

Spring 2018

Dr. Tracy Bilsing

English 2333: World Literature from the 17th Century to the Present (World Literature II)
(Credit 3 hrs; prerequisites English 1301 and 1302)

Office: Evans Complex 404; ABIV 201D (Honors College)

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Class schedule: English 2333.01 MWF 9:00-9:50; Evans Complex 417

Office hours: MWF 1:00-4:00 in ABIV 201D; others by appointment

Course description:

This course provides an introduction to major literary genres: poetry, fiction, and drama of the globe from the late 17th century to the 21st century. Fostering a sense of connectedness of global concerns in literature, this course will introduce students to texts from a variety of cultures. Students will read various selections in order to become familiar with close reading and analysis. Written assignments are based on themes, concepts, and analysis of material culture* in the works studied. How did these people live in their world(s)?

*Material culture as defined by the *Oxford English Dictionary* encompasses “the **physical** objects, such as tools, domestic articles, or religious objects, which give evidence of the type of culture developed by a society or group.”

Course objectives:

- To become familiar with the works of representative writers of various cultures.
- To discover the universal themes and common concerns of literature.
 - Through reading assignments, lecture, and discussion of specific works, students will confront the problems and concerns of early modern to contemporary cultures and eras, drawing on such themes and patterns as quests for human freedom, the construction of viable communities, conflicts between individuals and the individual and the community, and humanity's relationship to the natural world.
- To analyze and evaluate the philosophical insights and value judgment of writers of various cultures.
 - Literature, both in translations and English originals, will be chosen to widely reflect different regional, national, and global communities from the range of periods that define early Modern and contemporary culture. Students will read these works and be asked to interpret them through both universal and cultural contexts.
- To develop an appreciation of the literary techniques, literary vocabulary, and aesthetic values common to cultures, as well as those peculiar to individual cultures.
- To develop a more cosmopolitan outlook, both aesthetically and philosophically.

- To develop critical and analytical skills in oral and written discussion and argumentative analysis.
- To exhibit an understanding of correct MLA documentation conventions.

Core Curriculum Skill Objectives and requirements:

- **Critical Thinking Skills:** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
- **Communication Skills:** to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- **Personal Responsibility:** to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making
- **Social Responsibility:** to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Required texts:

Foster, Thomas C. *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines*. New York: Harper, 2003. (A newer edition might be available, but this one is ok)

Note: A PDF version of the text is available online; also, there are four copies on reserve at the circulation desk in the library.

The Norton Anthology of World Literature Shorter 3rd Edition. Eds. Martin Puchner, et al. New York: Norton, 2012

*MLA documentation style sheet (access online OWL site at Purdue University); handbook of grammar/style

*Other readings assigned available via Blackboard or Project Gutenberg at projectgutenberg.org

Grade determination:

- Grade sheet provided below; please keep up with your grades so there are no surprises at the end of the semester.
- I reserve the right to change the nature of the grade determination should the need arise; I will provide written documentation of the change.

Papers: (60% of final average)

- **Three** written assignments of various length in MLA format in which the student will focus on analysis of the reading material and provide a critical reading based on class discussion and readings of secondary material. Each assignment will have its own set of

instructions and parameters. Each paper assignment will be weighted equally. Due dates will be varied and announced (**see tentative calendar**).

- **NOTE:** Late papers (of any sort) will incur a penalty of **10 points each day the paper is overdue**. (This includes weekends).
- Plagiarized papers will receive a grade of F for the first offence. Thereafter, no credit will be given to plagiarized papers. This may result in the failure of the course (**see plagiarism policy below**)

Exams: (30% of final average)

- **Two** exams during the course of the semester: mid-term, final exam. Dates to be announced (see tentative calendar).
 - The exams will be made up of questions based on readings/ class discussions/ literary terms which will require written answers of varying lengths. A blue book or loose leaf paper will be required.

Daily grades: (10% of the final average)

- A review of/ response to **five (5)** foreign/ foreign language films (seen either on campus or in the comfort of your own home), instructions provided on Bb.
- Daily writing assignments on each reading.

Make up policy:

**** There will be no make-up exams/quizzes given without prior notice of student's absence on the day of a scheduled exam/quiz. Should a make-up exam/quiz be appropriate, it is the student's responsibility to reschedule a time to take the exam as soon as possible (within one week) of the original date of the exam.**

Attendance:

I expect you to attend every class. Attendance will be taken into consideration in final computation of your semester grade. If absences do occur, the following rules will apply:

- A student is allowed **three** absences a semester (**for whatever reason**) without penalty. **More than three*** absences **will adversely affect** the student's semester average.
 - a. Each absence over three will incur a 2% reduction of the final average.
- Absence on the day an assignment is due does not exempt the student from fulfilling the assignment. It is the student's responsibility to find out what assignment was made during the absence and complete it. (see **Classroom Policy #6 and #7** below)
- If a student misses fifteen minutes of class, he/she will be considered absent. If a student comes in tardy and roll has been taken, it is up to the student to inform the professor of his/her presence in class immediately following class.

****NOTE:** Should an unforeseen situation (this must be documented) keep a student out of class for an extended period of time(more than three class periods), he/she must notify the

office of the Dean of Students (Lowman Student Center Suite 215, ext. 4-1785) as soon as possible, and the office will formally notify the instructor of the absence(s). **I will not assign/ approve make-up work without the notification from this office.** This will not provide the student with an excused absence, and there is a possibility that the student will not be able to make up the work missed

Classroom policy:

See University information about mandated policy for Academic Dishonesty, Americans with Disabilities Act, Absences for Religious Holy Days, and Visitors in the Classroom here:

www.shsu.edu/syllabus

1. The University code of conduct can be found at the following link. I reserve the right to invite a student to leave the classroom should his/her behavior warrant it. The University link: <https://netreg.shsu.edu/mirror/codeofconduct.html>
2. Please bring appropriate material to class every day. The text of the day's reading should be with you at each meeting along with note-taking and/or testing materials.
3. **Please turn off/ silence/ put away all cell phones during class time unless otherwise instructed.**
 - Any use of cell phones or other electronic devices during a test period is prohibited. Even the visible presence of a cell phone or other device during the test period may result in a zero for that test. Use of a cell phone during a test will result in a charge of academic dishonesty. During the test these instruments should be left at home or stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen or used by the student.
 - If there is an emergency situation for a student, that student should inform the instructor and place himself/herself in a seat near the door where an exit for a phone call would be only minimally disruptive.
4. Laptops/Kindles/I-pads/recording devices will not be allowed during class time without **prior permission** from the instructor and/or formal notification that the device is necessary to the student's academic welfare (see Students with Disabilities Policy at this link: www.shsu.edu/syllabus).
5. "Plagiarism and academic misconduct of any kind may constitute grounds for failing this course and may result in further disciplinary action according to university policy." www.shsu.edu/syllabus
 - **English Department policy** states that a paper or assignment, which evidence can support as plagiarized or in any manner not the result of a student's own intellectual endeavors, will receive zero points. The second offense will result in failure of the course and possible university disciplinary action. Submitting your own previously written work for a current assignment or submitting an assignment in more than one class without the prior permission of the instructors is also considered academically dishonest.
6. Absence on the day a writing project is due does not exempt the student from fulfilling that assignment. (see policy above for information on late papers)
7. Absence on exam/quiz days (without prior notification) may result in failure of the course. There will be no make-up exams given without prior notification of the

student's absence. Should a make-up exam/quiz be appropriate, it is the student's responsibility to reschedule a time to take the exam as soon as possible of the original date of the exam.

8. Please do not bring food into the classroom. Drinks are ok if disposed of properly.
9. Sleeping is not allowed in class. Please sleep at home.
10. Except in cases of emergency, leaving the classroom during class time is considered rude and inappropriate and will not be tolerated. Only when class is dismissed by the professor should students leave the room. In a special situation where a student needs to leave early on a particular day, he/she should discuss the matter with the professor before class.

University Policy

Writing enhanced credit:

This course is designated writing-enhanced. According to Sam Houston State University, a student must take at least six courses that carry the designation writing-enhanced. The official definition of a writing-enhanced course is one in which 50% or more of the grade is based on written assignments. In this course, more than 50% of your semester grade is based directly on your writing. (see plagiarism and academic misconduct below)

Americans with Disabilities Act:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination.

Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex (tel. 936.294.1720). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

Religious Holy Days

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. "Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Visitors in the Classroom

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's

discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom. This policy is not intended to discourage the occasional visiting of classes by responsible persons. Obviously, however, the visiting of a particular class should be occasional and not regular, and it should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the educational process.

Instructor Evaluations

Students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

Incomplete (X) Grade

At times, due to extenuating circumstances beyond your control, you may not be able to finish the course, and you may request a grade of X (incomplete). Students who request an X grade for ENG 385 must provide adequate documentation of the reason for their not being able to complete the course, and they must have satisfactorily completed at least 50 percent of the course's assignments in order to be eligible for a grade of X. If an instructor feels an X to be warranted, the instructor will recommend this grade to the Department Chair who then will decide whether the X should be entered as the semester's grade. If an X is approved, the student has one semester to complete the remaining work; if the student does not complete the work in that time period, the X grade automatically converts to an F.

English 2333 Spring 2018 Grade sheet

NAME _____

Absences _____

Paper#1 _____x20%= _____

Paper#2 _____x20%= _____

Paper #3 _____x20%= _____

Exam#1 _____x15%= _____

Exam #2 _____x15%= _____

Daily grades* _____x10%= _____

Final average _____

***Name of film and grade:**

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

English 2333: World Literature 17th C to the Present

Spring 2018

Tentative calendar (I reserve the right to change the calendar at any time. The changes will not be made on Blackboard, so keep the calendar handy).

JANUARY

Week 1

W 1/17: Introduction to ENGL 2333, syllabus and assignments

F 1/19: Discussion: material culture

Week 2

M 1/22: **Foster** chapter 1 "Every Trip is a Quest . . ."; 9. "It's More Than Just Rain or Snow"; 19. "Geography Matters..." ; 20. "...So Does Season"

W 1/24: **Foster** 13. "It's All Political"

F 1/26: : **Foster** 11 "More than it's Gonna Hurt You..."

Week 3

M 1/29: **Norton text Voltaire** *Candide* chps 1-5

W 1/31: **Jonathan Swift** "A Modest Proposal"; "The Lady's Dressing Room"

FEBRUARY

F 2/2: **Equiano** *The Interesting Narrative of Ouladah Equiano* Chapters 1 and 2 (*find on Project Gutenberg)

Week 4

M 2/5: **Paper assignment #1 discussion** (Voltaire, Equiano, Swift)

W 2/7: Paper assignment workshop—research and documentation

F 2/9: Rough draft due in class for workshop

Week 5

M 2/12: **Foster** chps. 2 "Nice to Eat with You: Acts of Communion"; 3 "Nice to Eat You: Acts of Vampires"

W 2/14: **Elizabeth Barrett Browning** "The Cry of the Children"

F 2/16: **William Blake** "The Chimney Sweeper" (both the poems); Paper #1 due: hard copy turned in at the beginning of class; digital copy uploaded to turnitin by the beginning of class (points will be deducted for lack of either).

Week 6

M 2/19: **Flaubert** "A Simple Heart"

W 2/21: **Flaubert** "A Simple Heart"

F 2/23: **Henrich Ibsen** *Hedda Gabler*

Week 7

M 2/26: **Henrich Ibsen** *Hedda Gabler*

W 2/28:

MARCH

F 3/2: Review for exam 1

Week 8

M 3/5: Exam 1; bring a Blue Book or loose leaf paper to class

W 3/7: Assignment paper #2 (Browning, Blake, Flaubert, Ibsen)

F 3/9: Paper #2 workshop

Week 9

M 3/12-F 3/16: Spring Break!

Week 10

M 3/19: **Tanizaki Jun'Ichirō** "The Tattooer"

W 3/21: **Rabindranath Tagore** "Punishment"

F 3/23: Paper #2 due; hard copy turned in at the beginning of class; digital copy uploaded to turnitin by the beginning of class (points will be deducted for lack of either).

Week 11

M 3/26: **Kafka** "Metamorphosis" sections 1 and 2

W 3/28: **Kafka** "Metamorphosis" section 3

F 3/30: Good Friday; Campus closed

APRIL

Week 12

M 4/2: **Tadeusz Borowski** "This Way for the Gas, ladies and Gentlemen"

W 4/4: **Albert Camus** "The Guest"

F 4/6: **Doris Lessing** "The Old Chief Mshlanga" Last day to drop log semester classes

Week 13

M 4/9: **Chinua Achebe** "Chika's School Days"

W 4/11: **John Cheever** "The Swimmer" (on Bb)

F 4/13: **Leslie Marmon Silko** "Yellow Woman"

Week 14

M 4/16: **Hanan Al-Sahykh** "The Women's Swimming Pool"

W 4/18: **Seamus Heaney** "The Tollund Man"; "The Strand at Lough Beg"

F 4/20: Paper #3 assigned; (Al-Shaykh, Silko, Cheever, Heaney, Achebe, Lessing, Camus, Borowski, Kafka, Tagore, Premchand)

Week 15

M 4/23: Paper #3 workshop

W 4/25: Film

F 4/27: Film

Week 16

M 4/30: Paper #3 due; hard copy turned in at the beginning of class; digital copy uploaded to turnitin by the beginning of class (points will be deducted for lack of either).

MAY

W 5/2: Conference day

F 5/4: Review for exam 2; Last class day

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE TBA