Course Policies and Requirements for World Literature I

Professor:  
Jack Peters

Course:  
English 2210, Section 1
106 Chem 12:00-1:50 MTWR

Texts:  
The Norton Anthology of World Literature, 3rd edition, Volumes A, B, and C

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115 Auditorium Building

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MTWTh 11:00-12:00 p.m.,
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Course Requirements:
The requirements for this course are as follows: a mid-term exam (worth 40%), a final exam (worth 40%), and reading quizzes (worth 20%). There will be 1 make-up quiz for those who miss a quiz as a result of an excused absence. I will also drop the lowest quiz score.

Course Subject Matter:
This course will be an introduction to world literature. We will study how to read literature, and we will look at different aspects of literature and different approaches to studying it. We will also consider literature from ancient times through the Renaissance period, including both Western and non-Western literature. The goal of this class is for you to gain a greater appreciation of world literatures and cultures.

Course Policies:
Attendance/Promptness: You are allowed 2 unexcused absences without penalty. You can use these absences for any reason, but use them wisely. Their purpose is to allow you to miss class if something important comes up that does not constitute an excused absence. Illness, family emergency (e.g., death in the family, etc.), observance of religious holidays, and university-excused absences (i.e., participation in intercollegiate athletic events, etc.) are the only reasons for excused absences; all excused absences are subject to my judgment and require documentation on your part. You also must attend at least 75% of a class to get credit for attending that day. If you have 3 unexcused absences, I will drop your final grade for the class by 4%, and I will drop your final grade for the class by an additional 2% for every unexcused absence after that. If you miss more than 8 classes, depending upon the circumstances, I may ask you either to drop the class or take an incomplete (this latter only in the case of excused absences). There will be a roll for you to sign for both the first and second hour of class. It is your responsibility to sign these rolls. If you don’t sign the roll and I don’t remember that you were in class, then I will assume you were absent on that day. Do not sign the roll for anyone but yourself. If you do, you will be counted absent as well as the person in whose name you sign the roll. Even though you have 2 unexcused absences to work with, you should try not to miss class except when necessary, because it will be to your benefit to attend class, since much of the material appearing on the exams will be covered in class. As a result, students who chronically miss class generally don’t do very well in the course. Although I have no standard
tardiness policy, if you are chronically late (in my judgment), I may count a certain number of tardy days as an unexcused absence. Also, reading quizzes are usually given during the first 10 minutes of class, and so if you arrive late you may miss a quiz. Quizzes missed because of tardiness cannot be made up unless the tardiness is a result of a good, documented reason (essentially that same as those that constitute an excused absence). In addition, whether you’re present or absent, you’re responsible for all material we cover in class, including any changes in due dates, policies, or reading assignments. So make sure you check the notes of other students for any classes you miss. Finally, if you miss an exam, you must have a good, documented excuse or you will probably not be allowed to make it up.

Accommodations: In accordance with the terms and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act, I cooperate with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for you if you qualify as a student with disabilities. Please register with ODA, and present your written request to me by the 2nd class day.

Texts, Essays, Exams, Grades, Etc.:
The texts and readings should be on sale at the student bookstore. You are welcome to use other editions of the book, although the page numbering will likely differ and some of the material may also be different. I have also placed a copy of the books on two-hour reserve in the library in case you don’t have immediate access to the books. You should read ahead for any heavier reading periods.

Mid-Term and Final Exams: The mid-term exam will be a one-hour exam and will likely be multiple choice, consisting of mostly interpretative questions. The exam is expected to determine your knowledge and understanding of the material we have covered to that point. The final exam will be a two-hour exam and will likely be similar to the mid-term in make up. If necessary, I scale mid-term exam and/or final exam grades. I do not give early or late mid-term or final exams, except in extremely unusual circumstances (similar to those constituting excused absences).

Final Grades: Your final class grade will be calculated based on the percentages noted earlier. I use standard percentages for grades (0% - 59.4% = F; 59.5% - 69.4% = D; 69.5% - 79.4% = C; 79.5% - 89.4% = B; 89.5% - 100% = A). If necessary, I scale final grades. There are no extra credit assignments in this course.

Reading Quizzes: The purpose of reading quizzes is to determine whether you have read the material, not necessarily whether you have understood the material. As a result, if you have read the material carefully, you should do well on the quizzes, even if you have not fully understood it, but if you have not read you will probably not do well. Quizzes will usually be given during the first 10 minutes of the class and must be turned in when the 10 minutes is up. I do not scale quiz scores.

Cheating: Finally, if you cheat on a quiz or exam, you will receive the maximum penalty allowed to me, and I’ll report you to university standards for disciplinary action, regardless of your past performance or present class standing.
Daily Schedule (Tentative)

June 2: Introduction to Course.


June 17: Mid-Term Exam.


July 1: European Renaissance Literature continued: John Donne, C768; “Holy Sonnets, C768-69; “Song,” (Handout); “A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning,” (Handout); “Meditation XVII,” (Handout).

July 2: European Renaissance Literature continued: “To His Coy Mistress,” (Handout); Catch up (if necessary); Course Conclusion.

July 3: Final Exam; 12:00-1:50.