

LIT 2110; Section 1848
World Literature: Ancient to Renaissance
12:50-1:40 MWF

Instructor: Sean Printz
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Class Location: MAT 115
Office: Turlington 4341
Office Hours: Wed. 11:45-12:40 and by appointment

Online Syllabus: Found on the class Sakai page.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

LIT 2110 is an introductory course in world literature; as such, through the course of the semester we will read and discuss texts from various historical eras and cultures, examining the ways in which texts create, interact, and comment on each other. We will also explore some of the reasons that bring people to write, question the things they write about, and perhaps most importantly, form a connection between literary works and, well...everything, so that we can see not only how texts and other media interact with each other but how they influence and comment on the experiences of our day-to-day lives. In order to achieve this, the class will analyze literature from multiple backgrounds and cultures, breaking down their influence not only on the culture the text was derived from, but also their influence on modern media and culture.

This course focuses on critical thinking and reading skills, communication and writing skills, and on collecting a general knowledge about world literature and culture. We will be working through both a major close reading and a larger project that will rely on research you will do on a chosen topic.

LIT 2110 can satisfy the UF General Education requirement for Composition or Humanities. (More details at <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/advisinggened.html#requirements>.)

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The general goal throughout this semester is to try and wrap our heads around the concept of what literature is and how it applies to our lives. This course seeks not only to *examine* literature, but *to delve into it and enjoy it*, and to then learn to communicate (both in formal prose and in informal conversation) both the enjoyment and lessons gathered from these encounters with literature. We will be discussing both writing and research techniques in detail, leading into the projects that you will be doing for this class. A primary objective of this course is to sharpen critical thinking and writing skills through the interaction with and analysis of literature.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Grade Break Down:

Reading Quizzes:	10%	
Essay 1:	10%	(1500 Words)
Essay 2:	25%	(1500 Words)
Prospectus:	5%	(500 Words)
Annotated Bibliography	15%	(1500 Words)
Final Research Essay:	35%	(2500 Words)

Reading Quizzes: Short answer reading quizzes will be given daily. There will be no make-up quizzes, but your lowest three quiz scores will be dropped.

Essays: For this class you will be writing three essays. The first two are 1500 word essays that will require close readings of the texts. These are focused around understanding and making significant arguments based on the texts we have read in class. The topics for these essays will be distributed 3 weeks before the due date.

Essay 3: Essay 3 is a research essay that will require multiple steps in order to complete the assignment.

Prospectus: The first stage of the final research essay will be a prospectus. In this, you will suggest a possible topic and begin to work out some of the reasoning behind your ideas. This not only gets you started on the project, but it gives me time to critique and make suggestions at an early stage in your writing process.

Annotated Bibliography: In preparation for your second essay, you will research and annotate 5 outside, credible sources. At the end of you bibliography, you will write a prospectus detailing your intended argument for your second essay. Detailed instructions and an example will be provided three weeks before the assignment is due.

Final Draft: This is the culmination of your efforts in this class, and the most significant part of your grade. This paper is focused on making a well-reasoned argument that pulls support from multiple outside sources.

Grading Scale

A	4.0	93-100	C	2.0	73-76
A-	3.67	90-92	C-	1.67	70-72
B+	3.33	87-89	D+	1.33	67-69
B	3.0	83-86	D	1.0	63-66
B-	2.67	80-82	D-	0.67	60-62
C+	2.33	77-79	E	0.00	0-59

Required Texts:

All books except for our fairy tales are available in print through the UF bookstore, but several books are also available in electronic form. If you are purchasing a text in an ebook format, please make sure you acquire the correct translation and/or edition.

Cervantes, Saavedra Miguel De, and Walter Starkie. *Don Quixote, Abridged Edition*. New York: Signet Classic, 2003. Print. ISBN-13: 978-0451528902

Crossley-Holland, Kevin. *The Norse Myths*. New York: Pantheon, 1981. Print. ISBN-13: 978-0394748467

Dawood, N. J., and William Harvey. *Tales from the Thousand and One Nights*. London: Penguin, 1973. Print. ISBN-13: 978-0140442892

Mitchell, Stephen. *Gilgamesh: A New English Version*. New York: Free, 2004. Print. ISBN-13: 978-0743261692

Narayan, R. K. *The Ramayana: A Shortened Modern Prose Version of the Indian Epic*. New York: Penguin, 2006. Print. ISBN-13: 978-0143039679

Winy, James. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Peterborough, Ont.: Broadview, 1992. Print. ISBN-13: 978-0921149927

Wu, Chengen, Arthur Waley, and Shi Hu. *Monkey: [folk Novel of China]*. New York: Grove, 1994. Print. ISBN-13: 978-0802130860

Yang, Gene, and Lark Pien. *American Born Chinese*. New York: First Second, 2006. Print. ISBN-13: 978-0312384487

COURSE POLICIES:

Attendance:

Class discussion and participation are key to success; *that means show up*. That said, attendance means more than showing up for class; it means coming to class prepared to be an active participant.

In keeping with university policy, excessive absences will result in a failing grade. Absences attained through school-sanctioned events must be discussed prior to the absence. Absences for illness or family emergencies will count toward your **three allowed absences**. Each absence beyond three will result in negative consequences to your grade, and any absence beyond six will result in an automatic failure of the course.

If you are absent, it is still your responsibility to make yourself aware of all due dates and required work; you are still responsible for turning assignments in on time.

If you are more than 15 minutes late, you will be marked absent. Save your absences for when you're really ill.

Preparation

You are expected to be prepared for every class, including completing all reading and writing assignments on time, including bringing appropriate materials (including texts) to class. All hard copy submissions and drafts are due at the beginning of class and all electronic submissions are due by the time posed for each assignment. **Late papers will not be accepted**. Failure of technology is not an excuse.

Mode of Submission

All papers must be in 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, and comply with MLA standards. Your final drafts should be polished and presented in a professional manner. Many of your papers will be submitted electronically—be careful to meet the deadlines assigned to each of these. Be sure to staple papers before submitting all hard copies. **Late Work** will not be accepted. This includes assignments not turned in because of absences.

Academic Honesty

As a University of Florida student, your performance is governed by the UF Honor Code, available in its full form at <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html>. The Honor Code requires Florida students to neither give nor receive unauthorized aid in completing all assignments. Violations include cheating, plagiarism, bribery, and misrepresentation.

Acts of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, failing to properly identify, cite, and credit another's work within one's own; improper identification and attribution of intellectual ideas represented in paraphrasing; unsanctioned and non-identified collaborative writing, and any submission "which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student (University of Florida, Student Honor Code, 15 Aug. 2007 <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcode.php>>). In addition, you can plagiarize yourself. Any submission containing, in whole or in part, work previously published or turned in to another authority for review (including instructors) is plagiarism. If you are still unsure what constitutes plagiarism on an individual basis, *ask*.

Visit <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/academicguide.php> for more details.

Graded Materials

Students are responsible for maintaining duplicate copies of all work submitted in this course and retaining all returned, graded work until the semester is over. Should the need arise for a re-submission of papers or a review of graded papers, it is the student's responsibility to have and to make available this material.

Final Grading Appeals

Students may appeal a final grade by filling out a form from Carla Blount, Program Assistant. Grade appeals may result in a higher, unchanged, or lower grade.

Harassment

UF provides an educational and working environment that is free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment for its students, staff, and faculty. For more about UF policies regarding harassment, see:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/sexual/>

Students with Disabilities

The University of Florida complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students requesting accommodation should contact the Students with Disabilities Office, Peabody 202. That office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Course calendar

Week 1: August 19-23

W- General Introduction to Class.

F- Calvino, [Why Read the Classics](#)

Week 2: August 26-30

M- *The Ramayana* Prologue-Chapter 2

W- *The Ramayana* Chapters 3-5

F- *The Ramayana* Chapters 6-8 Introduce Essay 1

Week 3: September 2-6

M- Labor Day, NO CLASS

W- *The Ramayana* Chapters 9-11 **How to Write an Argument.**

F- *The Ramayana* Chapters 12-14, Watch [Sita Sings the Blues](#)

Week 4: September 9-13

M- *Monkey* Chapters 1-3 **Close Reading.**

W- *Monkey* Chapters 4-7

F- *Monkey* Chapters 8, 10, and 11

Week 5: September 16-20

M- *Monkey* Chapters 12-14

W-*Monkey* Chapters 25-27

F- *Monkey* Chapter 28

Week 6: September 23-27, Essay 1 Due Friday at Midnight.

M- *American Born Chinese* Chapters 1-9

W- Gilgamesh Prologue through Book 3

F- *Gilgamesh Books 4-7*

Week 7: September 30- October 4

M- Gilgamesh Book 8-11 Introduce Essay 2

W- *The Norse Myths* 1-17, 26-53. **Effective Use of Examples.**

F- *The Norse Myths*, 59-74, 80-94. **Organizational Structures.**

Week 8: October 7-11

M- *The Norse Myths* 104-142

W- *The Norse Myths* 143-178 Looking at the characters transformations, how do we perceive the Norse Myths?

F- Fairy Tales Day 1

Week 9: October 14-18

M- Fairy Tales Day 2

W- Stephen Greenblatt's "Culture," and Modern Interpretations of Fairy Tales (comics, images, movies, children's books, etc.)

F- *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* Fitt 1

Week 10: October 21-25

M - *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* Fitt 2

W- *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* Fitt 3

F- *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* Fitt 4

Week 11: October 28-November 1, Essay 2 Due Friday at Midnight.

M- *Don Quixote* Part 1, Chapters 1-6

W- *Don Quixote* Part 1, Chapters 7-10

F- *Don Quixote* Part 1, Chapters 17-19

Week 12: November 4-8,

M- *Don Quixote* Part 1, Chapters 20-24. Art inspired by Don Quixote. **Introduce Final Essay.**

W- *Don Quixote* Part 2, Chapters 1-3. **Doing Academic Research; figuring out your Prospectus and Annotated Bibliography.**

F- Homecoming, NO CLASS

Week 13: November 11-15, Prospectus Due Friday at Midnight.

M- Veteran's day, NO CLASS

W- *Don Quixote* Part 2, Chapters 9-13, **Discussing Topics for Final Paper**

F- *Don Quixote* Part 2, Chapters 14-16, Reinterpretations of the classics (and some rather spectacular failures to do so).

Week 14: November 18-22, Annotated Bibliography due Friday at Midnight. Conferences this Week.

M- *Tales from the Thousand and One Nights* "Introduction" "Prologue" "Tale of King Shahryar...."
"Fable of the Donkey..."

W- *Tales from the Thousand and One Nights* "The Tale of the Hunchback" through "The tale of Shakashik, the Barber's Sixth Brother"

F- *Tales from the Thousand and One Nights* "The Donkey" through "The Young Woman and her Five Lovers." Looking at Art based on *Tales from the Thousand and One Nights*.

Week 15: November 25-29, More Conferences.

M- *Tales from the Thousand and One Nights* "Aladdin."

W- Thanksgiving Holiday, NO CLASS

F- Thanksgiving Holiday, NO CLASS

Week 16: December 2-6

M- *Tales from the Thousand and One Nights* "The Porter and the Three Girls of Baghdad" Through "The Tale of the Second Dervish"

W- *Tales from the Thousand and One Nights* "The Tale of Ma'Aruf the Cobbler" through "The Epilogue"
Draft of Final Paper Due.

F- Reading Day, NO CLASS

Finals Week: December 9-13, Final Paper due Wednesday at Midnight.