

COML 1191.920 / CLST 1602.920 / ENGL 1179.920 (2023B)

World Literature

SUMMER II 2023 (2023 B)

COURSE INFO	June 29 – August 4, 2023 Mondays, 7 pm - 9 pm, synchronous Wednesdays and Fridays, asynchronous Online (zoom)
INSTRUCTOR INFO	Akhil P. Veetil (he/him) aveetil@sas.upenn.edu Office Hours: as per request. I will provide a google sign-up sheet
COURSE DESCRIPTION	In this course, we will explore the various ways in which World Literature was understood by scholars and artists from around the world. As our world became more interconnected, thinkers from different places grappled with questions of universal and particular cultural values. Therefore, this course will be structured around themes such as cosmopolitanism, untranslatability, economic and political factors in literary productions, how value is assigned to a literary text, and the critique of modernity.
LEARNING GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluate various aspects of World Literature such as translations, cosmopolitanism, cultural formation, etc.• Evaluate various forms of literary representations• Understand the relationship between literature and socio-economic contexts.
COURSE MATERIALS	Most of the course materials will be available on CANVAS. You will be informed of any material that you may have acquire.
CLASS CONDUCT	<p>It is important for everyone to engage with each other in a respectful, charitable, and civil manner. Please remember that everyone comes to class with different sets of beliefs based on their unique life experiences. It is important that we learn to listen attentively to others, so that we can develop genuine understanding about these complex issues.</p> <p>It is very important for me to address everyone with their correct pronouns and pronounce their names correctly. In case I make a mistake, please correct me immediately. The same applies to others in class so that we don't cause harm to anyone.</p>
ASSESSMENTS	<p><u>Participation & CANVAS posts:</u> 30%</p> <p><u>Canvas Quizzes:</u> 40%</p>

Final Paper: 30%

One paper (2000-3000 words) on any theme or topic related to the texts that we discussed in class. I will provide additional information and resources on this.

LATE SUBMISSIONS

Summer courses tend to be quick. If you need additional time for submission, please write to me at least one week in advance of the date of submission.

GRADING POLICY

Will provide separate rubric on grading and assessment

ATTENDANCE

You will be allowed four absences for the Monday classes. More than four will affect your grade. If you are severely ill, please contact me immediately for accommodations.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to be familiar with and comply with Penn's Code of Academic Integrity, which is available online at <https://catalog.upenn.edu/pennbook/code-of-academic-integrity/>. If you have any doubts or questions about what constitutes academic misconduct, please do not hesitate to contact me.

DISABILITY STATEMENT

The University of Pennsylvania provides reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities who have self-identified and received approval from [Student Disabilities Services](#) (SDS). Students can contact SDS and make appointments to discuss and/or request accommodations by calling 215-573-9235.

LEARNING SUPPORT

The Weingarten Center offers a variety of resources to support all Penn students in reaching their academic goals. All services are free and confidential. **To contact the Weingarten Center, call 215-573-9235.** The office is located in Stouffer Commons at 3702 Spruce Street, Suite 300. Visit www.vpul.upenn.edu/lrc to learn more.

[Learning Resources](#) offers individual consultations and group workshops that support students in developing more efficient and effective study skills and learning strategies. Learning specialists work with students to address time and project management, academic reading and writing, note-taking, problem-solving, exam preparation, test-taking, self-regulation, and flexibility.

[Tutoring](#) offers free access to on-campus tutors for many Penn courses in both drop-in and weekly contract format. Tutoring may be individual or in small groups. Tutors will assist with applying course information, understanding key concepts, and developing course-specific strategies. Tutoring support is available throughout the term but is best accessed early in the semester. First-time users must meet with a staff member; returning users may submit their requests online.

BASIC NEEDS SUPPORT

It is important to me that you have the resources you need to be able to focus on learning in this course – this includes both the necessary academic materials as well as taking care of your day-to-day needs. Students experiencing difficulty affording the course materials should reach out to the Penn First Plus office (pennfirstplus@upenn.edu). Students who are struggling to afford sufficient food to eat every day and/or lack a safe and suitable space to live should contact Student Intervention Services (vpul-sisteam@pobox.upenn.edu). Students may also wish to contact their [Financial Aid Counselor](#) or Academic Advisor about these concerns. You are welcome to notify me if any of these challenges are affecting your success in this course, as long as you are comfortable doing so – I may have resources to support you.

Materials

I may slightly modify the texts and add audio-visual materials. I will also provide some recorded lectures. The modules will remain the same.

Module 1: Fundamental Questions

Puchner, “Readers of the World Unite”, in *Aeon*

Damrosch, “Introduction: Goethe Coins a Phrase”, in *What is World Literature*

Warburton, “Cosmopolis” in *Aeon*

Module 2: Imperialism

Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*

Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

Module 3: Translations

Butler, “Gender in Translation”

Bassnet and Trivedi, “Introduction” in *Postcolonial Translations*

Module 4: Sociology of Literature

Anderson, “The Origins of National Consciousness” in *Imagined Communities*

Casanova, excerpts from *The World Republic of Letters*

Rushdie, “Commonwealth Literature Does Not Exist” in *Imaginary Homelands*

Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, “On the Abolition of the English Department”

English, “The Logic of Proliferation” in *The Economy of Prestige*

Module 5: World Cinema

Chaplin, *Modern Times* (English)

Da Sica, *Bicycle Thieves* (Italian)

Ray, *Pather Panchali*. (Bangali)

