

English 267: World Literature: From 1700 AD to the Present

Spring 2019

MWF 2:30-3:20 pm / WALC 3084

Instructor: Mr. Daniel Froid (dfroid@purdue.edu)

Office Hours: R, 10:30-11:30 am & by appointment (HEAV 330D)

Course Description

This class covers global literature from the eighteenth century to the present. We will begin with popular and enduring texts like the *Arabian Nights' Entertainment* and *The Story of the Stone*, in addition to reading some later texts inspired or influenced by those traditions. We will then move on to consider the revolutions of the end of the eighteenth century, the solidification of imperial powers in the nineteenth century, and the World Wars and social and political unrest of the twentieth century. Our focus in this course is on how stories travel from one culture to another and adopt new shapes and meanings for different cultures at different times. Consider the ways in which contemporary pop culture adapts figures of fairy tale, folklore, and myth, reframing those heroes and gods as characters in films, TV, and video games. Or consider the *Arabian Nights' Entertainment*, a medieval collection of tales from across Asia and Africa that first appeared in Europe in a French translation, and then, beginning in 1706, was published in English. We will consider the politics and aesthetics of stories as they travel and change. In addition, many of the texts we will read directly, or indirectly, address the processes of imperialism and colonialism that are often the driving forces of cultural exchange. The diverse range of genres and forms we will consider—including puppet theatre, epic poetry, allegory, autobiography, folklore, short stories, manifestos, and more—provide a broad sense of the major aesthetic, ethical, and historical concerns that the literatures of the last three centuries have addressed. In addition, in the spirit of the course theme, we will frequently consider the nature of adaptation, both in the texts we read and in clips from filmed, musical, and theatrical versions of assigned works.

Learning Outcomes

English 267 is a three-credit course designed to introduce students to significant works of Western and Eastern literature. As such, it asks students to engage in critical reading, writing, and thinking, and it promotes an understanding of the diverse genres and forms that constitute world literature. As a result of taking this course, students will be able to do the following:

- 1) Define key literary terms and identify significant features of literary styles and genres;
- 2) Discuss the role stories play in cultural and political life;
- 3) Draw on relevant cultural and historical information to situate texts within their proper contexts;

- 4) Adopt methods such as argumentation and analysis to interpret assigned texts and understand how those methods contribute to understanding the meaning of literary works;
- 5) Use logic and creativity to produce original, persuasive arguments;
- 6) Articulate the importance of cultural exchange to the development of various literatures around the world.

Required Text

The Norton Anthology of World Literature, Fourth Edition: Volumes D, E, and F (Norton, ISBN: 9780393265910).*

*The textbook will be supplemented by readings posted to the course website.

Course Website

You will need to use Blackboard (mycourses.purdue.edu) to access required materials. In addition, you will need to use Replay (purdue.openreplay.org) to access the course quizzes.

Grading/Assignments

Paper 1 (20%)

The first paper will ask you to select one of a number of images related to some of our early readings and to make an argument that compares a visual representation to a literary text. Paper should be 4-5 pages in length, double-spaced, with 12-point Times New Roman font.

Paper 2 (20%)

The second paper will ask you to defend a thesis about a text of your choice using close-reading of select passages and analysis. Paper should be 4-5 pages in length, double-spaced, with 12-point Times New Roman font.

In-class Essay Exam (20%)

The in-class exam will consist of a series of essay responses to assigned texts, which you will compose in class (see schedule).

Final Project (30%)

The final project will be a piece of creative writing that reimagines one of the course readings (of each student's choice) by placing the narrative into a different time/place and revising key details—including setting, characterization, etc.—to reflect a different cultural context. The project should take on the same form as the source work but not necessarily the same genre; a revision of a play should take the form of a play, but perhaps a tragedy could become a comedy. The final document should be 8-10 pages of prose or 5-6 pages of poetry, along with a 1-page cover letter that explains the interpretive choices you made as a writer.

Quizzes (10%)

You will take quizzes online through Replay within three days of their (unscheduled) announcement in class. The questions will be fact-based and drawn directly from the reading. Replay charts everyone's progress and maintains a scoreboard. It's not just based on how many you get right. Do your best to stay on top—the winner will get a prize at the end of the semester.

Course Schedule

Most of the readings listed below can be found in the *Norton Anthology of World Literature* (NAWL). Supplemental readings are marked “Bb” (for Blackboard). Please complete assigned readings before each day's meeting and bring the text(s) to class with you.

Week 1

M 1/7 Introductions
 W 1/9 *Arabian Nights' Entertainments* (excerpts, Bb)
 F 1/11 *Arabian Nights' Entertainments* (excerpts, Bb)

Week 2

M 1/14 Behn: *Oroonoko* (NAWL D, pp. 198-210)
 W 1/16 Behn: *Oroonoko* (pp. 210-226)
 F 1/18 Behn: *Oroonoko* (pp. 226-46)
 Imoinda (opera, clips in class)

Week 3

M 1/21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: NO CLASS
 W 1/23 “The Enlightenment”: Introduction, Johnson, Kant, Descartes (pp. 91-113)
 F 1/25 “The Enlightenment”: Diderot and D'Alembert, Franklin, Hume, Beattie, Wollstonecraft, Sade (pp. 114-140)

Week 4

M 1/28 Paper Talk: Argument & Visual Analysis
 W 1/30 Sor Juana: *Loa* (pp. 246-48, 268-81)
 F 2/1 “East Asian Drama” (pp. 3-5); Kong: *The Peach Blossom Fan* (pp. 19-28)

Week 5

M 2/4 Kong: *The Peach Blossom Fan* (pp. 28-45)
 W 2/6 Chikamatsu: *The Love Suicides at Amijima* (pp. 45-73)
 The Ballad of Narayama (film, clips in class)
 F 2/8 from *The Song of Ch'un-hyang* (pp. 74-89)
 Paper 1 due at the beginning of class (2:30 pm)

Week 6

M 2/11 Cao: *The Story of the Stone* (pp. 522-52)
 W 2/13 Cao: *The Story of the Stone* (pp. 552-72)
 F 2/15 Cao: *The Story of the Stone* (pp. 572-88)
Dream of the Red Chamber (film, clips in class)

Week 7

M 2/18 Wu: *The Journey to the West* (pp. 447-84)
 W 2/20 Wu: *The Journey to the West* (pp. 485-22)
 F 2/22 Lady Hyegyöng: *Memoirs* (pp. 612-55)

Week 8

M 2/25 “Revolutionary Contexts”: Introduction, de Gouges, Burke, Dessalines,
 Wordsworth, Bolívar (NAWL E, pp. 17-51)
 W 2/27 Equiano: *The Interesting Narrative* (pp. 74-97)
 F 3/1 Paper Talk: Close-reading

Week 9

M 3/4 “Romantic Poets and Their Successors”: Wordsworth, Keats (pp. 305-7;
 320-33; 358-69), Smith (Bb)
 W 3/6 “Romantic Poets and Their Successors”: Leopardi, Baudelaire,
 Dickinson (pp. 370-97)
 F 3/8 Poetry Catch-up Day (or Paper Talk)
 “The Litanies of Satan” (music, clips in class)

Week 10**SPRING BREAK****Week 11**

M 3/18 “Orature” (pp. 889-917)
 W 3/20 **No Class:** Work on Essay Exam
 F 3/22 **No Class:** Turn in Essay Exam by 3:20 pm

Week 12

M 3/25 Dostoyevsky: *Notes from Underground* (pp. 574-600)
 W 3/27 Dostoyevsky: *Notes from Underground* (pp. 600-26)
 F 3/29 Dostoyevsky: *Notes from Underground* (pp. 626-51)

Week 13

M 4/1 Machado: “The Cane” (pp. 781-87); Melville: *Moby-Dick* (excerpt, Bb)
 W 4/3 Kafka: *The Metamorphosis* (NAWL F, pp. 201-36)
 “Oh, the Places You Will Not Go!” (*This American Life* podcast, clips in
 class)
 F 4/5 **No Class:** At-Home Work Day

Week 14

- M 4/8 Borges: "The Garden of Forking Paths" and "The Library of Babel" (pp. 452-66)
Paper 2 due at the beginning of class (2:30 pm)
- W 4/10 Kawabata: "The Dancing Girl of Izu" (pp. 339-58); Kushi: "Memoirs of a Declining Ryukyuan Woman" (pp. 422-31)
- F 4/12 Akutagawa: "In a Bamboo Grove" (pp. 331-39)
Rashōmon (film, clips in class)

Week 15

- M 4/15 "Modern Poetry": Cavafy, Yeats (pp. 535-60)
- W 4/17 "Modern Poetry": Akhmatova, Neruda (pp. 588-95; 604-19)
- F 4/19 "Manifestos": Marinetti, Chen, Tzara, Breton, Black Panthers' Party, Solanas (pp. 661-85)

Week 16

- M 4/22 Soyinka: *Death and the King's Horseman* (pp. 950-69)
- W 4/24 Soyinka: *Death and the King's Horseman* (pp. 969-97)
- F 4/26 In-class Work Day

Week 17

FINALS WEEK: due date of final project TBA

Course Policies

Attendance includes both your material presence and preparation (doing the assigned reading and bringing your materials to class). It is required of all students. While I do track attendance, I do not penalize directly for missing class; I don't need notes from doctors, coaches, etc. Absences are neither excused nor unexcused. Note, however, that significant, prolonged absences (e.g. several weeks' worth) may become an issue requiring intervention.

Electronics should stay out of sight if possible, but I understand that the need may arise for them. If you need to use a laptop to take notes, please sit toward the back of the room to avoid distracting others.

Assignments: I will post detailed assignment instructions on Blackboard. You can visit me during office hours or an appointment with specific questions. Due dates are set in stone. I will not accept late papers or grant extensions except in **emergency** situations. Essays are due **in hard copy** to HEAV 206 by noon on Friday.

Statement on Plagiarism: Plagiarism (the uncited use of any work that is not one's own) is absolutely unacceptable. Any amount of plagiarism, even a two-word phrase that you've copied from a webpage, will result in an automatic zero on the assignment and may be reported to the Dean of Students. Please note that a 0% is far more damaging than an honestly earned F (up to 60%). I am available for questions if you have concerns about academic honesty.

Statement on Disability: Students who are eligible for academic accommodations due to a disability must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) before any classroom accommodations may be provided. Please come to office hours or schedule an appointment with me as early in the semester as possible if you have documented needs you would like to discuss.

Statement of Emergency Preparedness: In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, assignments, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to change due to circumstances beyond the instructor's control. Should such an event occur, I'll be in touch with necessary changes.

Quick List of Student Resources at Purdue

EMERGENCIES: 911

Purdue Police: (765) 494-8221

24/7 help line: (765) 495-4357

Academic Success Center (ASC)

Krach Leadership Center, 4th Floor

765-494-9328

<http://www.purdue.edu/asc/>

Advocacy and Support Center

Schleman Hall of Student Services,
207

765-494-1747

<http://www.purdue.edu/advocacy/>

Asian American and Asian Resource and Cultural Center

Stewart Center, 162

aaarcc@purdue.edu

<http://www.purdue.edu/aaarcc/>

Black Cultural Center

1100 Third St.

765-494-3092

<http://www.purdue.edu/bcc/>

Center for Career Opportunities (CCO)

Young Hall, Room 132

765-494-3981

<http://www.cco.purdue.edu/>

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

Student Health Center (PUSH) Room
246

Psychological Sciences (PSYC) Room
1120

765-494-6995

<http://www.purdue.edu/caps/>

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

Young Hall, Room 853

765-494-1247

<https://www.purdue.edu/disabilityresources/>

Diversity Initiatives (CLA)

<https://www.cla.purdue.edu/diversity/>

Center for Diversity and
Inclusion

<https://www.cla.purdue.edu/crdi/>

International Students and Scholars (ISS)

Schleman Hall of Student Services,
136

765-494-5770

<https://www.iss.purdue.edu/>

International Student Organizations

<http://www.iss.purdue.edu/current/univlife/studentorgs.cfm>

Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education Library

Stewart Center

765-494-2831

<https://www.lib.purdue.edu/libraries/hssse>

Information Technology at Purdue (ITAP)

HSSE Library in Stewart Center

itap@purdue.edu

765-494-4000

<https://www.itap.purdue.edu/student/>

Latino Cultural Center

600 N. Russell St.

<http://www.purdue.edu/lcc/>

LGBTQ Center

Schleman Hall of Student Services,
230
<http://www.purdue.edu/lgbtq/>

**Native American Educational and
Cultural Center**
503 Harrison Street
<http://www.purdue.edu/naecc/>

Office of the Dean of Students
Schleman Hall of Student Services,
207
765-494-1747
<https://www.purdue.edu/odos/>

Office of Institutional Equity
Ernest C. Young Hall, 10th Floor
765-494-7255
<https://www.purdue.edu/oie/>

Office of the Registrar
HOVD Room 45
765-494-8581
<http://www.purdue.edu/registrar/>

**Office of Student Rights and
Responsibilities**
Schleman Hall of Student Services,
B50
765-494-1250
<https://www.purdue.edu/odos/osrr/>

**PUSH (Purdue Student Health
Center)**
601 Stadium Mall Dr.
765-494-1700
<https://www.purdue.edu/push/>

**Sexual Harassment Advisors' Network
(SHAN)**
network@purdue.edu
<https://www.cla.purdue.edu/facultyStaff/SHAN>

**Sexual Violence Awareness and
Advocacy**

Title IX Coordinator:
bloom@purdue.edu
765-494-7255
http://www.purdue.edu/sexual_assault/

Writing Center
Heavilon Hall 226
765-494-3723
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/writinglab/>