



Isabel Allende

SURVEY OF WORLD LITERATURE II

ENGL 209-01
Fall 2008
MWF 10:10 AM – 11:00 AM
Knutti Hall, Room 203

Dr. Timothy K. Nixon
Office: Knutti Hall, Room 216
tnixon@shepherd.edu
(304) 876-5365

Office Hours: MF 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM and
R 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a survey of world literature, including Neoclassical, Romantic, Realistic, Modern, and chronologically comparable non-Western works. Prerequisite: ENGL 102, 103, or 104.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Survey of World Literature II is designed to familiarize students with great works of world literature representing the Neoclassical, Romantic, Realistic, and Modernist periods. Students will be exposed to diverse literary traditions through discussion of and thinking and writing about significant literary works. In addition to tests and quizzes, students will be required to submit and revise a critical essay of moderate length. ENGL 101 and ENGL 102, 103, or 104 are *required* for entry into ENGL 209. Thus, students are expected to enter this course already having received instruction in how to render clear, cogent ideas; how to structure well-developed essays; and how to employ standard written English correctly. This course will provide further practice—but not instruction—in these skill areas.

SKILLS AND OUTCOMES

Essential skills and outcomes to be acquired through this course include:

1. an ability to render close textual analysis;
2. an ability to synthesize information from multiple texts;
3. an understanding of ethnic/cultural diversity;
4. an aesthetic and critical judgment of literature;
5. an understanding of the inter-relationship of the arts, history, and philosophy through the study of literature;
6. an ability to see connections between literature and life outside the classroom.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Allende, Isabel. *The House of the Spirits*. Trans. Magda Bogin. New York: Bantam, 1993.

Lawall, Sarah, et al., eds. *The Norton Anthology of World Literature: 1650 to the Present*. 2nd ed. 3 vols. New York: Norton, 2002.

Satrapa, Marjane. *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood*. New York: Pantheon, 2003.

GRADE CALCULATION

The student's final course grade will be calculated using the following weights:

25%	Critical Essay (15% composition, 10% revision)
25%	Final Exam
25%	Mid-Term Exam
25%	Reading Quizzes

CRITICAL ESSAY

On the date spelled out in the Course Schedule below, students will submit thesis-driven, critical essays on material covered in the class. Students' papers are due at the beginning of class on the date specified below. **Ten (10) points will be deducted for each day the paper is late.**

These papers should be six to eight pages in length. In these essays students should interpret or critique a work from the syllabus. While the focus of these papers is to assess students' critical skills rather than their research abilities, the incorporation of outside sources (two or three per paper) that strengthen the argument or establish credibility is expected. **Dictionaries and the Bible may be useful, but they do not represent research. Similarly, Wikipedia, Spark Notes, and other such web sites are not appropriate for college-level research.** (If an author's name and credentials, as well as the date the material was uploaded to the web, are not available, don't use the source!) The students will receive grades reflecting their success at analysis (25 pts.), use of sources (20 pts.), style and clarity (15 pts.), paragraphing (15 pts.), grammar and mechanics (15 pts.), and adherence to the MLA format (10 pts.). Students will be expected to revise these papers based upon feedback from the instructor.

The critical essays must be typed and double-spaced. *Everything* in the papers should be double-spaced, including block quotations and the works cited list! Black ink on white paper is customary for scholarly work. Students should use one-inch margins on all four sides of the page and a legible, fairly standard font when preparing their papers. (Examples of acceptable fonts include Times New Roman 12 pt. or Arial 11 pt.) There should *not* be an extra line between paragraphs, but paragraphs should begin with a half-inch indentation. The student's name, the course title, the instructor's name, and the date should appear in the upper left-hand corner of the paper's first page. Students should number all pages in the upper right-hand corner. *The entire package is to be stapled together before being submitted for a grade!* Students should not come to class expecting the instructor to have a stapler for their use. References to all works under consideration and any secondary sources should be documented following Modern Language Association (MLA) conventions, and a works cited list, adhering to the sixth edition of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, should be included as part of the paper.

PAPER SUBMISSION

Plagiarism is a serious matter and contrary to the ethos of higher education. Students should make every attempt to ensure that their work is original and others' words and ideas are attributed appropriately. The minimum penalty for plagiarism is failure of the course. Depending on the offense, plagiarizing may also result in expulsion from the University.

Despite these cautions about plagiarism, some students continue to engage in dishonesty, knowingly including others' words and thoughts as their own. For that reason, this course will take advantage of the web site www.turnitin.com. Each student will upload his or her paper to Turnitin before the instructor even looks at it, and this service will instantaneously compare the student's work with 4.5 billion pages of reference material, hard-copy and web-based, to evaluate the work's originality. Only after a Turnitin originality score has been generated will the instructor grade the paper. Students are encouraged to read the user guide for Turnitin, which can be found at http://turnitin.com/static/pdf/tij_student_qs.pdf.

Before Wednesday, September 3rd, every member of the class must have a user profile with Turnitin. Students who haven't already done so for another class can do this by visiting www.turnitin.com, and clicking on the New User link in the upper right-hand corner. After the new user profile has been created, students must then enroll in this course; they can do that with the following information:

Class ID = 2333835
Password = Allende

If students have not created a profile and registered for the course on Turnitin before Wednesday, September 3rd, they may not be allowed to submit a Critical Essay, thereby sacrificing one fourth of their course grade!

READING QUIZZES

This course is a literature survey, and as such, keeping up with the assigned reading is a major component of its requirements. In order to evaluate how diligent students are being with the reading, brief quizzes will be given throughout the semester. The questions on these quizzes will be straight-forward and relatively easy for those who have completed the assigned reading for that day's class. To this end, students should come to class each day prepared for a quiz. The following guidelines apply: 1) Quizzes will be given promptly at the start of class, and questions will not be repeated for students who arrive in class after the last question has been asked. 2) The quiz component of the student's grade will be calculated by averaging all quiz scores *after the lowest three quiz scores have been dropped*. 3) Missed quizzes cannot be made up.

GRADING SCALE

This course will employ the grading scale recommended by the Department of English and Modern Languages:

A	100 – 90
B	89 – 80
C	79 – 70
D	69 – 60
F	59 – 0

SPECIAL NOTE

Any student who may need an accommodation due to a disability should make an appointment to see the instructor during his office hours or at another mutually agreed upon time. This meeting should occur as early in the semester as is possible so the instructor can make appropriate arrangements.

CLASS POLICIES

Students are expected to be present, on time, and prepared for discussion whenever the class is scheduled to meet. However, things conflicting with class attendance invariably arise. If there is some extenuating circumstance that prevents the student from attending class, he or she may rely on three of the lowest reading quizzes being dropped. Beyond three absences, the student should talk with the instructor before or after class or during his office hours about this matter. For his part, the instructor reserves the right to fail a student for excessive absences.

Plagiarism is a serious matter and contrary to the ethos of higher education. Students should make every attempt to ensure that their work is original and others' words and ideas are attributed appropriately. The minimum penalty for plagiarism is a failing grade on the assignment. Depending on the offense, plagiarizing may also result in failure of the course or expulsion from the University.

Out of respect for colleagues and the instructor, **students are asked to turn off (or leave at home) cell phones and pagers before coming to class. Text or instant messaging during class, no matter how subtle, is the surest way to offend the instructor!**

If a student wants to discuss a grade on a quiz, the essay, or an exam, she or he should meet with the instructor in his office during office hours or at a mutually agreed upon appointment. The instructor will not discuss grades in the classroom.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1—Introduction and the Twentieth Century: Magical Realism	
8/18 (M)	Introductions, review of syllabus.
8/20 (W)	<i>The House of the Spirits</i> by Isabel Allende (Chapter 1).
8/22 (F)	<i>The House of the Spirits</i> by Isabel Allende (Chapters 2 – 3).
Week 2—Twentieth Century: Magical Realism (cont'd.)	
8/25 (M)	<i>The House of the Spirits</i> by Isabel Allende (Chapters 4 – 6).
8/27 (W)	<i>The House of the Spirits</i> by Isabel Allende (Chapters 7 – 8).
8/29 (F)	<i>The House of the Spirits</i> by Isabel Allende (Chapters 9 – 10).

Week 3—Twentieth Century: Magical Realism (cont'd.) and Postcolonialism	
9/1 (M)	<i>No Class—Labor Day Holiday!</i>
9/3 (W)	<i>The House of the Spirits</i> by Isabel Allende (Chapters 11 – 14 and Epilogue).
9/5 (F)	Handouts: Excerpt from <i>The Wretched of the Earth</i> by Frantz Fanon and excerpt from “Named for Victoria, Queen of England” by Chinua Achebe.
Week 4—Twentieth Century: Postcolonialism (cont'd.)	
9/8 (M)	<i>Persepolis</i> by Marjane Satrapi (3 – 79).
9/10 (W)	<i>Persepolis</i> by Marjane Satrapi (80 – 153).
9/12 (F)	“In Camera” (2999 – 3008) by Nawal El Saadawi; “Zaabalawi” (2531 – 38) by Naguib Mahfouz.
Week 5—Twentieth Century: Postcolonialism (cont'd.)	
9/15 (M)	<i>Things Fall Apart</i> (2860 – 2915) by Chinua Achebe.
9/17 (W)	<i>Things Fall Apart</i> (2915 – 48) by Chinua Achebe.
9/19 (F)	“The Old Chief Mshlanga” (2726 – 34) by Doris Lessing.
Week 6—Twentieth Century: Postcolonialism (cont'd.) and Modernism	
9/22 (M)	“Letter to a Poet” (2506) and “Black Woman” (2507 – 08) by Léopold Senghor.
9/24 (W)	“Ladies and Gentlemen, to the Gas Chamber” (2773 – 86) by Tadeusz Borowski.
9/26 (F)	Poems by Pablo Neruda (2442 – 55).
Week 7—Twentieth Century: Modernism (cont'd.)	
9/29 (M)	<i>Death in Venice</i> (1840 – 90) by Thomas Mann.
10/1 (W)	<i>Death in Venice</i> by Thomas Mann (cont'd.).
10/3 (F)	Poems by Alfonsina Storni (2123 – 30).
Week 8—Twentieth Century: Modernism (cont'd.) and the Mid-Term Exam	
10/6 (M)	<i>Six Characters in Search of an Author</i> (1725 – 66) by Luigi Pirandello.
10/8 (W)	Mid-Term Exam Part I.
10/10 (F)	Mid-Term Exam Part II.
Week 9—Nineteenth Century: Realism and Naturalism	
10/13 (M)	<i>Hedda Gabler</i> (1464 – 1518) by Henrik Ibsen.
10/15 (W)	“The Death of Ivan Ilyich” (1422 – 60) by Leo Tolstoy.
10/17 (F)	<i>Notes from Underground</i> (1307 – 29) by Fyodor Dostoevsky.
Week 10—Nineteenth Century: Realism and Naturalism (cont'd.)	
10/20 (M)	<i>Notes from Underground</i> (1329 – 79) by Fyodor Dostoevsky.
10/22 (W)	Due: Critical Analysis. Students will receive credit for two quizzes for participating in today's class.
10/24 (F)	<i>Madame Bovary</i> by Gustave Flaubert (1088 – 1121).

Week 11—Nineteenth Century: Realism and Naturalism (cont'd.)	
10/27 (M)	<i>Madame Bovary</i> by Gustave Flaubert (1121 – 66).
10/29 (W)	<i>Madame Bovary</i> by Gustave Flaubert (1166 – 1215).
10/31 (F)	<i>Madame Bovary</i> by Gustave Flaubert (1215 – 56).
Week 12—Nineteenth Century: Realism and Naturalism (cont'd.) and Romanticism	
11/3 (M)	<i>Madame Bovary</i> by Gustave Flaubert (1256 – 1301).
11/5 (W)	Poems by Ghalib (1066 – 68).
11/7 (F)	Handout: “The Overcoat” by Nikolai Gogol.
Week 13—Nineteenth and Eighteenth Centuries: Romanticism (cont'd.)	
11/10 (M)	“The Queen of Spades” (865 – 83) by Alexander Pushkin.
11/12 (W)	“The Infinite” (847) and “The Village Saturday” (849 – 50) by Giacomo Leopardi; “From the Seashore” (840 – 41) by Anna Petrovna Bunina.
11/14 (F)	“A Pine Is Standing Lonely” (844 – 45) and “The Silesian Weavers” (845 – 46) by Heinrich Heine; “The Half of Life” (836) and “Hyperion’s Song of Fate” (837) by Friedrich Hölderlin.
Week 14—Eighteenth and Seventeenth Centuries: Romanticism (cont'd.) and The Enlightenment	
11/17 (M)	“Bewitched” (632 – 48) by Ueda Akinari.
11/19 (W)	“The Narrow Road of the Interior” (607 – 29) by Matsuo Bashō.
11/21 (F)	Handout: Poems by Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz.
Week 15—Thanksgiving Break	
11/24 (M)	<i>No Class—Thanksgiving Holiday!</i>
11/26 (W)	<i>No Class—Thanksgiving Holiday!</i>
11/28 (F)	<i>No Class—Thanksgiving Holiday!</i>
Week 16—Seventeenth Century: The Enlightenment (cont'd.)	
12/1 (M)	<i>Candide, or Optimism</i> (520 – 80) by François-Marie Arouet de Voltaire.
12/3 (W)	<i>Candide, or Optimism</i> by François-Marie Arouet de Voltaire (cont'd.).
12/5 (F)	Excerpt from <i>The Book of Travels</i> (286 – 92) by Evliya Çelebi; course wrap up and discussion of final exam.

The Final Exam for this class will be on Wednesday, December 10th, from noon until 2:00 PM.