.*), and make appropriate allowances in order to respect the privacy of students (*e.g.* clarifying need to have video on/off).
- The University of Winnipeg affirms the importance of student mental health and our commitment to providing accessible, culturally appropriate, and effective services for students. Students who are seeking mental health supports are encouraged to reach out to the Wellness Centre at studentwellness@uwinnipeg.ca or 204.988.7611. For community-based mental health resources and supports, students are encouraged to dial 2-1-1. This program of United Way is available 24/7 in 150 languages.

2023-24 VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL DATES

The voluntary withdrawal dates for 2023/24, without academic penalty are:

- **November 13, 2023** for Fall courses which begin in September 2023 and end in December 2023;
- **February 16, 2024** for Fall/Winter courses which begin in September 2023 and end in April 2024;
- **March 15, 2024** for Winter courses which begin in January 2024 and end in April 2024.

Students are encouraged to speak to the Instructor before withdrawing to explore other options.

Please note that withdrawing before the VW date does not necessarily result in a fee refund.

2023-24 CAMPUS CLOSURE DATES

The University is closed for the following holidays:

- September 4 (Labour Day)
- September 30 (Truth and Reconciliation Day)
- October 9 (Thanksgiving Day)
- November 11 (Remembrance Day)
- December 23, 2023 through January 4, 2024
- February 19 (Louis Riel Day)
- March 29 (Good Friday)

2023-24 READING WEEKS

- Fall mid-term reading week is October 8-14, 2023
- Winter mid-term reading week is February 18-24, 2024

THFM DEPARTMENT OFFICE INFORMATION

3T03 (3rd Floor, Asper Centre for Theatre and Film)

Office Manager/Student Advisor: Melinda Tallin

204-786-9955

m.tallin@uwinnipeg.ca