

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

2020-2021 Comparative Literature 102 B2: World Literature II
(Winter Term)

Note: Remote Delivery

Instructor: Chris Reys-Chikuma

Time: T & R 9:30-10:20

Office: REMOTE

Place: REMOTE

E-mail: reynschi@ualberta.ca

Office Hours: on T one hour just before class, and R just after,

Personal Website: /

or by appointment

Course Website: eclass

Bachelor of Arts / Major in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies/undergraduate-program-information/prospective-undergraduate-students>

Course Prerequisite: No prerequisite.

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Technology requirements (minimum): access to internet

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate technology for the course.

Experiential Learning Component

- this course has a significant experiential learning component (15% or more of the course grade)

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

- Yes No, not needed

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)
- X NA

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.

Course Format: The objectives of the course will be learned from a combination of short formal lectures, a few guest lectures, assigned readings, collaboration of students in small groups, students' oral presentations and audiovisual materials.

Texts:

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

Additional Course Fees

Yes No

Important Dates: [See Academic Schedule in current Calendar](#)

First Day of Class: January 11, 2021

Add/Delete Date: January 22, 2021
 50% Withdrawal Date: February 10, 2021
 Winter Term Reading Week: February 16-19, 2021
 Withdrawal Date: April 9, 2021
 Last Day of Class: April 16, 2021
 Final Exam Date: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 2:00p

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

Components of Course Grade (see “Explanatory Notes”):

- Class attendance & engagement: 10%
- In-class quick-writes: 10% (2=4%+6%)
- Conversation: 10% (Feb. 3rd)
- Mid-term, short paper: 10% (March 4th)
- Presentation of one ‘author’: 10% (TBD in class the second week)
- Term paper: 10% (last class)
- Term paper presented orally (10%): last 2 weeks (order TBD in class after midterm)
- Final Exam: 30% (Not yet available on Dec. 5th)

Categories	%	Dates & Deadlines
Class attendance & participation	10	Every class
Conversation	10	Wed., Feb. 3 rd
Quick-writes	10 (4+6)	Not decided yet
Mid-term	10	(Th.) March 4 th
Oral presentation 1	10	TBD in class
Term paper	10	Our last class
Term paper presented orally	10	Last week/s of class
Final exam	30	Apr. 20 th (Tues), 2:00p
	100	

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Class attendance and engagement (10%): This mark derives from in-class participation, including discussions and activities, asking relevant questions and giving answers to the instructor and other classmates.

In-class quick-writes (10%): For quick-writes (2: 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 will result in a loss of the grade (F) for the assignment during the day missed.

Short Paper for midterm: This paper will be worth **10%** and will be written in class on Th., March 4th. Paper will be between 3 and 4 full pages in length (TNR 12, double space, about 1100 words). Topics, and more detail, will also be distributed in class. Submission will be electronic.

Conversation (10%): in order to know the students better, and because it is more difficult to do so through a Zoom-class, the instructor is requesting an individual 10-minute conversation where the student will first introduce her/himself and discuss one of the texts seen in the previous classes. Students will have to show that they have seriously read these texts.

Oral Presentation (10% = 5+5): it will consist of a 10-to-15-minute-long, enthusiastic, and clear presentation about one of the ‘authors’ of the anthology (5%). Audio/visual support should be used (e.g., PPT). Presentation material should be sent to the instructor at least 24h before presenting in class and will be graded according to its clarity, “cleanness” (typos, spelling, ...) and accuracy of the ideas (5%). It could be done individually or in a group of 2 (then doubling the time of the presentation: 20-30 minutes), and followed by a discussion with the classmates. More detail will be provided in class.

Term Paper (10%): 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; about 3000 words—2700-3300) using MLA citation and a minimum of 2 secondary academic sources. The Term Paper will also have to be **presented in class** during the last week of the semester (10% =5+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 (5% for the clarity [voice; points] and enthusiasm). Similar to the first presentation, this second and last one will have to be sent to the instructor at least 24h before the oral presentation in class as a PPT (5%).

Final Exam (30%) (Tuesday, April 20 2021 @ 2:00pm): The final exam will cover readings from throughout the semester and will be based on texts seen in class, instructor’s presentations, classmates’ oral presentations, and in-class discussions; the questions will request short answers, passage identification and analysis, and/or definition of basic terms used in class. 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](#) 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](#).

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study 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](#).

Sexual Violence Policy:

It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence>

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*).

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, attendance and participation are essential since one of the main goals of a course like this one is to exchange ideas about what a human being is and should do to live better in a democratic community.

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

Copyright: Chris Reynolds-Chikuma, MLCS, Faculty of Arts, University of Alberta 2020-2021