

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

2018-2019 Comparative Literature 102 B1: World Literature II
(Winter Term)

Instructor: Chris Reys-Chikuma

Time: TR 9:30-10:50

Office: Arts 210A

Place: T 3 65

Telephone: /

Fax: 780-492-9106

Office Hours: Just after class

E-mail: reynschi@ualberta.ca

or by appointment

Personal Website: /

Course Website: eClass

Course Prerequisite: No prerequisites. Not open to students with C Lit100
It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed, no such projects approved.

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

Exam registry – Students' Union

<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>

See explanations below

Document distributed in class

Other (please specify)

NA

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

This course weaves together the two related fields of Comparative and World Literature. In the first case, students will encounter the analytical approaches used in Comparative Literature. Accordingly, students will consider the intersection of literature, history, theory, and culture, paying close attention to how Comparative Literature offers the capacity to make cultural insights that are not otherwise accessible via other disciplines. Moreover, as cultural forms and ideas move across borders at an ever-increasing pace, students will begin to understand the importance of cultural literacy and sensitivity, both within singular societies as well as in the global context.

In the second case, World Literature, students will find the tangible material for study during their introduction to a selection of early modern and contemporary literary works, both in the Western and non-Western context. These works span various cultural, national and linguistic boundaries as well as various literary genres, including poetry, short stories, novels, plays, graphic novel, and film.

The learning outcomes for this 100-level class strive to lay the early foundation for fundamental skills required for upper-level course work. At the end of the course, successful students will demonstrate competencies in the following areas:

- **Understanding:** students will be able to classify different genres of Western and non-Western literature; summarize key ideas and themes; and, compare and contrast various texts by considering contexts such as culture, historical era, and genre, among others. Students should also understand that all work exists within a critical dialogue, where ideas are developed in relation to other ideas.
- **Application:** students will have developed the tools of literary analysis through critical reasoning and reflection as well as through reading and writing. Students ought to be able to apply the analytical tools discussed in class to texts, as well as explain why these tools provide a unique, comparative perspective that is useful in contexts outside of the classroom.

Texts:

Puchner, Martin. *The Norton Anthology of World Literature*. Shorter 4th ed. Vol. 2. New York: W.W. Norton & Co, 2018. Print.

Condé, Maryse. *Land of Many Colors and Nanna-ya*. U. of Nebraska Press. 1999. Print.

Books are available in the reserve section at Rutherford Library.

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

- Class attendance & engagement: 10%
- In-class quick-writes: 10%
- Mid-term, short paper: 15% (March 7)
- Attendance & participation to the Nobel event (March 27, 4-7pm): 10%
- Presentation of one ‘author’: 10% (TBD the second week)
- Term paper: 15% (last class)
- Final Exam: 30% (April 24 @ 9:00am)

Categories	%	Dates & Deadlines
Class attendance	10	Every class
Quick-writes	10 (4+6)	Random
Mid-term	15	March 7
Nobel	10	March 27
Oral presentation	10	TBD in class
Term paper	15	Last class
Final exam	30	April 24 th
	100	

Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):

Please consult the following site:

[https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations_\(Exams\)](https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=806#Examinations_(Exams))

For information on how to apply for a deferred exam see [“I Missed my Final Exam, Now What?”](#)

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Class attendance, discussion, and engagement (10%): This mark derives from in-class participation, including discussions, activities, and the “Minute Reviews” that we complete at the conclusion of some classes.

In-class quick-writes (10%): For quick-writes (2 total quick-writes, 4% and 6%), the instructor will provide you with a topic (related to one of the readings) on which you write for 10-15 minutes. This exercise is meant to get students in the habit of thinking and writing promptly. Make up quick-writes, without a valid reason, will not be granted and result in a loss of the grade for the day missed.

Short Paper for midterm: This paper will be worth 15% and will be written in class on March 7th. Papers will be between 3 and 4 full pages in length (TNR 12, double space, about 1400 words). Topics, and more detail, will also be distributed in class. Submission will be electronic.

Presentations (10% = 5+5): they will occur during the semester, and will consist of 10-15 minute-long enthusiastic clear presentations about one of the ‘authors’ of the anthology (5%). Audio/visual support should be used (e.g., PPT). Presentation material [e.g., ppt] should be sent to the instructor at least 24h before presenting in class and will be graded (5%). It could be done individually or in a group of 2 (then doubling the time of the presentation: 20-30 minutes). More detail will be provided in class.

Participation in the Nobel event: This is the only activity outside the class; students have over two months to plan for their attendance to that event; listening to an academic talk is an interesting experience; we will prolong it by a discussion the class following the talk; one of the textbooks is directly related to that event. For all these reasons, attendance to that event is required and graded 10%.

Term Paper (15% = 10 + 5): Due last class; students will be required to produce an essay 9-10 pages in length (not including a Works Cited page, NYT 12, double space) using MLA citation and a minimum of 2 secondary academic sources (10%). The paper will also have to be presented in class during the last week of the semester (5%). Students will be expected to describe their paper thesis, possible conclusions, and a brief reflection on how their paper fits into the broader themes of the class.

Final Exam (30%) (Wednesday April 24, 2019 @ 9:00am): The final exam will cover readings from throughout the term and include short answers, passage identification and analysis, and/or definition of terms. By the beginning of April, students will receive an exam outline, which consists of specific guidelines for the exam as well as strategies for preparation.

Required Notes:

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading](#)

[System](#) of the University Calendar.

Student Responsibilities:

Academic Integrity:

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Language courses:

Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that the use of on-line translation to complete assignments constitutes a form of cheating as the student's own understanding and work is therefore not reflected. Also, students in language courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, excessive editorial and creative help in assignments is considered a form of cheating that violates the Code of Student Behaviour.

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Territorial Statement:

“The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.”
(from the beginning of the Calendar).

University of Alberta Sexual Violence Policy:

The Sexual Violence Policy was approved by GFC in June 2017. It plays a vital role in ensuring a safe and respectful learning and working environment.

As defined in the policy, **sexual violence** is any sexual act or act of a sexual nature, or act targeting sexuality, whether physical or psychological, committed without consent.

Sexual violence is a complex and serious problem in society and on university campuses. Sexual violence can affect individuals of all gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations, as well as those from all ages, abilities, racial, cultural and economic backgrounds. Through this policy, the University of Alberta recognizes its responsibility to reduce sexual violence in the University community. The university aims to do so by fostering a culture of **consent** and support through education, training and policy. The University recognizes the possible effects of trauma on those who have experienced sexual violence and supports the efforts of individuals to seek support and recover.

To read the policy in more detail, please visit:

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Policies/Sexual-Violence-Policy.pdf>

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

In this course, the section above will be graded through the class discussion and engagement (15%). This mark is derived from in-class participation, including discussions, activities, and the “Minute Reviews” that we complete at the conclusion of each class, which also serves as class attendance.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Students who consult in advance with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension just one time throughout the course with no penalty. However, if a second excuse will be granted for late assignments, the student will be penalized at 5% per day (including weekends), unless you requested an extension for a valid reason. Extensions will not be granted after the due date. After the period of 7 days (from the due date) no assignments will be accepted.

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

Accessibility Resources: (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

The Academic Success Centre: (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

The Centre for Writers: (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

Health and Wellness Support: There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds:

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class"

(University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	A+	4.0	97-100
	A	4.0	93-96
	A-	3.7	90-92
Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	B+	3.3	87-89
	B	3.0	83-86
	B-	2.7	80-82
Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	C+	2.3	77-79
	C	2.0	73-76
	C-	1.7	70-72
Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	D+	1.3	65-69
	D	1.0	60-64
Failure.	F	0.0	0-59

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