

CMLT 2212: World Literature II

A survey of world literature from 1650 to present

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Office Hours: MWF 10a.m. to 11 a.m. (and by
appointment)

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Course description

This course provides an introduction to a wide range of the most interesting and influential literary texts written from 1650 to the present. These texts represent a variety of cultural perspectives and include writing from Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas. You will gain a clear sense of the major literary movements of this period and learn how to analyze literature of various genres: poetry, short stories, novels, essays, and drama. The course will provide you with the opportunity to examine texts skillfully and participate in discussions as an informed reader and critical thinker. Your careful reading of the texts, reflection on their meanings, possibilities, and challenges, and writing about them are activities that will contribute to your deep engagement with the material. You will see how literary texts challenge cultural assumptions about everyday life, and if you read with an open mind, you may discover for yourself how the originality of literary texts allows readers to experience or imagine the world in new ways. A number of recurrent themes and questions will guide our readings: the concept of home and the narrative of the journey, the role of witness and testimony, the development of identity (whether individual or cultural), and the relation of the self and Other. By the end of this course you should be a more knowledgeable, confident, and inquisitive reader of literature.

Learning in this course integrates three main activities: reading, writing, and discussion, all of which should be nurtured by thoughtful consideration of the texts. We are not here to memorize others' interpretations of a text but rather to explore, develop, challenge, and analyze various responses to the text. Your daily readings, accompanied by a brief, thoughtful paragraph that you will bring to class each day will provide you with the chance to reflect on the material. In addition, this activity enables you to arrive prepared to participate in class discussions. These paragraphs can later serve as helpful starting points when you choose paper topics.

Required texts

The Norton Anthology of World Literature, 2nd edition, vols. D, E, and F

Assignments, with percentage of course grade

Attendance and participation (10%)
Reading quizzes and homework (15%)
Four exams (including the final) at 10% each (40%)
Two essays at 10% each (20%)
Group presentation (5%)

Attendance policy

Your attendance and informed participation in class discussions are essential to the quality of learning in this course. Attendance is mandatory. You may miss class three times, no questions asked. The fourth time is a warning, and after that, each absence will result in a deduction of 2 points from your final grade. Please be aware that cell phones, blackberries, and all other communication devices should be turned off before the class begins. Students found to be using these or other materials inappropriate to the classroom (such as iPods) will be counted absent for that period. Texting, sleeping, playing games on a laptop or doing class work for another class all constitute an absence. Please arrive in class on time. Arrivals after the roll has been called or early exits will result in ½ absence.

Late policy

Either of the two essays may be submitted up to 48 hours late, no questions asked. Think of it as insurance, not as a plan. Beyond that, papers lose ten points for each day they are late. I will only accept paper copies

of your essays; please do not email them to me. Bring them to class or place them in my mailbox at Joe Brown Hall. Homework assignments, quizzes, and the group presentation cannot be made up. Exams can be made up only in the most extenuating emergency circumstances.

Essay formatting

All essays are to be the original composition of the student, reflecting thorough consideration of the texts and thoughtful attention to the topic. Plagiarism of any kind is not tolerated. All papers must be submitted in Times New Roman 12-point font, double-spaced, with a 1-inch margin on each side. The upper left corner should include your name, the course number, and the date. For essays, include your own title centered above the first paragraph. Pages after the first should be numbered in the upper right corner. For references in the *Norton Anthology*, you may include the page number without any further documentation. For any other citations, use MLA style.

Academic Honesty

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. Please consult the following address for more complete information:

<http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/acadhon.htm>.

Other considerations

1. Readings are to be completed by the date indicated on the syllabus.
2. All reading assignments include the prefatory biographical/historical information provided in the anthology.
3. Reading assignments not provided in your Norton anthology are available through our class WebCT page.
4. Should you be absent or find that the class has been canceled for any reason, please keep up with the reading schedule.
5. If you have a disability of which I should be made aware, please inform me as soon as possible.

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.