

**10213 ENGL 490-1**

Spring 2014

Professor:

Phone:

Email:

Office:

Office Hours:

Literature Capstone

T/Th 11:30-12:45, PL 213

June Sylvester Saraceno

Ext. 7514

[jsaraceno@sierranevada.edu](mailto:jsaraceno@sierranevada.edu)

Prim Library 201

M/W 1-3:00 and by appointment

**Required Texts**

*Norton Anthology of World Literature*; Second Edition, Volumes A-F

**Recommended Texts**

*Little, Brown Handbook* or other grammar reference text

**Course Description****ENGL 490: Capstone Course in Literature (3) [AS]**

Required for BA in English, this course furthers the content and also provides a review and reexamination of the English literature curriculum. The course prepares students for assessment of their knowledge in the field and continued graduate level study or careers in English.

**Student Outcomes**

On successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Analyze literature at a graduate level, verbally and in writing
2. Apply different modes of literary criticism to the works assigned, verbally and in writing
3. Demonstrate verbally and in writing knowledge of literary conventions, genres, traditions and eras
4. Experiment with producing works in a variety of genres
5. Articulate, analyze and compare central themes and unifying features of world literature

**Methods of Assessing Student Outcomes**

Student outcomes will be assessed using the following:

1. Quizzes, exams
2. Written assignments (online posts, response papers, etc)
3. Discussions, presentations, readings
4. Individually designed project
5. Final timeline of literary periods

**Attendance**

Students are expected to attend every class. The class begins promptly at 11:30 please be on time. Chronic lateness will result in point deductions. Attendance results in points accrued (or lost) and is a significant part of the grade for this class. (Additionally, I view chronic lateness as disrespectful of others' time, both your classmates' and mine.

Students who arrive after class is already in session may expect me to expand on my views regarding punctuality.) Some absences are excused and do not adversely affect students' grades. These include absences followed by a note from a medical facility identifying you were under medical care on that day at that time, and absences resulting from attending school-related trips. Other absences may be excused if the situation warrants. It is the students' responsibility to see me to discuss the nature of the absence. Please plan to stay for the entire class. If you know you will need to leave early on any given day, please let me know before class begins.

### **Late Work Policy**

If a student is absent, **work due on that day is still due.** It may be e-mailed, brought in by a classmate, or by whatever means students find convenient. Work is due at 11:30 when the class begins. As a matter of fairness to all, late work is not guaranteed acceptance, with a resulting zero grade for that assignment. If the situation warrants and I do accept a late assignment, there will be significant point deductions of, at minimum, one letter grade. Schedule your work effectively. This may be good practice for future jobs, which I hope you all someday hold. Your employer will not want to hear why you couldn't get your work done and neither do I.

### **Project**

Students are required to choose a writer, genre, literary movement or time period, which they have not previously covered in depth (honor system), from those we leave largely uncovered on the syllabus in volume A-F and present the material to class. Due to time constraints, much is left off the syllabus that is worth class exploration. Students will lead by selecting and presenting this material to class at a graduate level (not merely plot summary or paraphrase of introductory notes). Students will need to do additional research beyond the text for this presentation. Please take the time to talk to me individually in my office when considering your choice in subjects (after considering your interests, I will offer some suggestions). Also, take the time early in the semester to do necessary research and locate sufficient materials for your presentation. Selections are required by the second week of class with a paragraph about why you chose that topic. You will give a 15 minute presentation to the class on your topic later in the semester.

Here are some glaring omissions from the syllabus to consider when deciding on your projects: literature by women (the vast majority of works on the reading schedule are authored by men), Native American literature, Russian/Eastern European literature, many eras of Asian literature, Existentialist writers, American transcendentalists, vast amounts of African literature, huge numbers of profoundly influential single authors (Flannery O'Connor, Samuel Beckett, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, etc). It would be ideal if we could cover all of the works in volumes A-F, but that is impossible in one semester. Consider this course a good overview of your study of literature, a solid framework for your continued growth. It is work that will never be finished. And that's a good thing -- this sort of learning is meant to last a life time.

### **Class Requirements**

Students will be required to do a significant amount of reading including reading aloud in class. Students are responsible for all material covered during the course whether handed out in class, shown as video in class, posted on Moodle, discussed in class, read as an assignment, or disseminated in any other way. Get a BIG binder and keep track of your work, including print outs of electronic files if necessary. Quizzes, exams, and various writing assignments will be based on material covered during the course. Quizzes are given in the first ten minutes of class and may not be made up at any other time. There is also a midterm and final exam and one project required.

### **Other Items**

Please enjoy your meals outside of class, not in class. This also goes for texting, checking email, and other egregious behaviors that are incompatible with the scholarly focus of the class.

### **Extra Credit**

Students who wish to complete extra credit during the course may choose selections with my prior approval from each of the texts that are not already assigned on the syllabus to read and write a two-page response. These responses must be completed before we move to the subsequent text and should link key ideas from our discussions to the additional reading selection. 25 points each.

Students may choose to read (or reread) *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad and *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe and take an exam on them that focuses on their relationship to each other. 100 points.

### **Grading Policy**

Grades are based on the accumulation of points during the semester in the following ways:

- 100 points attendance and informed class discussion, participation
- 200 response papers (2 at 100 points each)
- 100 points quizzes
- 200 points midterm exam
- 200 points final exam and timeline
- 200 points project

1,000-900	A
899-800	B
799-700	C

699-600	D
Below 600	F

### **Academic Accommodations:**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, [hconover@sierranevada.edu](mailto:hconover@sierranevada.edu) or go to the OASIS offices on the third floor of Prim Library within the first week of the semester.

### **The SNC E-mail System:**

The SNC e-mail system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college e-mail accounts daily during the school year. Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having e-mail redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC e-mail account.

### **Faculty/Student Honor Code:**

The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

*Consequences for Violating the Honor Code:*

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the honor code and consequences for violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes cheating, plagiarism and fabrication, and refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the honor code become part of a student's academic record.

#### SNC's Disciplinary Sanctions for Honor Code Violations:

1st Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.

2nd Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.

3rd Offense: Student is expelled.

#### The SNC Mission Statement:

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability. Core themes are Liberal Arts, Entrepreneurial Thinking, Professional Preparedness and Sustainability.

#### Class Schedule

*This schedule is a class plan. It is not written in stone. Dates may change as class discussions (or snow days or asteroids) impact the proposed schedule. If you attend class, you will know what we have covered, so you will know what is due to be covered in the next class. You can always check off the reading assignments as we discuss them if it helps you stay on track.*

Date	in class	assignment/homework
Tues 1/21	intro to course, the ancient world	Old Testament selections
Thurs 1/23	in class discussion	Vol-A pages 3-9,10-24, 24-52-63
Tues 1/28	Gilgamesh discussion	105-119, 225-289
Thurs 1/30	Intro to the Odyssey	289-530
Tues 2/4	Odyssey discussion, Project proposal due	530-533
Thurs 2/6	Sappho	612-693
Tues 2/11	Oedipus and Antigone discussion	review reading
Thurs 2/13	Oedipus and Antigone	725-778, 779-803

Tues 2/18	Lysistrata and intro Socrates	review reading
Thurs 2/20	<b>Response paper due</b> , Socrates	805-831, 881-889, 1010-10151
Tues 2/25	students read aloud	review reading
Thurs 2/27	study day (AWP)	Vol-B pages1201-1213, 131363-13701370-1393
Tues 3/4	Tang Dynasty poetry, students read aloud, lead discussion	1419-1432, 1541-1549, 161767-1775
Thurs 3/6	complete Tang poetry, Beowulf	review all reading
Tues 3/11	Beowulf and midterm review	review all reading
Thurs 3/13	midterm exam	read Dante's Inferno
Tues 3/18	spring break	(Dante's Inferno)
Thurs 3/20	spring break	(Dante's Inferno)
Tues 3/25	discuss Dante's Inferno	review reading
Thurs 3/27	<b>Response paper due</b> , Inferno	1963-1991, 2045-2050, 202082-2106
Tues 4/1	Boccaccio and Chaucer	review reading
Thurs 4/3	Boccaccio and Chaucer	Volume C pages 2465-2472490, find 3 Shakespeare s
Tues 4/8	Petrarch and Shakespeare students read aloud, lead discussion	2996-3013, 3023-3049
Thurs 4/10	Shakespeare, Milton	review reading
Tues 4/15	Milton	Vol-D 295-361
Thurs 4/17	Enlightenment writers, Moliere	430-433, 483-489,489-492
Tues 4/22	Swift and Pope	Vol- E, 651-661, selections 834
Thurs 4/24	Romantic Era Writers	Selections from 888-907, 9982-991, 1049-1058, 1061-1071-1083, 1380-1398
Tues 4/29	Modern Movements: Realism, Naturalism, Symbolism	Vol -F 1699-1712, 2071-202130
Thurs 5/1	The Moderns, Yeats, Eliot, dada/surrealism	2267-2277, 2438-2446, 250
Tues 5/6	Lorca, Neruda, Senghor	
Final Exam TBA		