

# World Literature I

COLI - 110- 03 Fall 2009  
T, Th 8:30-10:55

Instructor: Yu Yin To  
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## Course Description:

This course intends to introduce ideas and questions generated by modern thinkers and writers from different cultures. We begin by asking ourselves what it means to be readers of literature, and questioning what makes a text *literary*. In the first half of the semester we will investigate the notion of horror and its implications on the self. The second half will focus on political, philosophical and post-colonial ideas in fiction. Our goal is to learn about literary concepts and ideas while becoming aware of the ways we think, read and write about literature.

## Required texts:

**Woolf**, Virginia. *“How Should One Read a Book?”*

**Emerson**, Ralph Waldo. “The American Scholar” and “Self Reliance”

**Shelley**, Mary. *Frankenstein*

**Poe**, Edgar Allan. “The Tell Tale Heart”

**Gilman**, Charlotte. “The Yellow Wallpaper”

**Dostoevsky**, Fyodor. *Notes from the Underground*

**Coetzee**, J.M. *Waiting for the Barbarians*

**Handouts and Course reserve:** Essays and poetry TBA.

## Course Requirements:

**This is a General Ed C-course, a minimum of 20 pages of expository writing is required.**

### Response papers:

There will be five assigned responses, each will be typed on one page, **SINGLE- SPACED** in 12 point Times New Roman font. Essays should be free of grammatical errors. No late responses are accepted.

### Two substantial essays:

There will be **two** 5-7 page essays due during this semester instead of mid-term and final exam. They will be **DOUBLE-SPACED** in 12 point Times New Roman font, and the first essay will be revised after getting your initial grade. You will get a separate grade for the revised version. Please cite any work that you reference in MLA format.

Plagiarism will result in an automatic F in your assignment and the course. Please see the University Student Handbook for more information.

## Class participation and Attendance:

Students are expected to have completed their reading assignment for the day, and bring in written questions, ideas and page numbers for class discussions. Failure to prepare for class will be counted as

an absence. Your final grade will be lowered for every missed class after the first two, e.g. (A to A-).

**Evaluation:**

Mid term paper and revision: 30%

Final Paper: 25%

Response paper: 25%

class participation: 20%

**Weekly Schedule:**

**Week 1:**

9/1- Introduction to class

9/3 – “How Should One read a book”

**Week 2:**

9/8 – “The American Scholar”-----response

9/10 – “The American Scholar”

**Week 3:**

9/15 – Frankenstein

9/17 – Frankenstein

**Week 4:**

9/22 – Frankenstein

9/24 – Frankenstein-----response

**Week 5:**

9/29- Frankenstein

10/1 – Frankenstein

**Week 6:**

10/6 – “The Tell Tale Heart”

10/8 – “Self Reliance”-----response

**Week 7:**

10/13 – “Self Reliance”

10/15 – “Self Reliance”

**Week 8:**

10/20 – The Yellow Wallpaper

10/22 – The Yellow Wallpaper-----5 page paper due

**Week 9:**

10/27 – Notes from Underground

10/29 – Notes from Underground

**Week 10:**

11/3 – Notes from Underground

11/5 – Notes from Underground-----response

**Week 11:**

11/10 – Notes from Underground  
11/12 – Waiting for the Barbarians

**Week 12:**

11/17 – Waiting for the Barbarians  
11/19 – Waiting for the Barbarians-----response

**Week 13:**

11/24 -Waiting for the Barbarians  
11/26- No Class (Thanksgiving)

**Week 14:**

12/1 – -Waiting for the Barbarians  
12/3 – Waiting for the Barbarians

**Week 15:**

12/8 – presentations and paper conference  
12/10 – presentations and paper conference

Finals Week --- 5 page final paper and portfolio due

12/14-12/18

**Note: The instructor reserves the right to change the schedule at any time during the semester.**