

English 103 – spring 2006

Instructor: Naomi Gal

Office: Zinzendorf Hall, room 302

Phone: 610-625-7763

E mail: ngal@moravian.edu

Office hours: Tuesday 1:30 or by appointment

Western Literature

Western Literature is over 2,000 years old and has recorded many civilizations, some disappeared long time ago but go on living through the written word. These writings and civilizations have influenced our culture, way of thinking, reading, seeing and feeling. During our semester together we will explore some of these civilizations and heritages by reading books, essays, poems and plays representing the great western literature since the Bible. You will be required to make your own choices of different forms of literature, to respond, react, evaluate and appreciate the writing and enhance your understanding of the roots of western literature: your own inheritance.

Course Objectives

- Enhance your reading
- Facilitate your ability to use books as space ships to other worlds
- Develop your inner voice
- Help to improve your written and oral skills
- Give you some experience in working alone and in group
- Enable you to distinguish between constructive and destructive criticism
- Allow you the freedom to shape your own literary taste and penchant

Required reading

Western Literature The Norton Anthology Volume 2

Recommended Reading

Atonement Ian McEwan

Blindness Jose Saramago

Emma Jane Austen

Catch 22 Joseph Heller

The Unbearable lightness of being Milan Kundera

One Hundred Years of Solitude Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Expectations

You are expected to show up to every class, and on time. Missing lessons and lateness will interfere with learning and hence affect your grade. Since there is a large emphasis on team-work you will be required not to disrupt your fellow student's creativity and to be considerate. No ringing cell-phones and no eating during class.

All assignments will be presented in print; hence you have to master computer skills.

Grading

Your contribution in class will determine 20% of your final grade

The work done in groups with other students will determine 15% of your final grade

The presentations you will give in class on your own, and/or with fellow students will determine 15% of your final grade

The written works you will be required to present throughout the semester will determine 25% of your final grade

The last assignment, *a research paper on your chosen topic*, (in lieu of final exam) will determine 25% of your final grade

Schedule- *with possible modifications according to student researches*

Week I

Tuesday January 17	Introduction
Thursday January 19	The bible
Week II	
Tuesday 24	Ancient Greece and Rome
Thursday January 26	The Divine Comedy
Week III	
Tuesday January 31	Thousand and one nights
Thursday February 2	Enlightenment
Week IV	
Tuesday February 7	Women's situation
Thursday February 9	Swift and Voltaire
Week V	
Tuesday February 14	Samuel Johnson
Thursday February 16	Religion and literature
Week VI	
Tuesday February 21	Romanticism
Thursday February 23	Romantics and Revolution
Week VII	
Tuesday February 28	Realism and Symbolism
Thursday March 2	Mid-term paper due
Week VIII	
Tuesday March 7	Spring recess
Thursday March 9	Spring recess
Week IX	
Tuesday March 14	Madam Bovary
Thursday March 16	Baudelaire and the cursed poets
Week X	
Tuesday March 21	European Empire
Thursday March 23	Heart of Darkness
Week XI	
Tuesday March 28	Civilization on trial

Thursday March 30	Mann and Rilke
Week XII	
Tuesday April 4	All College Service Day
Thursday April 6	A room of One's own
Week XIII	
Tuesday April 11	Metamorphosis
Thursday April 13	War's literature
Week XIV	
Tuesday April 18	Sartre and De Beauvoir
Thursday April 20	Final essay due
Week XV	
Tuesday April 25	Edward Said versus Primo Levi
Thursday April 27	Conclusion

Notes

- 1) You can expect to dedicate 3-6 hours per week outside of class, reading and preparing assignments.
- 2) Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodation in this class are encouraged to contact the Learning Services Offices as soon as possible to enhance the likelihood that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.
- 3) Do not hesitate to address me with any kind of problem you have during class or after.
- 4) This syllabus is subject to change.