

Western University
Department of Languages and Cultures
2021-2022

CLC 1010/WLC 1030
***World Literatures and Cultures
East to West and North to South
(Tentative Syllabus)***



Instructor

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University College, UC 4307

Office Hours: TBA

Class Time and Location: Tuesday 11:30-1:30 & Thursday 11:30-12:30 (In-Person), AHB 2B04

Course Content and Aims

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.

The masterworks from various epochs and cultures that you will study include *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, *The Thousand and One Nights*, Murasaki Shikibu's *The Tale of Genji*, Dante's *Divine Comedy*, Cervantes' *Don Quixote*, Goethe's *Faust*, Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, and many more.

N.B. The course material will be available on Owl through the *Course Readings tool*

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, you are expected to 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.
- show awareness of some of the basic questions regarding adaptation.
- appreciate the role of cultural networks that cities have played throughout history.
- demonstrate basic critical skills in discussing topics and in analyzing works



Course Requirements

1) Reading Responses (4 x 8 each)	32%
2) Writing Project	15%
3) Midterm	15%
4) Participation	8%
5) Final Exam	30%

Reading Responses

You will write four reading responses (two per term) based on questions that will be posted on Owl 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).

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 (around 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 reading responses, proper familiarity with academic writing. You are expected to use no less than 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 (1 hour)

It will consist of identification questions to be answered in short-paragraph form. The questions will focus on the reading material covered in class up to that point.

Participation

You are expected to maintain regular attendance and to complete all readings for each class. Participation is assessed on the basis of day-to-day preparation and contribution to class-discussions.

Final Exam (2 hours)

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.

N.B. Please use the MLA style for all written assignments (<https://style.mla.org/works-cited-a-quick-guide-video/>)

Information about late or missed evaluations

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

Prerequisite: None

Antirequisite: Clc 1040, Clc 1050E

Western Academic Policies and Statements

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: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

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 [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#) and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

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](#).

Students who are in emotional distress should refer to [MentalHealth@Western](#) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

The following links provide information about support services at Western University.

[Registrarial Services](#)

[Academic Counselling \(Arts and Humanities\)](#)

[Student Development Services](#)

[Student Health Services](#)

[Services Provided by USC](#)

[Appeal Procedures](#)