

Syllabus, English 2331: World Literature, Spring 2016, T-Th 12:30-1:45

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: Eng. 2302 [World Literature I (from early 19th century into the contemporary time period (20th-21st century))] is taught as a course in the English literature curriculum of the Department of Languages and Literature; its content this semester (spring 2016) will be a survey of selected works of world literature which illustrate narrative, poetry, and film from different cultures and literature, translated in English. Major emphases in this course will be the following: applying techniques of critical literary evaluation and recognizing the importance of culture in the development and understanding of literature—particularly, the literary generic formats and the treatment of cultural themes from languages and cultures other than English. We will also discuss the bases for explicating various generic forms of literature.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students will

- read representative works and formats of world literature from the late 19th century to current time and identify the genre specific to each work.
- demonstrate their ability to select and apply the appropriate evaluative criteria to each particular literary genre studied.
- explore by critical analysis the significance of culture in the literatures of peoples from around the world, by comparing and classifying works, researching cultures, and inferring relationships.
- show evidence of having mastered the content of literary works by identifying narrative voice, characters, genres, and themes, describing major conflicts, and listing specific literary criteria used in evaluation
- show their ability to judge literary quality by applying evaluative criteria and supporting discussion with examples from the texts.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (English and Education Generalist Requirements at the Undergraduate Level):

Graduating students will demonstrate that they can

1. Construct essays that demonstrate unity, organization, coherence, and development
2. Analyze literary works by applying principles of literary criticism or theory
3. Produce research papers that demonstrate the ability to locate a variety of acceptable sources, employ them effectively through quotations or paraphrases, integrate them smoothly into the writer's own prose, and document them correctly using MLA format
4. Demonstrate creativity or originality of thought in written or multimedia projects
5. Compare/contrast and analyze major works and periods within World, English, and American literature.
6. Understand how to interpret, analyse, evaluate and produce visual images and messages in various media and to provide students with opportunities to develop skills in this area.
7. Understand the defining elements and characteristics of various literary genres contribute to the meaning of a given work (such as historical fiction, poetry, myths, epics, fables, etc.)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Three (3) major examinations (25 % each) [open book and notes] = 75% of course grade

One (1) written analysis of one (or more) work(s) studied in this class relative to concepts in modern written and visual literature [submitted through SAFE ASSIGN of Blackboard]= 25 % of course grade. [The writing assignment is discussed in the "Course Documents" of the Blackboard web site.]

These major assignments will be graded numerically on the basis of 100 points each. Each graded assignment will be added for a total divided by four to arrive at a course average. The course letter grade will be based on letter grade equivalents to the numerical class average as follows:

89.51-100+ = A

79.51-89.50 = B

69.51-79.50 = C

60 -69.50 = D

Below 60 = F

List of Texts for English 2331 for spring semester:

Achebe, Chinua. *Things Fall Apart*. Anchor, 1994. ISBN: 9780385474542

Akhtar, Ayad. *Disgraced*. Little, Brown (Back Bay Books), 2013. ISBN: 9780316324465

Hesse, Herman. *Sidhartha*. Dover, 1999. ISBN: 9780486406534

Hosseini, Khaled. *The Kite Runner*. Riverhead (Berkeley/Penguin), 2003. ISBN: 9781594480003

Nesbo, Jo. *The Redbreast*. Harper-Collins, 2009.

Satrapi, Marjane. *Persepolis, Vol 1*. Pantheon, 2003 (2004). ISBN: 9780375714573

Spiegelman, Art. *Maus, Vol 1: My Father Bled History*. Knopf-Doubleday, 1986. ISBN: 9780394747231

***Words without Borders: The World Through the Eyes of Writers*. Anchor-Doubleday, 2007. 9781400079759**

We will also screen film versions of *The Kite Runner*, *Persepolis*, *Sidhartha*, and *Walkabout* in class.

In addition to reading these texts or portions of these texts, we will be reading on-line material and hard-copy hand-outs of poetry and criticism. (Yes, this is a reading and discussion class: you will be held responsible for reading the assigned material for a given class day before the class meets that day, as well as being able to discuss elements of the literary work in class that day.)

ATTENDANCE: The attendance policy for this class is that stated in the current SRSU Catalog and the 2016 Spring Class Schedule. In Tues-Thurs classes (1 hr. and 15 min. period), more than 6 absences of any type can result in being dropped from the class with a failing grade.

Americans with disabilities Act

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact [Mary Schwartz](#) in counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203

Tentative Schedule of Reading Assignments and Class Activities:

Jan 19 Introduction to class and discussion of content; discussion of the genre of poetry from late 19th century to the present.

Jan 21 Discussion of Poetry

Jan 26 Complete Discussion of Poetry; *Sidhartha, Part 1*

***useful critical source:* [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siddhartha_%28novel%29]**

Jan 28 *Sidhartha, Part 2* [*view film version*]

Feb 02 *Maus*

Feb 04 *Maus*

Feb 09 *Things Fall Apart*

Feb 11 *Things Fall Apart*

Feb 16 *Things Fall Apart*

Feb 18 Exam 1

Feb 23 *Walkabout*

Feb 25 *Walkabout*

Mar 01 *Persepolis*

Mar 03 *Persepolis*

Mar 08 *Persepolis*

Mar 10 *Disgraced*

Mar 14-18 Spring Break

Mar 22 *Words without Borders*

Mar 24 *Words without Borders*

Mar 29 *Words without Borders*

Mar 31 Exam 2

Apr 05 *The Kite Runner*

Apr 07 *The Kite Runner*

Apr 12 *The Kite Runner*

Apr 14 *The Redbreast*

Apr 19 *The Redbreast*

Ape 21 *The Redbreast*

Apr 26 *The Redbreast*

Apr 28 *The Redbreast*; [The submission of the written critical analysis essay is due by 5:00 pm, submitted through SAFE ASSIGN.

May 03 *Nobel Prize Winning Poetry*

May 10 Exam 3