



蘇州大學
Soochow University

ENG 208 World Literature I

Winter 2024

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 56 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course examines some of the world's literary masterpieces from the ancients to the seventeenth century. By exploring literary texts from various cultures and regions, students will actively engage in close reading, textual analysis, and critical interpretation of the assigned works. They will examine the historical, social, and cultural contexts that influenced the creation of these works, fostering an appreciation for the diverse literary genres, styles, and techniques employed. The course emphasizes active reading and understanding of the works and their cultural backgrounds.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze representative literary works from diverse cultures and regions, gain familiarity with the cultural, historical, and social contexts that shape these literary works;

2. Recognize and categorize different literary genres, analyze literary elements and devices such as plot, character, setting, symbolism;

3. Apply literary concepts, principles, terms, strategies, and styles to analyze and interpret a variety of literary works;

4. Identify and make connections between different literary periods, texts, authors, and characters, recognizing common themes, influences, and intertextual relationships;

5. Understand the significance of world literature in promoting cross-cultural understanding and cultural diversity.

PREREQUISITES



ENG 105 English Composition

GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
Assignments	30 Points
Presentation	10 Points
Midterm 1	15 Points
Midterm 2	15 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F.$$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Martin Puchner, *The Norton Anthology of World Literature: Beginnings to 1650*, W. Norton & Company, 2018.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<p>Topics:</p> <p>Topic 1: Overview: The Literature of Middle East, Near East, Greece Hebrew Bible, “Genesis” and “Exodus”</p> <p>Topic 2: The Epic of Gilgamesh; The Iliad and The Odyssey</p> <p>Topic 3: Medea; Oedipus the king</p> <p>Topic 4: The Apology of Socrates</p>



	Assignment#1
Module 2	Topics: Topic 5: The Literature of Ancient China Topic 6: Classic of Poetry in Early China; The Book of Songs Topic 7: Confucius, The Analects Topic 8: The Art of War Assignment#2
Module 3	Topics: Topic 9: The Romance of the Three Kingdoms Topic 10: Japanese Literature; The Tale of Genji Topic 11: Korean Literature; Sijo Poetry Topic 12: India: Hindu Literature; Ramayana, Mahabharata and Bhagavad Gita Assessments: Midterm#1
Module 4	Topics: Topic 13: Rome: The Aeneid; Metamorphoses Topic 14: Confessions Topic 15: Islamic Literature and Culture; The Koran Topic 16: The 1001 Nights Assessments: Midterm#2
Module 5	Topics: Topic 17: Medieval and Early Modern Literature Topic 18: The Formation of a Western Literature Topic 19: Presentation: Literary Analysis Topic 20: Final Exam Review, Q&A Presentation Assessments: Final Exam

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.



2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (e.g., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION



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Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.