

English 322
World Literature
Summer 2008

Syllabus English 322
World Literature
Summer II 2008

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Office Hours by appointment

SYLLABUS

Course Description

This course emphasizes a close reading of texts from diverse historical, cultural, and religious contexts. Through this literature we can explore the key institutions and social dynamics that link the nations and communities of our world so that we can begin to understand our commonalities and our differences and come to terms with those with whom we share this world.

General Education Goals

A2: Understand, appreciate, and engage diverse views and cultures, including international perspectives

A3: Comprehend central concepts and employ key methods of inquiry of the social sciences/humanities

A1: Understand, appreciate, and engage the intellectual traditions and social influences that shape American culture

B3: Understand and respond to Christian approaches to ethical and social

issues inherent in learning and living

C1: Read and listen to the ideas of others with understanding and discernment

E6: Be challenged to embrace God's call by serving as agents of justice, reconciliation, peace, and truth who extend Christ's kingdom in their churches, communities, and the world

Course Goals

Upon completion of this course you should be able to demonstrate the following:

1. an understanding of the works we study during the class
2. an understanding of the major concerns/themes as well as genres
3. an understanding of the interaction between text and culture
4. an ability to read, examine, analyze, discuss, and write about world literature from a comparative perspective
5. an ability to understand a text as a whole as well as its relationship to other works
6. an ability to deal critically with the topics, issues, and ideas found in the literature we read
7. an ability to recognize diverse interpretations of a text
8. an appreciation of how a "non-Christian" work can inform your understanding about yourself, others, life, and human nature
9. a willingness to read the literature of the "other"

Textbooks

Chinua Achebe Things Fall Apart

Athol Fugard Master Harold...and the boys

Franz Kafka "Metamorphosis"

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich

Bertolt Brecht Mother Courage

Henrik Ibsen Hedda Gabler

Kamala Markandaya Nectar in a Sieve

Academic Integrity

Malone College has adopted an academic integrity policy which is printed in the current college catalog. You are expected to be familiar with the policy, including the definition of plagiarism. Anyone found plagiarizing or cheating on a paper or exam will receive a 0 on that assignment. Know how to use and document the work of others correctly.

Late Assignments

Late papers will be penalized one letter grade for each calendar day they are late. Threaded discussion postings will not be accepted late. Remember that modern technology has a tendency to break down at crucial times: have a back-up plan in place.

Assignments

The course is designed around three themes designed to highlight global connections: race and class conflicts, the individual and the state, and women's lives. The short story project highlights the global connections between cultures, exploring thematic and global issues that link the nations and communities of our world.

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| Test 1 | 100 |
| Test 2 | 100 |
| Test 3 | 100 |
| Short Story Project Paper | 100 |
| 14 Quizzes (5 points each) | 70 |
| 32 Discussion Postings (2 points each) | 64 |

Grading Scale

94-100 A 87-89 B+ 77-79 C+ 67-69 D+

90-93 A- 83-86 B 73-76 C 63-69 D
80-82 B- 70-72 C- 60-62 D-
Below 60 No credit

Tentative Reading Schedule

Global Connections: Literature of the “Other”: Race and Class Conflicts

M June 9 Introduction to course
Introduction to classmates

T June 10 Read “The White Man’s Burden” by Rudyard Kipling
(Britain/India)
Read “Shooting an Elephant” by George Orwell (Britain)
6/10 Quiz Due
Discussion #1 Due

W June 11 Read Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe (Nigeria)
*Read Part 1
6/11 Quiz Due

H June 12 Read Things Fall Apart
*Read Parts 2 and 3
6/12 Quiz Due
Discussion #2 Due

F June 13 Read Master Harold and the Boys by Athol Fugard (South
Africa)
6/13 Quiz Due

M June 16 Read “As It Was in the Beginning” by E. Pauline Johnson

(Native American/Canada)

Read “Dancing Girls” by Margaret Atwood (Canadian)

6/16 Quiz Due

Discussion #3 Due

T June 17 Test 1

Global Connections: The Individual and the State

W June 18 Read “Metamorphosis” by Franz Kafka (Poland)

6/18 Quiz Due

H June 19 Read One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich pages 1-74
by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

(Russia)

F June 20 Read One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich pages 75-
139

6/20 Quiz Due

M June 23 Read Mother Courage by Bertolt Brecht (Germany)

6/23 Quiz Due

Discussion #4 Due

T June 24 Read “The Tears of my Soul” by Kim Hyun Hee (North
Korea)

Read “The Censors” by Luisa Valenzuela (Argentina)

Read “The Rain Came” by Grace Ogot (Kenya)

6/24 Quiz Due

Discussion #5 Due

W June 25 Test 2

Global Connections: Women's Lives

H June 26 Read "Inem" by Pramoedya Ananta Toer (Indonesia)

Read "The Bitter Life of Shirin" by Purvin Fadavi (Iran)

Read "Punishment" by Rabindranath Tagore (India)

6/26 Quiz Due

Discussion #6 Due

F June 27 Read Hedda Gabler pages 263-313 by Henrik Ibsen
(Norway)

6/27 Quiz Due

M June 30 Read Hedda Gabler pages 314-364

Discussion #7 Due

T July 1 Read Nectar in a Sieve (chapters 1-15) by Kamala
Markandaya (India)

7/1 Quiz Due

W July 2 Read Nectar in a Sieve (chapters 16-30)

7/2 Quiz Due

Discussion #8 Due

H July 3 Test 3

F July 4 Independence Day--no class

M July 7 Short Story Project: Global Connections: War (Italy, America, Israel)

Discussion #9 Due

Short Story Project: Global Connections: World War II (Czechoslovakia, Poland, France)

Discussion #10 Due

T July 8 Short Story Project: Global Connections: Class Wars (Russia, Australia, Egypt)

Discussion #11 Due

Short Story Project: Global Connections: Arrival in a New Land (New Zealand, Nigeria,

Russia/Jewish)

Discussion #12 Due

W July 9 Short Story Project: Global Connections: Women Who Find Strength (Pakistan, Egypt,

Guadeloupe)

Discussion #13 Due

Short Story Project: Global Connections: Racism (Rhodesia, Kenya, South Africa)

Discussion #14 Due

H July 10 Short Story Project: Global Connections: East vs. West (Vietnam, India, Japan)

Discussion #15 Due

Short Story Project: Global Connections: Generations



(India, Australia, Pakistan)

Discussion #16 Due
