

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS
ENGLISH 2306 – WORLD LITERATURE II (26783)
FALL 2012

Instructor: Mr. Aaron Penn

Classroom: Irby 201

Class Time: 2:40-3:55

Office Hours: MWF 9am-11am

TTH 1:30-2:30 (Or by appointment): Activities during X-Period may sometimes interfere with these office hours.

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Required Books: Norton Anthology of World Literature, Vol. D, E, and F, 3rd edition.

Introduction:

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears; World Literature II is an introduction to the vast majority of literary history, in terms of volume, covering everything since 1650 A.D. (or C.E., if you prefer . . . or 2271 based on the solar Persian calendar, 1059 based on the lunar Islamic calendar, 5411 based on the luni-solar Jewish calendar).

According to the UCA course catalog, the World Literature sequence at UCA is “designed to introduce students to a variety of literary texts that have had a major impact on political, social, and philosophical thought throughout the world.” Since this is an introductory literature course, we will be conducting close analyses of the literature, focusing on themes, forms, style, language, and structure (just to name a few major elements).

Purpose/Course Goals:

In this course, we will read, study, and discuss literary works dating from the beginning of the Enlightenment (about 1650 A.D./C.E.) through contemporary literature. As we do so, we will pursue the following goals:

1. Read literary works actively, closely, and carefully in order to understand the different levels of meaning that may be present in the text.
2. Learn to form interpretive readings of literary works and support those interpretations with evidence and illustrations drawn from the text of the works; this skill includes learning to express those interpretations in clear and organized writing. **Writing will be an important part of this class, and the ability to write well in Standard Academic English is vital to success in the course.**
3. Understand how literary works both reflect and influence the culture that produces them while exploring cultural differences and similarities.
4. Attempt to appreciate, as much as we can, the aesthetic aspects of literary works and find what makes them enjoyable to read.
5. Explore what relevance these literary works might have for us now.

Course Requirements

Here is the final grade breakdown:

Quizzes	15%
Exams	30%
Essay #1	10%
Essay #2	20%
Final exam	20%
Participation	5%

Quizzes: Throughout the semester we will have many unannounced quizzes at the beginning of class. The quizzes will cover the material assigned for that day, which means you need to have read the assignment BEFORE you come to class. The quizzes will also cover material that I present to you in previous class sessions within one week. At the end of the semester, I will drop at least two of your lowest scores: Therefore, regardless of the reason, I do not allow quizzes to be made up. **(15%)**

Exams: There will be two exams and a final. The exams will consist of an ID section and a short answer section. The final will be just like the first two exams except a short essay section will be added. The final exam will be comprehensive. Any student who misses an exam **might** be allowed to make it up at my discretion. **(50%)**

Essay #1: This short, two page paper is a close analysis of the relationship between Pope's "Essay on Man" and Voltaire's *Candide*. Students will analyze the major themes of each work and how Voltaire's *Candide* is both a response to and commentary on Pope and Leibniz's argument that "Whatever is, is right" (Norton Voltaire introduction 353). **DO NOT** use outside sources (especially the Internet). **(10%) Due January 29th.**

Essay #2: For this 5-6 page essay, students will respond to a prompt of their choice from a series of prompts given by me. The prompts will be given to you at least three weeks before the final and due on the last day of class (not including the final). Using outside sources is highly discouraged, but if used must be cited in MLA formatting. **(20%) Due April 25th.**

Essay Format: Standard MLA formatting. 12 point Times New Roman, double-spaced. Only one space between sentences, no extra spacing between paragraphs. The **header** should have no more than your last name and the page number. The paper should begin with a **heading** including your name and class period, though you may use the full MLA heading on the second essay. The heading should also be double-spaced. 1" (One inch) margins on all sides. You must write the entire amount of the minimum page requirement (i.e. two pages means two **full** pages—even one line short will cost you several points).

Participation and Attendance: This is a combination of attendance and in-class discussion. Students are required to participate in class discussions on the works assigned, which means you need to keep discussion points in mind as you are reading the required materials. You will lose one point from this portion of your grade for each period missed. You will also lose a portion of this grade by not participating in class. **After four unexcused absences you will be dropped from the course. (5%)**

University Policies

The university's two academic bulletins – the University of Central Arkansas *Undergraduate Bulletin* and *Graduate Bulletin* – are the official publications for all academic programs and policies. Students are urged to study these bulletins. In addition, students should familiarize themselves with the various policies in the *Student Handbook*, some of which are outlined in the following sections. The Handbook may be accessed online at http://uca.edu/student/files/2011/06/student_handbook.pdf.

Academic Misconduct/Plagiarism. The student handbook contains the following statement:

The University of Central Arkansas affirms its commitment to academic integrity and expects all members of the university community to accept shared responsibility for maintaining academic integrity. Students in this course are subject to the provisions of the university's Academic Integrity Policy, approved by the Board of Trustees as Board Policy No. 709 on February 10, 2010, and published in the Student Handbook. Penalties for academic misconduct in this course may include a failing grade on an assignment, a failing grade in the course, or any other course-related sanction the instructor determines to be appropriate. Continued enrollment in this course affirms a student's acceptance of this university policy.

In accordance with this policy, PLAGIARISM or any other form of academic dishonesty will result in an F for the assignment and/or an F in the course. Plagiarism is representing the work of another as your own. This would include taking the words *or ideas* of a published source without giving that source proper credit; giving credit to a published source but representing the source's words as your own (i.e., not putting the author's ideas into your own words, or not using quotation marks around quotations); or using the work of other students and passing it off as your own. A longer discussion on plagiarism with examples can be found at <http://uca.edu/academicaffairs/files/2012/08/Plagiarism.pdf>.

Sexual Harassment. (*Student Handbook* 112-115) Sexual harassment by any faculty member, staff member, or student is a violation of both law and university policy and will not be tolerated at the University of Central Arkansas. Sexual harassment of employees is prohibited under Section 703 of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and sexual harassment of students may constitute discrimination under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

Americans with Disabilities Act. The University of Central Arkansas adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodation under this act due to a disability, contact the Office of Disability Support Services at 450-3613.

Evaluations. Student evaluations of a course and its professor are a crucial element in helping faculty achieve excellence in the classroom and the institution in demonstrating that students are gaining knowledge. Students may evaluate courses they are taking starting on the Monday of the twelfth week of instruction, April 1st through the end of finals week by logging in to myUCA and clicking on the Evals button on the top right.

Readings for this course. These are subject to change over the course of the semester. I will keep you updated in class and will give you a revised list if significant changes are made.

Volume D:

Jonathan Swift, "A Modest Proposal" 265-269, 315-320
Alexander Pope (Intro 321-324), *An Essay on Man*, "Epistle I" 344-351
Voltaire, *Candide* 352-413
Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko* 198-246

Volume E:

Frederick Douglass, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave* 231-293
William Blake, assorted poems 330-341
William Wordsworth (Intro 345-348), "Lines Composed a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey" 351, "Ode on Intimations of Immortality" 354, "The World Is Too Much with Us" 359
Samuel Taylor Coleridge 360-379
John Keats (Intro 403-406), "On First Looking into Chapman's Homer" 406, "When I Have Fears That I May Cease to Be" 407, "La Belle Dame sans Merci" 408
Robert Browning (Intro 437-438), "Porphyria's Lover" 438, "My Last Duchess" 442
Walt Whitman (Intro 446-448), from *Song of Myself* 448, "Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking" 453, "O Captain! My Captain!" 465
Emily Dickinson (Intro 480-482) #258 [There's a certain Slant of light] 483, #435 [Much Madness is divinest Sense—] 484, #465 [I heard a Fly buzz—when I died—] 485, #632 [The Brain—is wider than the Sky—] 486, #712 [Because I could not stop for Death—] 487, #1129 [Tell all the

Truth but tell it slant—] 489

Ghalib, assorted poems 587-601

Leo Tolstoy, *The Death of Ivan Ilyich* 735-778

Volume F:

Tanizaki Jun'ichirō, "The Tattooer" 78-84

Franz Kafka, *The Metamorphosis* 207-241

Lu Xun section, 242-259

Luigi Pirandello, *Six Characters in Search of an Author* 260-303

Premchand, "The Road to Salvation" 311-322

Virginia Woolf, *A Room of One's Own* 336-371

T. S. Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" 537-544

Pablo Neruda section, 583-599

Paul Celan section, 708-715

Albert Camus, "The Guest" 751-762

Chinua Achebe, "Chike's School Days" 825-830

Seamus Heaney (Intro 977-978), "Digging" 979, "Punishment" 982

Gabriel García Márquez, "Death Constant Beyond Love" 986-993

V. S. Naipaul, "One Out of Many" 1004-1028

Jamaica Kincaid, "Girl" 1144-1146