

LITERATURE AND THE MODERN WORLD (COMM63; 2013 Winter)

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Course Description:

This course focuses on literature in English reflecting two themes: 1) Gothic Literature; and 2) Postmodern and postcolonial literature. In addition to encouraging familiarity with a broad range of both canonical and marginalized texts, this course will also advance the skills necessary to become critical readers and confident communicators.

Week	Topic	Assessment
– One –	<u>UNIT ONE: THE GOTHIC</u> Background to the Gothic; Poe: "The Raven"; "Annabel Lee"; "The Tell-tale Heart"; "The Lake"	Throughout: Guided Seminar (15%) Throughout: Unannounced Content Quizzes (10%)
– Two –	Otherness and the Dark (K)night; Faulkner: <i>A Rose for Emily</i>	
– Three –	Haunted Minds: "Young Goodman Brown" (Hawthorne); Selected poetry of Emily Dickinson	
– Four –	Shelley: <i>Frankenstein</i> : Forms of Allegory	
– Five –	Shelley: <i>Frankenstein</i> ; the Politics of Monsters	
– Six –	Reflections on Vampires: <i>Nosferatu</i> (Murnau, Herzog); The <i>Frankenstein</i> Topos;	
– Seven –	Reflections on Vampires: <i>Nosferatu</i> (Murnau, Herzog); The <i>Frankenstein</i> Topos	Essay One (25%)
– Eight –	😊 READING WEEK 😊	
– Nine –	<u>UNIT TWO: CONTEMPORARY VOICES</u> <u>Wide Sargasso Sea</u> (Rhys)	
– Ten –	<u>Wide Sargasso Sea</u> (Rhys)	
– Eleven –	<u>Wide Sargasso Sea</u> (Rhys)	
– Twelve –	<u>Life of Pi</u> (Martel)	
– Thirteen –	<u>Life of Pi</u> (Martel)	
– Fourteen –	<u>Life of Pi</u> (Martel)	Essay Two (25%)
– Fifteen –	Review and final exam	Final Exam (25%)

Note on Guided Seminars:

Please note that Guided Seminars will take place according to a schedule negotiated in the first two weeks of the semester. Groups presenting Guided Seminars must meet with the professor at least one week prior to presenting.

Learning Resources:

1. Rhys, Jean. Wide Sargasso Sea. (Edition details to follow)
2. Shelley, Mary. Frankenstein. New York: Dover, 1994.
3. Martel, Yann. Life of Pi. Toronto: Vintage Canada, 2001.

(All texts are available in bookstore; All other materials will be distributed in class or electronically via the course WebCT page.)

Assessment Plan:

Item/Date:	Percent:	Description:
Throughout	15	Guided Seminar
Throughout	10	Unannounced Content Quizzes
Week 7	25	Essay One (Due via WebCT dropbox)
Week 14	25	Essay Two (Due via WebCT dropbox)
week 15	25	Final Exam (cumulative from both halves of semester)

Assignment Submission

ALL ESSAYS MUST BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY VIA WEBCT. Assignments will not be accepted by email without prior agreement with the instructor. An assignment emailed without prior arrangement will not be considered to have been handed in, and will accumulate late penalties until submitted via WebCT.

Late Policy

You must submit/present all written/oral assignments on their assigned dates unless you make specific arrangements in writing/voice mail/E-mail with your professor at least one day prior to the due date in question. In the case of any emergency, make arrangements (in writing, if necessary) immediately upon your return.

Your professor will make special arrangements for valid reasons only. In the case of illness, you may be required to provide a medical note. Other extenuating circumstances will be discussed on an individual basis.

A penalty of 10% per day will be applied to an assignment not submitted by the original or extended due date. An assignment more than three days late will receive a grade of zero ("0"). No assignment will be accepted after the last day of classes without prior arrangement with your professor.

Academic Integrity

The College views very seriously any form of academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism, submission of work for which credit has already been received; cheating, impersonation; falsification or fabrication of data; the acquisition of confidential materials, e.g., examination papers; misrepresentation of facts; altering transcripts or other official documents.

Plagiarism

In essence, plagiarism is the submission for credit of work taken without due documentation from an existing source. One form of plagiarism involves direct incorporation, without proper credit, of phrases, passages of text, images, or data of any kind from an existing source. A second form involves using data or information without proper credit (even though the incorporated information is paraphrased or otherwise not in direct form). Because of the seriousness of a breach of Academic Integrity, you are strongly encouraged to seek clarification during the classes devoted to this topic prior to the submission of your work. A plagiarized assignment will receive a grade of zero. Use the excellent site by Diana Hacker at <http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/> to review the mechanics of citing sources. If you have any questions about documentation or plagiarism, please contact your instructor.