

World Literature

Courses in world literature are designed to enable students to pursue their interests in literature beyond linguistic, cultural, or departmental boundaries. Classes and readings are in English, but students with foreign language proficiency are encouraged to read in the original language. The courses are taught by the members of the foreign languages and literatures department. The material may be drawn from various literatures such as Chinese, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish.

The minor in World Literature: A minimum of 20 credits in world literature to include at least three courses numbered above 300 and at least one course numbered below 300.

120 Myth, Folktale and Children's Literature 4; not offered 2008-09

Study of international myths, folktales, and children's literature. Several approaches such as literary, graphic, structuralist, folklorist, psychological, and gendered will be applied to the study of African, American, Asian, and European tales and books for children from the adult's viewpoint. Two papers and a final examination will be required.

200 The Literature of Peace 4; not offered 2008-09

Reading and discussion of a group of religious peace activists of the 20th century (Dorothy Day, Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., Thomas Merton, Abraham Joshua Heschel, Daniel Berrigan, Thich Nhat Hanh, and Bernie Glassman) and of the religious texts that inspired their nonviolent theories. Some films and videos will be incorporated into the class. Several papers; oral presentations in class; no exams. Open to all students.

201-204 Special Topics in World Literature, Intermediate Level 4

Courses under this category explore selected topics in world literature at the intermediate level.

227 Chinese Folk Literature 4; not offered 2008-09

Introduces students to literary works that reflect Chinese folk beliefs to help develop an understanding of Chinese popular culture. Readings include ballads, narrative poems, short stories, novels, and plays. Through analysis of these literary works in the long span of Chinese history, students study crucial aspects of an old Asian culture. Modern theories of cultural studies, when appropriate, are applied to the examination of specific literary works. Open to all students.

300 The Fairy Tale 4; not offered 2008-09

In this course, we will study one of the most appealing and enigmatic literary forms in human history: the fairy tale. Although focused on the German tradition and the tales of the Brothers Grimm, we will strive for a sense of the international and intercultural context of the tales. We will approach the tales from a variety of perspectives — structuralist, historical, sociological, and feminist, among others. In addition to the more traditional folk tales, we will also study some of the art tales written by authors such as Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, E.T.A. Hoffmann, Hans Christian Andersen, and Oscar Wilde. All discussion in English. May be elected for credit in German or world literature. Students taking the course for German credit will be expected to read the tales of the Brothers Grimm in German and write written assignments in German; students taking the course for credit in world literature will read and write in English.

303 German Film and the Frankfurt School x, 4 Tobin

In this course, we will review the masterpieces of German-language cinema, beginning with such expressionist works of art as Wiene's *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, Murnau's *Nosferatu*, Lang's *Metropolis*, and Sagan's *Mädchen in Uniform*. We will also study Nazi film, particularly Leni Riefenstahl's work. Among the postwar directors that we study will be Fassbinder, Herzog, and Wenders. Queer German filmmakers such as Praunheim and Treut will receive special attention. The course will conclude with recent critical and popular successes such as *Run Lola Run* and *The Lives of Others*. As a critical lens, we will rely heavily on psychoanalytic and Frankfurt School criticism, focusing on writings by Sigmund Freud, Walter Benjamin, Siegfried Kracauer, and Theodor Adorno. In addition to class meetings, a weekly video screening of approximately two hours is required. All discussion in English. Students taking the course for German credit will be expected to watch the films without subtitles and complete written assignments in German; students taking the course for credit in world literature or rhetoric and film studies will generally watch films with subtitles and write in English. May be elected as German or Rhetoric and Film Studies 303.

306 Medicine and Literature 4, x Tobin

Physical and mental illness are frequent themes of literature and a surprising number of writers had medical training. In this course we will study the interrelations of medicine and literature. Some of the questions we will ask include: How does literature help in the healing process? In what ways do literary texts expose the structures of meaning in medicine? And how do literary conventions affect medical practice? We will trace the development of the concepts of health and sickness in literary and cultural documents from the Enlightenment to the present, reading authors such as Goethe, Lenz, Büchner, Rilke, and Mann. As we study the literary representation of diseases such as anorexia, schizophrenia, hysteria, tuberculosis,

and AIDS, we will also read medical and scientific writings in order to understand the relationship between the fictional works and the medical world. All readings, discussions, and assignments in English.

310 Sexuality and Textuality

x, 4

Tobin

This course provides an overview of gay and lesbian studies and queer theory within the realm of world literature, asking such questions as: Does an author's sexuality affect his or her writing and, if so, how? Does a reader's sexuality affect his or her reception of work? Can literary characters have a sexuality? Do cultural representations come to alter our understanding of "sexuality"? The course proceeds historically, beginning with an analysis of ancient Greek texts with an eye to the controversy between essentialism and constructivism. It moves on to the emergence of modern categories of sexuality in 19th century literary writings and concludes with contemporary authors from a variety of cultural perspectives. Literary authors may include Plato, Sappho, Shakespeare, Mann, Gide, Genet, Mishima, Puig, Lorde, Bechdel, and Feinberg. Among the theorists read will be Sedgwick, Butler, Halperin, and Foucault.

317 Classical Chinese Drama

4; not offered 2008-09

Classical Chinese drama from the 13th century Yuan drama to the present Peking Opera. Plays selected from the Yuan, Ming, and Ching dynasties for reading and analysis. Chinese theatrical conventions such as masks, facial makeup, costumes, acting, and staging are introduced and discussed before and after viewing several Peking Opera video tapes.

318 Modern Chinese Literature

4; not offered 2008-09

Chinese poetry, drama, and fiction since the beginning of the 20th century. Studying writings from both mainland China and Taiwan. Knowledge of premodern Chinese literature is not required.

327 Masterworks of Classical Japanese Literature

4; not offered 2008-09

Japanese prose and poetry from the eighth through the 19th centuries. Works include *The Manyoshu*, Japan's earliest poetic anthology; *The Tale of Genji*, the first novel in the world to be written by a woman; *The Tale of the Heike*, describing the rise of the samurai ethic; the poems of Saigyō and Ryōkan; and the *haiku* of Bashō and Buson.

328 Modern Japanese Literature

4, x

Takemoto

Selected novels, short stories, film scripts, and poems representative of styles and themes which characterize 20th century Japanese literature. Film scripts discussed in conjunction with a viewing of the films themselves.

329 Familias y Fronteras: Contemporary Chicana Literature

4, x

Solórzano-Thompson

A critical examination of literary and cultural production by self-identified Chicana authors, including fiction, autobiography, poetry, art, film, and performance. Themes discussed will include identity construction, gender and sexuality, performativity, literary criticism and theory. Authors studied may include Sandra Cisneros, Helena María Viamontes, Cherrie Moraga, Josie Mendez-Negrete, Lourdes Portillo, and Ana Castillo. Evaluation will be based on class participation, presentations, a group performance project, and a final research paper tailored to students' majors and interests. This course satisfies the U.S. Latino and Latina Literature and Culture requirement for the major in Spanish Literatures and Cultures. Course is taught in English with stress on oral discussion. May be elected as Spanish 447. Distribution area: humanities and alternative voices.

339 Green: Eco-Literature in the Americas

x, 4

Galindo

This seminar addresses different aspects of nature and the environment as represented in fictional and nonfictional texts from the different regions of this Hemisphere. The seminar seeks to address environmental issues in literature in a comparative manner and therefore will examine texts from a variety of literary traditions. Topics to be discussed include: construction and decay, border issues, urban and rural spaces, utopia and dystopia, and natural history and narration. Writers to be studied may include: Borges, Mike Davis, DeLillo, Faulkner, García Márquez, Hemingway, Sonia Nazario, Mary Oliver, Rulfo, Saer, and Sam Witt. This course satisfies the U.S. Latino and Latina Literature and Culture requirement for the major in Spanish Literatures and Cultures. Taught in English. May be elected as Spanish 437. Distribution area: humanities and alternative voices.

342 Topics in Francophone Literature

4; not offered 2008-09

The French language and culture were imposed to varying degrees on populations across the globe over the course of France's 17th-19th century imperial expansion. This course is designed to permit the study of individual literary movements, genres, authors, and critical approaches pertinent to the Francophone literary traditions that emerged from this contact between cultures. May be taken for credit toward the French major.

367-370 Special Authors in World Literature

4

A course designed to permit the study of individual significant authors in world literature.

371 Dramatic Literature: Medieval through Eighteenth Century

4; not offered 2008-09

A course in the history and development of Western drama from the Middle Ages through the 18th century. Dramatists to be studied may include the Wakefield Master, Marlowe, Shakespeare, Jonson, Lope de Vega, Molière, Racine, Congreve, Beaumarchais, and Sheridan. May be elected as English 371 or Theatre 371. Offered in alternate years.

372 Literature of the Modern Theatre
4; not offered 2008-09

A study of the directions modern drama has taken from the 19th century to the present. Dramatists to be studied may include Büchner, Ibsen, Strindberg, Chekhov, Shaw, Pirandello, O'Neill, Brecht, and Pinter. May be elected as English 372 or Theatre 372. Offered in alternate years.

377 Ancient Theatre

x, 4

D. Burgess

The origin and development of ancient theatre, especially of Greek tragedy, through a close reading of ancient plays in English translation. In addition to ancient plays, we will read modern critical responses to those plays. May be elected as Classics 377 or Theatre 377. Open to all students. Offered in alternate years.

381-386 Special Topics in Cinema

4

A course designed to permit the study of special topics in the area of world cinema. Topics might include the work of an individual director or of several directors, national surveys, film as social, political, and cultural history, or critical approaches.

387-390 Special Studies in World Literature

4

Selected problems of developments in a non-English literature. Such topics as Medieval Courtly Literature, Scandinavian Drama, European Romanticism, Twentieth Century German fiction, Existentialism, the Enlightenment, the Picaresque and Symbolism may be studied. All material will be read in English translation.

**387 ST: The Dark Years: Fascists,
 Collaborators and Resisters**

4, x

O'Neil

In this course we will study the literary reactions to Nazism, Fascism, war and military occupation in France and Italy of the 1940s. Readings may include French Resistance poetry, plays by Anouilh and Grumberg, novels by Celine, Brasillach, Sartre, Silone, Bassani and Irene Nemerovsky.

391, 392 Independent Study

1-3, 1-3

Staff

Directed reading and preparation of a critical paper or papers on a topic suggested by the student. The project must be approved by the staff. The number of students accepted for this course will depend on the availability of the staff. *Prerequisite:* consent of instructor.

x, 4

Zalloua

This course will expose students to the major contemporary theoretical approaches to literary studies. We will examine a broad array of critical schools and perspectives, including reader-response theory, feminism, poststructuralism, and postcolonial studies. We will pay special attention to the recent "Ethical Turn" in literary studies influenced by the works of French philosophers Emmanuel Levinas and Jacques Derrida. May be taken for credit toward the French major.