Western Arts&Humanities

Department of Languages and Cultures
WLC 1030
World Literatures and Cultures
East to West and North to South

Course outline for 2020/2021

Although this academic year might be different, Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being. Additionally, the following link provides available resources to support students on and off campus: https://www.uwo.ca/health/.

1. Technical Requirements

Laptop or computer

Stable internet connection

Working microphone

Working webcam (Suggested)

2. Course Overview and Important Dates

Delivery Mode	Dates	Time
Online	Tuesday & Thursday	T. 12:30-2:30; Thur. 1:30-2:30

*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 4

Classes Start	Reading Weeks	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 9	November 2 - 8	December 9	December 10	December 11 – 22
January 4	February 13 - 21	April 5	April 6 and 7	April 8 – 30

*November 30, 2020: Last day to drop a full course without penalty

3. Contact Information

Instructor	Contact Information
Luca Pocci	lpocci@uwo.ca

Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information
TBA	
TBA	

4. Course Description and Design

Antirequisite: Clc 1040, Clc 1050E

In this course you will learn what it means to go global and think big by taking an exciting journey of discovery across continents and civilizations, from Europe to Asia, from Africa to the Americas. Along the way you will explore a selection of writers and works that have changed, challenged, and connected cultures from antiquity to the present. The focus of the course is on the major role that storytelling from around the world has played and continues to play in enhancing our lives by illuminating our experience and understanding of love, justice, power, happiness, and other aspects of the human condition. To further enrich your journey, you will be introduced to the relationship between verbal and visual art in some crucial historical periods.

Mode	Dates	Time	Frequency
Virtual synchronous-Required (Lectures)	**TU** 12:30-1:30 T**H** 1:30-2:30	1 hour on Zoom	2 times weekly
Virtual synchronous-Optional	**TU** 1:40-2:30	1 hour on Zoom	1 time weekly

☒ Asynchronous pre-work must be completed prior to synchronous sessions

☒ Attendance at synchronous lectures (TU, 12:30-1:30/ TH 1:30-2:30) on **Zoom** is required

☒ Missed homework should be completed within 24 hours

Class Management and course updates will be posted to OWL: http://owl.uwo.ca.

Course material will be available on Owl through the *Course Readings* tool

5. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Identify cross-cultural patterns of similarity and difference as evidenced in the circulation of themes and the exchange of stories across time and space;
- Recognize the roots of today's globalizing world in a number of literary works;
- Understand how literature, from around the world, has historically contributed to generate, disseminate, and transgress cultural assumptions and values;
- discuss the role that literature has played, and continue to play, in exploring how the meaning of universal human concerns – such as love, friendship, power, justice and happiness – evolves in time;
- demonstrate basic critical skills in discussing topics and in analyzing works.

6. Course Content and Schedule (subject to change)

Week	Dates	Topic	Assessments
1	Sept 10	Course Presentation	
2	Sept 15 – 17	*Epic of Gilgamesh*	
3	Sept 22 – 24	*Epic of Gilgamesh*; *Odyssey*	
4	Sept 29 – Oct 1	*Odyssey*	
5	Oct 6 –Oct 8	*Aeneid*	
6	Oct 13 – 15	*Aeneid*	
7	Oct 20 – 22	*Thousand and One Nights*	Reading Response 1
8	Oct 27 – Oct 29	*Thousand and One Nights*	
9	Nov 3 – 5	Reading Week	
10	Nov 10– 12	*Tale of Genji*	Midterm
11	Nov 17– 19	*Tale of Genji*	
12	Nov 24 – 26	Dante's *Inferno*	
13	Dec. 1 – Dec 3	Dante's *Inferno*	
14	Dec 8	*Decameron*	Reading Response 2
		Christmas Holidays	
15	Jan 5 – 7	Conquest of New Spain	
16	Jan 12 – 14	*Don Quixote*	
17	Jan 19 – 21	Renaissance and Baroque Art	
18	Jan 26 – 28	Voltaire's *Candide*	
19	Feb 2 – 4	Goethe's *Faust*	Reading Response 3
20	Feb 9 – 11	Gogol's "The Nose" and "The Overcoat"	
21	Feb 16 – 18	Reading Week	
22	Feb 23 – 25	*Heart of Darkness*	
23	Mar 2 – 4	The Metamorphosis (Kafka)	
24	Mar 9 – 11	Modernist Art	Writing Project
25	Mar 16 – 18	Murakami Haruki's "TV People", C. Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*	
26	Mar 23 – 25	*Things Fall Apart*	
27	Mar 30 – Apr 1	Review of literary vocabulary	Reading Response 4

* Subject to change

7. Online Participation and Engagement

☒ Students are expected to participate and engage with content as much as possible

8. **Evaluation**

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

COURSE EVALUATION

- Reading Responses   **35%**
- Short Writing Project   **20%**
- Midterm   **20%**
- Participation   **5%**
- Final Exam   **20%**

Reading Responses

You will write four reading responses (two per term) based on questions that will be posted on Owl in the Assignments section one week before each submission date. The questions will address specific aspects of works and topics covered throughout the year. Each reading response should be no less than 750 words in length (about three double-spaced pages).

Short Writing Project

A list of topics will be uploaded on Owl at least one month before the due date for the submission of the project (in mid-March; check the lecture schedule that you will receive in September, when classes start). You will write on one of the topics of your choice from the list. The purpose of the writing project is for you to build research skills while developing, in combination with the short assignments, proper familiarity with academic writing. You are expected to use at least two secondary sources. Keep in mind that secondary sources are important, as they are supposed to help you in constructing and supporting your argument.

Midterm

It will be scheduled during class time in the Fall term and will consist of identification questions to be answered in short-paragraph form. The questions will address the reading material covered up to that point.

Participation

It will be assessed on the basis of preparation and contribution to class. You are expected to complete all assigned readings before each class.

Final Exam

The final exam will consist of questions to be answered in short paragraph and short essay form. It is cumulative, i.e., it covers the entire year. Please note that all final examinations are timetabled by the Office of the Registrar without any input from the Department. Since your exam may be scheduled for any date during the April examination period, and since students must write at a scheduled time, you should not make any plans which might run into conflict with the examination timetable.

Click here for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Information about late or missed evaluations:

☒ Late assessments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty 5% per day including weekend.

☒ All assignments are due right before your synchronous class starts, unless otherwise specified

☒ Written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below)

☒ Rubrics will be used to evaluate assessments and will be posted with the instructions in OWL

☒ There will be **no make-up assessments** in this course.

If a student misses an assessment and an illness self-report is submitted, the percentage of the assessment missed will be added to the next assessment percentage of that type. If there are no more assessments, the percentage will be added to the final exam percentage.

Online Proctoring Notice
Tests and examinations in this course will be conducted using Zoom. You will be required to keep your camera on for the entire session, hold up your student card for identification purposes, and share your screen with the invigilator if asked to do so at any time during the exam. The exam session will **not** be recorded.*
More information about the use of Zoom for exam invigilation is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf.
Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system requirements for Zoom. Information about the system requirements are available at the following link:
https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us.

* Please note that Zoom servers are located outside Canada. If you would prefer to use only your first name or a nickname to login to Zoom, please discuss this with your instructor in advance of the test or examination.

☒ Students should check the OWL site every 24 hours

☒ Late assessments <u>with</u> illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report.

☒ Updates will be provided periodically on the OWL announcements

☒ Students should email their instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s) using uwo email account

☒ Emails will be monitored daily, Monday to Friday; students will receive a response within 48 hours

9. <u>Office Hours</u>

☒ Office hours with your instructor will be held remotely using Zoom.

10. <u>Resources</u>

☒ The readings for the course will be available in Owl ("Course Readings" tool)

11. <u>Professionalism & Privacy</u>

Western students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

☒ All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared.

☒ Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission.

☒ Permitted recordings are not to be distributed.

☒ Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before some assessments.

☒ All recorded sessions will remain within the course site or unlisted if streamed.

12. <u>How to Be Successful in this Class</u>

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline

required to be successful.

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keeping handwritten notes will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.
5. Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, ask for help, contact your instructor(s) and or the Teaching Assistants.
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.

13. <u>Western Academic Policies and Statements</u>

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: <u>Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities</u>.

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see
<u>Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs</u>
and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

Academic Offenses

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed here to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

Accessibility Statement

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts here.

Turnitin and other similarity review software

All assignments will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. Students will be able to view their results before the final submission. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and Turnitin.com.

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement

Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

Online Etiquette

To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- please "arrive" to class on time
- please use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material
- to minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- [suggested for classes larger than 30 students] In order to give us optimum bandwidth and web quality, please turn off your video camera for the entire class unless you are invited to speak
- please be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor's request if the internet connection becomes unstable
- unless invited by your instructor, do **not** share your screen in the meeting

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:

- if you wish to speak, use the "raise hand" function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question
- remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking
- self-identify when speaking.
- remember to mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise)

General considerations of "netiquette":

- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. "Flaming" is never appropriate.
- Be professional and scholarly in all online postings. Cite the ideas of others appropriately.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.