

ENG 2340
World Literature since 1600

Instructor

Chad Hammett, MFA
ch34@txstate.edu

Course Description

Representative authors and works of literature from the modern world. Readings may come exclusively from the Western tradition or from various literary traditions, such as those of Africa and Asia. (MC)

Scope and Nature of the Course

How lucky you are to have chosen to take English 2340, *World Literature Since 1600*. Although in the past such a course may have focused exclusively on European writers, for us today the world truly is our oyster. We will study literature from India, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, and the United States. With the shift toward greater interconnections between the U.S. and other countries of the world, such a broad perspective is especially valuable. The bonus is that in learning about others, we very often come to better understand our own culture and ultimately ourselves.

Of course, since this is an English course, we will also explore literary movements; schools of literary criticism; and literary techniques, with special attention to the power of the authors' words. The works that we will study are well-written and intriguing, so reading for the course should be pleasurable. Please use the text's introductions and the lesson content in this online course to facilitate a deeper understanding and appreciation of the literature.

Required Materials

The HarperCollins World Reader: The Modern World. Single-Volume Edition. Mary Ann Caws, and Christopher Prendergast, Addison Wesley Publishing Company, 1994. ISBN: 0065007506

OR

The HarperCollins World Reader: The Modern World. Vol. 2. Mary Ann Caws, and Christopher Prendergast, 1st Ed., Longman Publishing Group, 1997. ISBN: 0065013832

Course Objectives

For each lesson, you'll find specific objectives. The broad objectives for the course are as follows:

- be familiar with the history and culture of the regions we are studying and be able to discuss how those factors affect the literature;
- understand the major literary movements influencing these writers;
- be able to analyze a literary text, not merely summarize it, by thinking about the work critically;
- be able to argue for one's own interpretation of a text and to support that argument with specific references from the text; and
- be familiar with the terms listed in the lessons' glossaries.

Assessments and Grading

Assignments

You will have five major lessons, each focusing on a specific geographic region.

Each lesson concludes with an assignment to be submitted for grading. For each assignment, you will write three, one-page responses to prompts designed to incorporate your knowledge of the region(s), writers, and literary techniques while allowing you to express your own interpretations of the literature. In your assignments, be sure to correctly cite all sources you use according to Modern Language Association (MLA) style. Refer to the [MLA Style Guide](#) for assistance.

To help you plan out your progress throughout the course, complete the [Course Study Schedule \(.pdf\)](#) before you begin your first lesson. **Be aware that you may submit no more than two assignments per week.**

Exams

You will have a midcourse exam covering translation, Europe, Africa, and the United States. Your final exam will be comprehensive. The exams will contain five literary passages that you must identify (title and author) and explicate and two short essay questions. **You must submit Assignments 1 through 3 before taking your midcourse exam, and you must submit Assignments 4 and 5 before taking your final exam.**

Grading Criteria

Your grade for the semester will be determined as follows:

Assignments (5 @ 10% each) = 50%

Midcourse Exam = 25%

Final Exam = 25%

You must pass the final exam with a grade of 60% or better to pass the course.

Faculty-Student Contact

Faculty-student contact is very important. Even though this is a correspondence course, I encourage you to contact me if you have any concerns, questions, or difficulties. You are welcome to e-mail me by using the *Mail* tool in the left-hand menu bar. (It is important to keep all mail related to this course contained within this TRACS site.) My policy is that during non-holiday breaks or announced away times, any email I receive between Monday morning and Friday at noon will receive a reply within 48 hours. Emails received between Friday at noon and Sunday night will receive a reply on the next business day.

Free Tutoring Resources

A variety of free tutoring resources are available for students enrolled in correspondence courses. All correspondence students have access to several hours of free online tutoring from Smarthinking for subjects ranging from grammar and writing to mathematics and Spanish. Free online tutoring for writing-related assignments is also available from the Texas State Writing Center. For information on accessing these resources, please visit the Office of Distance and Extended Learning's [Free Tutoring](#) page. Currently-enrolled, degree-seeking students able to visit the Texas State campus are eligible for free in-person tutoring from the [Student Learning Assistance Center \(SLAC\)](#) on the fourth floor of Alkek Library and from the [Math Lab](#) in Derrick 233.

TRACS Technical Support

Texas State's Information Technology Assistance Center (ITAC) provides phone and LiveChat technical support for TRACS 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. To take advantage of these services, visit [ITAC online](#) or call 512.245.ITAC (4822). Note also that a

number of online TRACS tutorials are available from [TRACS Facts](#). I am not qualified to provide TRACS support.

Before beginning this online course, I recommend that you review the minimum hardware and software requirements and other important information available on the ITS [Course Information page](#).

Correspondence Course Information

As a correspondence studies student, it is your responsibility to be familiar with correspondence-related policies and services. To this end, I encourage you to review the [Correspondence Course Information \(.pdf\)](#) page as well as the [Correspondence Studies Student Handbook](#).

Students with Special Needs

The Office of Distance and Extended Learning is committed to helping students with disabilities achieve their educational goals. A disability is not a barrier to correspondence study, and we strive to provide reasonable accommodations to individuals in coursework and test taking. Students who require special accommodations need to provide verification of their disability to the [Office of Disability Services](#), Suite 5-5.1 LBJ Student Center, 512.245.3451 (voice/TTY). Students should then notify the [Office of Distance and Extended Learning](#) of any disability-related accommodation needs as soon as possible to avoid a delay in accommodations.

Academic Integrity

The [Texas State Academic Honor Code](#) applies to all Texas State students, including correspondence students. The Honor Code serves as an affirmation that the University demands the highest standard of integrity in all actions related to the academic community.