ENGL 2316.002 Spring 2018

Literature and Culture: Mobility and Relationship

Mr. Tom Murphy, Professional Assistant Professor

Course Information

11:00-12:15 TR   RM 109 Center of Instruction (CI) | (CI number 3 on online map)

Contact Information

Office: Room 270 B Faculty Center (FC number 16 on online map).
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Office Hours: TR 1:00-3:00, W 1:00-2:00 & by appointment
Course Web Page https://bb9.tamucc.edu
Grader: Ms. Callie Walker cwalker10@islander.tamucc.edu

Course Description

In this course, we will examine representations of travel (mobility) through various cultural texts. We will read from a range of literary genres, as well as explore genres of other cultural texts (e.g., music and visual art). As we read, we will consider the significant shifts that individuals and groups in the Western Hemisphere have made as they rise or fall within cultural constraints. Our goal will be to determine how representations of travel shape thinking of the Americas and beyond, through cultural texts produced by those on the margins. Some of the questions that will guide our study include the following:

How does mobility change over time and across cultures?
Which genres of mobility mark and shape our society today?
How do texts from the past connect with or affect current representations of mobility?
How does traveling to search for meaning embrace new cultural dynamics?
How do we respond critically through written, visual, and oral discourses to these texts and connections?

Course Objectives:

1. To consider how ideas, values, beliefs, and other aspects of culture express and affect human experience by examining the connections between literary works and their social, historical, and cultural contexts.
2. To use literature to explore ideas that foster aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human condition across cultures and nationalities.
3. To recognize the distinctive characteristics of relevant literary periods, genres, and writers.
4. To understand and use basic literary terms and concepts.
5. To develop analytic skills by close reading, class discussion, and writing.
6. To use writing as a tool for learning.
Student Learning Objectives:
Students who successfully complete this course will be able to demonstrate knowledge and skills in four Core Objectives defined by the Higher Education Coordinating Board of the State of Texas:

Critical Thinking:
CT1. Generate and communicate ideas by combining, changing, or reapplying existing information.

Communication Skills:
CS1. Develop, interpret, and express ideas through written communication.

Social Responsibility:
SR1. Demonstrate intercultural competence.

Personal Responsibility:
PR1. Connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision making.

Course Grade
• 35% Active participation in class discussion (SLO CT1, CS1, SR1 & PR1)
  ◦ (10%) In-class writing assignments (Daily)
  ◦ (20%) Personal Journal Writing (Due 9.14, 9.28, 10.12, 11.9 & 11.30)
  ◦ (5%) Attendance (Daily)
• 15% Essay (SLO CT1, CS1, SR1 & PR1)
  ◦ Essay Due (Due 10.27.17)
  ◦ Essay Rough Draft (Due 10.17.17)
• 25% Team Plan a Trip Project (SLO CT1, CS1, SR1 & PR1)
  ◦ (15%) Team Plan a Trip Project (Due 11.16.17)
  ◦ (5%) Team Plan a Trip Project Proposal (Due 9.28.17)
  ◦ (5%) Self Reflection (Due 12.3.17)
• 25% Examinations (SLO CT1, CS1, SR1 & PR1)
  ◦ (10%) Midterm (10.24.17)
  ◦ (15%) Endterm (12.5.17)

Grades will not be on Blackboard! If you are concerned about a grade, see me during office hours.

Course Requirements

In Class Writing & Participation
• In-class writing assignments are sometimes a group effort or by an individual that concerns material due on that given day. Be prepared to write every day in class that means you need to have paper and a pen/pencil every day, plus a copy of the text being discussed on that particular day.
• In-class discussion is vital for all students in understanding these texts.
• All cell phones will be turned off, placed upside down in front of you on the desk before each
Personal Journal Writing
- You are given a specific subject in connection with the readings that you are charged to write about that are due by 9pm after each class on Blackboard
- There are twenty (20) total journal entries expected of you
- Each journal entry will be 1-2 full pages (12pt, Times New Roman font, 1” margins)
- There will be five (5) grading periods of Personal Journal Writings: 9.14.17, 9.28.17, 10.12.17, 11.9.17 & 11.30.17

Team Plan a Trip Project
Every student will prepare and present a Team Plan a Trip presentation.

1. Sign up by 9.14.17—4 people minimum and 5 people maximum to a Team!
2. Each Team shall write a proposal (1 page) on what the Team shall create (due September 28th on Blackboard).
3. Each Team will meet with Professor Murphy to discuss proposal during Office Hours with presentation idea in mind.
Each student will participate in writing Team Plan a Trip Project narrative in which an 8-10 minute presentation will demonstrate the Teams creativity by sharing such a fantastic trip. Due 11.16.17 on Blackboard.
4. Each Team will turn in a narrative of what to expect during the trip at time of your presentation (4-5 pages) Due 11.16.17 on Blackboard.
   I. Be sure to discuss how 3 different class readings influence this particular adventure.
   II. Be sure to have a works cited/reference page of research materials including images.
5. Each Team will be graded by a specific Rubric
6. A 3-4 page Self Reflection of the preparation of the presentation is due the day of the presentation in which each member will grade themselves and their group mates. Due on December 3rd on Blackboard.
7. HAVE FUN!

Required Texts
You will read each text, so buy them. In most cases, the assigned readings will include materials not covered in class. As such, it is absolutely essential that you read the assignments before class in order to succeed in this course. You may use your laptop and/or tablet to read an electronic version of the texts or to take notes. Using phones to read material will not be allowed (you will be told to put away your phone).
- Select materials, available as handouts or online
- In class DVDs
Essay (turned in on Blackboard)
You will be required to write an essay
• A Guide to Writing each essay is outlined here.
• Due dates for each essay:
  ◦ 10.27.17 Essay (15%)
  ◦ Rough draft due 10.17.17

Examinations
All exams are to be taken in blue books (1 per exam). These may be purchased at the university bookstore. Do not, under any circumstances, remove any pages from your blue book before turning it in. All cell phones will be turned off and put away before you will receive each examination.
• There will be a Midterm Examination (10.24.17) and an Endterm Examination (12.5.17)
• Each exam will include Identifications and definitions (40%), and short answer questions (60%).
  ◦ The definitions questions will be drawn from the lectures and a list of identifications from the readings, presentations & other materials.
  ◦ The short answer questions will be drawn from the lectures and a list of identifications from the readings, presentations & other materials.

Course Policies

Make-up Work
All make up work must be previously arranged or it will not be accepted.

Make-up Midterm Examination
For students who miss the scheduled midterm, the makeup midterm will be on at 3:00 on Friday November 3rd in Mr. Murphy's office FC 270B. You should immediately reserve this date and time on your calendar; if you miss the scheduled exam, this is the time you will take the makeup, so you need to reserve the date and time at the beginning of the semester. The makeup will come from the same materials and review guides as the regular exams. Because of the nature of the course, however, students are strongly advised to take the exams at the originally scheduled times.

Grade Appeals
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, Student Grade Appeals. These documents are accessible online at:
http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html.

Assistance
Office hours are intended to make this course less forbidding. Feel free to come by and talk with me about your work, or about literature in general, during the office hours listed. If you cannot make these times, ask me for an appointment.

Freedom of Speech
Feel free to raise your hand with a question or comment. Reducing confusion, providing clarification, or responding to student curiosity is an important part of the classroom process and will be undertaken to the extent that time and class size permit. In most cases, if you did not understand something, it is because I did not explain it clearly, so you will be doing your colleagues and yourself a service if you request a clarification. However, all students’ using electronic devices that are not in use for course work is deemed Disruptive Behavior and student will be told to leave the seminar.

Academic Integrity & Dishonesty Specifically Article III, #1 in the Violations of the Student Code of Conduct.
Cheating or plagiarism on an assignment or test, or failure to complete any of the course requirements, will result in a zero grade for the assignment in question. Our University catalog defines "plagiarism" as "the presentation of the work of another as one's own work." Please note that plagiarizing someone else's work may lead to an F in the course. To avoid any suspicion of plagiarism, make sure that you always cite your sources properly and clearly identify your own work if you study with other students. Cases will be reported to university officials for further action. Also, anyone signing another student's name may lead to an F in the course for all concerned parties.

Dropping a Class
I hope no student needs to drop this course. However, events sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. The University has set Monday November 27th as the last day to drop a course for the semester with an automatic grade of “W.”

Acceptance of Diversity
We are the most diverse campus, in terms of self-declared ethnicity, in the Texas A&M system. This means that we are all meeting and working with people who are different from ourselves in terms of their identities: whether that be defined by their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and/or religion. Respecting and accepting difference is vital to your success in this class, on this campus, and in the global community.

Disability Services
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this
legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall, Room #116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

The Writing Center
The Writing Center of Texas A&M Corpus Christi provides free help for students at any stage in the writing process. Writing Center consultants are trained to work with writers one-on-one to help them find ideas, organize their thoughts, cite sources, and succeed at all aspects of the writing task. The Writing Center works closely with faculty across campus to understand the writing projects they assign and to help students meet the expectations of those assignments. The Writing Center is located in Glasscock Center (GSSC) 112, in the Center for Academic Student Achievement (CASA). Both drop-in and scheduled appointments are available. The Writing Center will be open soon. More information is available at: The Writing Center website.

Academic Advising
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

If you are concerned about a grade, see me during office hours.

Course Reading Outline (see Blackboard for complete schedule)

Week 1 Going Mobile
Weeks 2-4 Candide
Weeks 5-6 Passing
Weeks 8-11 The PowerBook