

**EN 231 Survey of World Literature**  
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Section E01: Online

**Fall 2006**  
Office: Painter 104  
Phone: 329-7169  
Hours: TTh 9:30-11:00  
MW 1:00-2:00  
M 3:15-4:15

**Required Text:**

*Longman Anthology of World Literature*, Three-Period Package Volume 1 (Volumes A-C)  
*Voices of World Literature* audio CD (accompanies Longman Anthology) recommended

**Description:**

EN 231 provides a survey of major texts of World Literature from antiquity to the early modern period, including texts from many different cultures that address common themes of creation, heroism, love, death, chivalry, and the role of women. Non-print texts, such as music and art from related cultures will also be discussed. While one emphasis of the course will be to trace the Western tradition from its Mesopotamian roots to its medieval European branches, significant texts from India, China, Japan, Africa, and North America will also be studied for comparison. Students will also gain an appreciation of how the genres of the myth, the epic, the lyric, the drama, and the essay have been used around the world during this period.

**Goals:**

- to gain an increased awareness of other cultures through the study of literature
- to read and respond to literary works and to compare themes across these works
- to relate literary works to visual and oral art from related cultures
- to analyze complex works of literature and defend your interpretation in writing
- to incorporate interpretation with quotations and paraphrases from the texts in your essays

**Requirements:**

Writing Assignments: students will complete a number of short writing assignments in which they will respond to images or actions described in the assigned readings and interpret visual or oral materials associated with the texts we are reading. Participation in the online discussion forum for the class may earn extra credit toward the writing assignment grade.

Quizzes: there will be at least 5 unannounced quizzes, probably more. These will be multiple choice or short answer questions that test your comprehension of the assigned reading for the day. Quizzes will be timed and should be completed without referring to the text.

Essays: Students will write three analytical essays in response to the texts they read. Students will be expected to present an interpretation and comparison of specific texts. Detailed explanations of each essay will be provided at the time they are assigned. All essays should be typed double spaced in 12 point Times or Helvetica with page numbers and 1 inch margins.

Exams: There will be two midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. These will consist of matching, short answer, and essay questions and will be timed. Your exams will be conducted online, and you will have short practice exams to help you review for the exams, work out any software problems you might have, and get used to the question format.

**Attendance:**

Since discussion of the readings is essential to your success in the course, attendance is mandatory. In order to be counted present each week students in the online section must read the lecture notes and post at least two comments to the discussion topics for the week. This must be done during the week of the assigned reading, which will begin on Monday and end the following Monday at 12:00 p.m. (noon). Students are required to attend a minimum of 75% of all

scheduled classes to receive a passing grade. Excessive absences (more than 2 weeks) will be considered due cause for lowering your final grade. Near perfect attendance and quality participation may be considered cause for raising your final grade.

Lecture notes will be posted on Mondays and Wednesdays. I recommend that students break their readings up into two parts and access the class at least twice during the week. This will help you manage your time for the week and give you more time for reflection. Some weeks we may be reading one long text and some weeks we will read several shorter selections. For the best results, you should keep up with your reading and participate while others are on the same topic.

In order to gain access to the lecture notes for the week, you may be required to complete a quiz or writing assignment, so check to see if an assignment is due if you don't see the link to the lecture notes for a given day. Also, I expect you to do the reading for that day before you attempt the quiz or writing assignment.

**Method of Evaluation:**

Writing Assignments and Quizzes will be graded on a scale of 1 to 10. Grades on essays will be determined by how well the essay addresses the assigned topic. Grammar and style will be taken into consideration. I expect your essays to be grammatically correct and written in an engaging style. Late assignments will be penalized, unless I have approved an extension prior to the assignment due date. Letter grades assigned to essays will have the following numeric values:

A+ / 98	B+ / 88	C+ / 78	D+ / 68	F / 0-59
A / 95	B / 85	C / 75	D / 65	
A- / 92	B- / 82	C- / 72	D- / 62	

Exams are worth 100 points (midterms) or 200 points (final). The raw score for the exam will be used in calculating the final grade. (If you earn an 89, that's what I'll use in your final grade.) Final grades will be based on the same system and will be a composite of the following:

Writing Assignments	10%
Quizzes	10%
Essays	30%
Tests	25%
Final Exam	25%

**Students with disabilities:** A reasonable attempt will be made to accommodate students with documented disabilities. Students must first obtain an accommodations plan through Academic Support Services and make a request for accommodations prior to the due date of the assignment. When a general accommodations plan is presented, it will be tailored to the demands of the World Literature Survey to create a plan that is fair to all students. All information regarding a student's disability will be kept confidential.

**A final reminder:** plagiarism will result in an F (0) on the assignment, and in severe cases is grounds for failure in the course. Plagiarism includes using paraphrased or quoted information from a source without proper documentation. Using quoted information without putting it in quotes (or indenting long quotes) is also considered plagiarism, regardless of whether the source is cited. *Cliffs Notes*, *Masterplots*, and other study aids must be treated as a source: i.e., if you use them (which I do not recommend), you must cite them. If you are unsure whether you have used material and cited it appropriately, see me before the final draft of the assignment is due. Once you have turned in your assignment it is too late to plead ignorance. It is your responsibility to understand the rules regarding plagiarism. Please refer to the MUW Bulletin for policies regarding plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty.

## EN 231 Course Schedule

Fall 2006

### Week 1 — August 21-23

Mon Introduction  
“Creation Stories from the Hindu Puranas” handout

Wed “Hymns from the Rig Veda” A 19-22  
“Enuma Elish” A 33-43

### Week 2 — August 28-30

Mon “Memphite Theology” A 13-16  
Hesiod “Theogony” A 43-49

Wed “Hymn to Aten” A 30-33  
Genesis Chapters 1-4 A 50-60

### Week 3 — September 4-6

Mon Labor Day Holiday

Wed Genesis Chapters 5-11 A 50-60  
“Descent of Ishtar” A 130-134

### Week 4 — September 11-13

Mon “Poetry of Love and Devotion” A 73-77  
“Song of Songs” A 78-88

Wed “Popol Vuh” C 773-795

### Week 5 — September 18-21

Mon “Epic of Gilgamesh” A 88-110

Wed “Epic of Gilgamesh” A 110-129

Paper #1 Due

### Week 6 — September 25-27

Mon Midterm

Exam #1

Wed “Epic of Son-Jara” B 638-670

### Week 7 — October 2-4

Mon Homer “The Iliad” A 230-259

Wed Homer “The Iliad” A 259-287

### Week 8 — October 9-11

Mon Fall Break

Wed Aristophanes “Lysistrata” A 783-817  
Sappho [poems] A 594-599

### Week 9 — October 16-18

Mon Krishna Vyasa “Mahabharata” A 829-850

Wed Krishna Vyasa “Mahabharata” A 850-870

**Week 10 — October 23-25**

Mon Ashvaghosha “The Life of Buddha” A 1048-1056  
“Discourses of the Buddha” A 1056-1058

Wed The Tamil Antologies A 947-953  
The Seven Hundred Songs of Hala A 953-956

Paper #2 Due

Week 11 — October 30 - November 1

Mon Midterm

Exam #2

Wed Li Bo [poems] B 150-157  
Du Fu [poems] B 157-161

**Week 12 — November 6-8**

Mon Zeami “Atsumori” & “Pining Wind” B 369-388  
Kyogen, “Delicious Poison” B 388-397

Wed *Thousand and One Nights* B 524-536

**Week 13 — November 13-15**

Mon Marie de France “Bisclavret” and “Chevrefoil” B 904-916

Wed Giovanni Boccaccio *Decameron* C 162-187

**Week 14 — November 20-22**

Mon Francesco Petrarch *Canzoniere* C 212-220

Wed Thanksgiving Break

**Week 15 — November 27-29**

Mon Louise Labé C 226-229  
Vittoria Colonna C 233-234  
Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz C 241-244

Paper #3 Due

Wed Course Review

**Final Exam:**

Your exam will be available by Saturday, December 2 (the first day of exams for weekend classes), and you must complete it by Thursday, December 7, no later than 6:00 p.m. Once you start taking the exam, you will have 3 hours to complete it, so don't begin until you are ready, and be sure you have enough time to complete the exam in one sitting.

**Important Dates:**

Aug. 25 Last day to add a class for credit or change from graded to pass/fail

Sept. 20 Last day to drop a class without WF or WP designation  
Last day to change from credit to audit

Oct. 18 Last day to drop a course (with WF WP designation)

Nov. 10 Last day to withdraw from the university