





# Master of Arts Interdisciplinary Studies (MAIS) 752

**Special Topics Graduate Seminar—Writing the Body in Motion, Canadian Sport Literature** (Revision 10)

**Status:** Replaced with new revision, see the [course listing](#)  for the current revision 

**Delivery mode:** [Grouped study](#) 



**Credits:** 3

**Area of study:** Arts

**Prerequisite:** None

**Precluded:** **ENGL 481** (MAIS 752, Revision 10, may not be taken for credit by students who have obtained credit for ENGL 481)

**Faculty:** [Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences](#) 

**Notes:** Focus areas: [Cultural Studies](#)  and [Literary Studies](#) 

## Overview

Welcome to MAIS 752: Special Topics Graduate Seminar—Writing the Body in Motion, Canadian Sport Literature. The aim of this seminar is for students to learn to read sport literature with an understanding of genre, technique, and form; to apply various critical strategies to literary texts; to develop analytical writing skills appropriate to essays at the graduate level; and to experiment with creative writing about sport. Students will develop the ability to read with increased understanding of the art of literature and therefore with more enjoyment and a better grasp of sport literature's contribution to their understanding of the moral, social, and political forces that shape modern life. Students will be encouraged to send their final papers to the Sport Literature Association's Lyle Olsen Graduate Student Essay Contest, with the possibility of presenting papers at the annual SLA conference.

According to Don Morrow at the University of Western Ontario, sport literature is never just about sport. Rather, it explores the human condition using sport as the dominant metaphor. In this course, students will examine the various ways sport functions metaphorically. Students will also consider various recurring themes of sport literature, including: sport and the body; sport and violence; sport and gender; sport and society; sport and sexuality; sport and heroism; and sport literature and intertextuality. The goal is an increased understanding of both sport and literature.

The course's two major projects (one creative and one critical) will be completed with the goal of submitting them for publication in the Sport Literature Association's journal *Aethelon* or presenting them at the Sport Literature Association's annual conference.

## Outline

MAIS 752 is divided into eight units:

- **Unit 1:** The First Lap: Introduction to Canadian Sport Literature
- **Unit 2:** Sprints: Reading Short Fiction
- **Unit 3:** Team Games: Hockey Literature, Canadian Identity, and Aging Athletes
- **Unit 4:** Subbing In: Sport Literature as an Alternative Approach to Sport History



- **Unit 5:** Going Multisport: Reading Sport Lit to Write Sport Lit
- **Unit 6:** Writing Whose Body in Motion? Race and Gender in Sport Literature
- **Unit 7:** The Last Length: Preparing for the Final Paper
- **Unit 8:** Review

## Learning outcomes

After completing MAIS 752, students should be able to:

1. Read sport literature with an understanding of genre, technique, and form.
2. Apply various critical strategies to sport literature.
3. Develop analytical writing skills appropriate to essays at the graduate level.
4. Experiment with creative writing about sport.
5. Read with increased understanding of the art of literature, grasping sport literature's contribution to the moral, social, and political forces that shape modern life.
6. Demonstrate an increased knowledge and understanding of themselves and others through their experience with sport literature.

## Evaluation


To receive **credit**  for MAIS 752, students must complete and submit all of the assignments, and achieve a minimum grade of **C- (60 percent)**  for the course.


Students will be evaluated on their understanding of the concepts presented in the course and on their ability to apply those concepts. The final grade in the course will be based on the marks achieved for the following activities.


Activity	Weight
Course Participation	20%

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Article Review	20%
Short Fiction	30%
Final Essay	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Materials

Abdou, Angie, and Jamie Dopp, editors. *Not Hockey: Critical Essays on Canada's Other Sport Literature*. Athabasca UP, 2023.  (Online)

Abdou, Angie, and Jamie Dopp, editors. *Writing the Body in Motion: A Critical Anthology on Canadian Sport Literature*. Athabasca UP, 2018.  (Online)





Carrier, Roch. *The Hockey Sweater and Other Stories*. Translated by Sheila Fischman, House of Anansi P, 2012.  (Print)

Gaston, Bill. *The Good Body*. House of Anansi P, 2010.  (Print)

Wagamese, Richard. *Indian Horse*. Douglas & Macintyre, 2012.  (Print)

Warwick, Samantha. *Sage Island*. Brindle and Glass Press, 2008.  (Print)

## Important links

- › [Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies](#) 
- › [Focus Areas](#) 
- › [Courses](#) 
- › [Fees and Funding](#) 

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

*Opened in Revision 10, May 1, 2024*

*Updated June 12, 2024*

View **previous revision** 

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