

**Sul Ross State University, Rio Grande College**  
**Engl 4320 01 02 03 04 International Literature**  
**Fall 2022**

**Dr. Audrey Taylor** Audrey.taylor@sulross.edu

**Office:** Sul Ross RGC Eagle Pass Site; Room B105

**Phone:** 830-758-5018

**Office Hours:** 1-5:40 pm and by appointment

The best way to reach me is via e-mail!

**Class:** Thursday 6-8:45 p.m.

Locations: Del Rio 106, Eagle Pass D201, Uvalde B110, Alpine Warnock Science 101

### **Course Description**

A critical study of literature from countries outside the United States. This is a senior level course and will require a lot of reading. Not having the texts is not an excuse, please be prepared.

### **Course Outcomes**

After taking it, students should be able to:

1. recognize styles of each author
2. discuss major ideas and works
3. respond to literature actively and constructively: decide what you think
4. understand how literary devices help set the tone of a piece and convey emotional meaning
5. understand how background and nationality affects form.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Student Learning Outcome #1 – Students will be able to construct documents that demonstrate coherence, development, organization, and appropriate/effective grammar, usage, and mechanics.
2. Student Learning Outcome #2 – Students will be able to analyze and interpret literary works by applying principles of critical thinking, literary criticism, or theoretical engagement.
3. Student Learning Outcome #3 – Students will be able to produce researched documents that demonstrate the ability to locate a variety of credible sources, employ them effectively through quotations and paraphrases, integrate them smoothly into the writer's own prose, and document them correctly using the style appropriate to the document.

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**Required Books**

Anna Karenina, Leo Tolstoy (0143035002)  
Faceless Killers, Henning Menkell (9781400031573)  
Kafka on the Shore, Haruki Murakami (1400079276)  
The Three Body Problem, Cixin Liu (9780765382030)  
Ragged Alice, Gareth L. Powell (9781250220189)  
Redemption in Indigo, Karen Lord (978-1931520669)  
Midaq Alley, Naguib Mahfouz (978-0385264761)  
Kingdom Cons, Yuri Herrera (9781908276926)  
**The Death of Vivek Oji : A Novel**, Akwaeke Emezi (9780525541622)  
Death with Interruptions, Jose Saramago (978-0547247885)  
**A Kestral for a Knave (Optional, alternate to Ragged Alice), Barry Hines (9781941147887)**

**Grade Determination**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Points</b>
Quizzes/Class Participation	In-Class	200
Weekly Question	Each Thursday	200
Midterm Exam	9/29	200
Paper/Project	11/10	200
Cumulative Final Exam	Week 14	200

**Grading**

A: 900 – 1000  
B: 800 – 899  
C: 700– 799  
D: 600 – 699  
F: 0 – 599

**Assignments**

**Quizzes**

These will check reading comprehension with simple questions about the assigned reading. They will be given randomly, in writing or orally, during class time.

**Weekly Question due Tuesday**

Post question to appropriate Question link in Blackboard and print out copy for class (or have it ready on your phone/tablet/etc.). Bring your question Thursday and be prepared to present your question then.

Each week you will bring one discussion question for class. These discussion questions will need to be more than a yes or no, or basic plot points, but instead should spark in-class discussions.

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Discussion questions should be accompanied by a relevant quote from the text. You do not need to answer the question, that is for your classmates to do.

**Paper/Project**

To be developed with students. May contain a creative component, must contain a written component.

**Exams**

Both the midterm and final exam will consist of short answer questions and essay questions. They will be in-class exams. If you have an A in each of the 5 sections of the course you may skip the final exam.

**Attendance, etc. policy**

Research has shown that class attendance is an important factor in how well a student does, and how much material they retain (in other words, student success). For instance, Kassarnic et al. argue that “early and consistent class attendance strongly correlates with academic performance”. Due to the coronavirus pandemic I will not penalize you for not attending, HOWEVER, it is of vital importance that you attend when able, and consistently participate in class.

It is your job to attend or view class, prepared to write and think and listen and learn, without outside distractions, other electronic devices or tasks.

If you miss class it is **your** responsibility to ensure your discussion question or other assignment has been turned in on time. You must read the powerpoint, watch the class recording when available, and reply to three class discussion questions along with turning in your own question before class if applicable. You have three days to do this before you will receive an automatic 0.

**Late Papers/Assignments**

To pass the class you must successfully complete and turn in to me each assignment by the due date. If you fail to turn in even one assignment, you may earn an F for the course.

**Grade Changes**

Please discuss your grades with me during the semester. There is no extra credit available once the class has finished, but to make up points you may re-do assignments within two weeks of their return. This does not apply to the final exam. Once the semester is over and I have entered grades into the system I will not consider grade changes except where I have made a number miscalculation.

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**ADA Statement**

SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. RGC students seeking accessibility services should contact Paulette Harris, Executive Assistant to the Vice President and Dean, at 830-279-3023 or email [pharris@sulross.edu](mailto:pharris@sulross.edu). Ms. Harris's office is at 2623 Garner Field Road, Uvalde, TX 78801 (this is the mailing address, too).

**Blackboard**

This course requires numerous written assignments, all of which *must* be submitted to Blackboard by the published deadline. Please be prepared for electronic failures, last minute issues etc. These are *not* acceptable excuses for missing a deadline.

**Teleconference Courses**

I am teaching this course by teleconference in Alpine, Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass. I will not always be in the classroom that you are in which makes it difficult for you to speak with me before and after class. Please email me (see email address above) to make an appointment for us to meet or to have a phone conversation. My goal is your success! I welcome all requests for office, phone, or video conference appointments, and e-mailed questions.

**Schedule** (Subject to change!)

**Week 1**

(8/25) Introduction to course, genre, international literature  
Assignment: *Midaq Alley*

**Week 2**

(9/1) Caribbean Literature  
Assignment: *Redemption in Indigo*

**Week 3**

(9/8) Japanese Literature  
Assignment: *Kafka on the Shore*

**Week 4**

(9/15) Welsh Writing in English  
Assignment: *Ragged Alice* (alternative is *A Kestrel for a Knave*)

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**Week 5**

(9/22) Portuguese Literature

Assignment: Prepare for Midterm

**Week 6 Midterm**

(9/29)

Assignment: *Death With Interruptions*

**Week 7**

(10/6) Swedish Literature

Assignment: *Faceless Killers*

**Week 8**

(10/13) Mexican Literature

Assignment: *Kingdom Cons*

**Week 9**

(10/20) Chinese Literature

Assignment: *The Three Body Problem*

**Week 10**

(10/27) Nigerian Literature

Assignment: *The Death of Vivek Oji*

**Week 11**

(11/3) Russian Literature

Assignment: Paper/ Projects, *Anna Karenina*

**Week 12: Paper/ Project Due**

(11/10) Discussion and Paper/ Project presentations

Assignment: Finish *Anna Karenina*

**Week 13**

(12/1) Watch *Anna Karenina* film

Assignment: Prepare for Final Exam if taking it

If not, a short response to the reading (your favorite/least favorite piece) is due on Blackboard.

**Week 14**

Final Exam (Time and Day TBA)