

World Literature I  
COLI 110 Section 04  
Meeting Times: MWF 0940-1040  
Room: Fine Arts 246  
Instructor: Diviani Chaudhuri  
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Office Hours: TBA

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This is an introductory level course on literatures of the ancient world. The idea is to trace thematic and generic continuities in the texts produced by different cultures both diachronically as well as synchronically.

### Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Enhance their critical thinking, writing and research skills
- Gain an understanding of some of the canonical works of literature
- Become aware of comparative literature methodology
- Define literary genres such as the Epic and Tragedy.

### Books to buy:

*Greek Tragedy* (Penguin Classics)

### Format and Procedures

- This course will use e-texts extensively. You are required to either bring your laptop to class or print the reading material and bring it with you to class.
- There will be a course blog to which you must post your reading notes and class summary.
- You have the opportunity to revise all essays written for this class.

### Attendance Policy

More than three absences without informing me will result in the lowering of your final letter grade by one level. For instance, an A will be lowered to an A- and so forth.

### Academic Integrity

Please refer to the university's Student Academic Honesty Code. Any plagiarism detected will result in an automatic F for the assignment concerned.

<b>Task description</b>	<b>Instructions</b>	<b>No. of tasks due</b>	<b>% of Final Grade</b>
Analytical essay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. 1000 words not including separate "Works Cited" page.</li><li>2. Strictly adhere to MLA citation style. Consult the OWL at Purdue to familiarise yourself with this format.</li><li>3. Topics pre-assigned, listed on class schedule. Please consult.</li><li>4. Submission required both in hard copy and through Turnitin/SafeAssign on Blackboard.</li></ol>	3 essays due on <b>Sept 18, Oct 7 and Nov 23.</b>	30

Oral presentation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pre-assigned topic: What texts would <i>your</i> World Literature syllabus include and why?</li> <li>2. Powerpoint presentation.</li> <li>3. One page handout for your classmates and me with your name on top right.</li> </ol>	1 presentation at the end of classes for the semester.	10
Reading notes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 100 word reflective paragraph on the reading for the week, including discussion questions. Write about connections you may find between the text you are assigned and anything else you may have read, watched or heard about. Take special note of things you did not understand and/or had to google to find out about.</li> <li>2. Post on course blog <b>before</b> class the following week.</li> <li>3. <b>Label</b> your blog post with the name of the text.</li> <li>4. <b>Title</b> your blog post with <i>your</i> name.</li> </ol>	15 posts throughout the 15 weeks of classes in the semester. Consult class schedule for due dates.	50 <b>Only the submission of a minimum of 15 posts will qualify you for credit.</b>
Class summary	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sign up for a particular day of class.</li> <li>2. Write 250 words describing class activities and salient points of discussion.</li> <li>3. Post on course blog <b>before</b> next class.</li> </ol>	1	10

### Class Schedule

Week	Date	To be discussed in class	Class Preparation
1	Aug 31	Introduction to the course: What is World Literature?	None
1	Sept 2	Discussion on The Flood: Myths of Origin; The Bible as Literature	Genesis 6 <a href="http://etext.virginia.edu/etcbin/to ccer-new2?id=KjvGene.sgm&amp;images=images/modeng&amp;data=/texts/english/modeng/parsed&amp;tag=public&amp;part=6&amp;division=div1">http://etext.virginia.edu/etcbin/to ccer-new2?id=KjvGene.sgm&amp;images=images/modeng&amp;data=/texts/english/modeng/parsed&amp;tag=public&amp;part=6&amp;division=div1</a> Genesis 7 <a href="http://etext.virginia.edu/etcbin/to ccer-new2?id=KjvGene.sgm&amp;images=images/modeng&amp;data=/texts/english/modeng/parsed&amp;tag=public&amp;part=7&amp;division=div1">http://etext.virginia.edu/etcbin/to ccer-new2?id=KjvGene.sgm&amp;images=images/modeng&amp;data=/texts/english/modeng/parsed&amp;tag=public&amp;part=7&amp;division=div1</a>
1	Sept	<i>The Bible: The Old Testament,</i>	Genesis 8

	4	Genesis 6-9	<a href="http://etext.virginia.edu/etcbin/to_ccer-new2?id=KjvGene.sgm&amp;images=images/modeng&amp;data=/texts/english/modeng/parsed&amp;tag=public&amp;part=8&amp;division=div1">http://etext.virginia.edu/etcbin/to_ccer-new2?id=KjvGene.sgm&amp;images=images/modeng&amp;data=/texts/english/modeng/parsed&amp;tag=public&amp;part=8&amp;division=div1</a> Genesis 9 <a href="http://etext.virginia.edu/etcbin/to_ccer-new2?id=KjvGene.sgm&amp;images=images/modeng&amp;data=/texts/english/modeng/parsed&amp;tag=public&amp;part=9&amp;division=div1">http://etext.virginia.edu/etcbin/to_ccer-new2?id=KjvGene.sgm&amp;images=images/modeng&amp;data=/texts/english/modeng/parsed&amp;tag=public&amp;part=9&amp;division=div1</a>
2	Sept 9	Introduction to <i>Gilgamesh</i>	<i>Gilgamesh</i> Tablet I <a href="http://www.ancienttexts.org/library/mesopotamian/gilgamesh/tab1.htm">http://www.ancienttexts.org/library/mesopotamian/gilgamesh/tab1.htm</a> <b>Week 1 reading notes due</b>
2	Sept 11	<i>Gilgamesh</i> Tablet I, XI	<i>Gilgamesh</i> Tablet XI <a href="http://www.ancienttexts.org/library/mesopotamian/gilgamesh/tab11.htm">http://www.ancienttexts.org/library/mesopotamian/gilgamesh/tab11.htm</a>
3	Sept 14	Introduction to Ovid's <i>Metamorphoses</i>	Start reading <i>Metamorphoses</i> Book I <a href="http://classics.mit.edu/Ovid/metam.1.first.html">http://classics.mit.edu/Ovid/metam.1.first.html</a> <b>Week 2 reading notes due</b>
3	Sept 16	<i>Metamorphoses</i> Book I	Come to class having read <i>Metamorphoses</i> Book I
3	Sept 18	Discussion on the similarities and dissimilarities between the three creation stories.	<b>Essay 1 due:</b> Comparative analysis of the three myths of origin.
4	Sept 21	Introduction to the Epic	Start reading <i>The Iliad</i> Book 1 In Verse <a href="http://records.viu.ca/~Johnstoi/homer/iliad1.htm">http://records.viu.ca/~Johnstoi/homer/iliad1.htm</a> In Prose <a href="http://classics.mit.edu/Homer/iliad.1.i.html">http://classics.mit.edu/Homer/iliad.1.i.html</a> <b>Week 3 reading notes due</b>
4	Sept 23	Introduction to <i>The Iliad</i>	Book 22 In Verse <a href="http://records.viu.ca/~Johnstoi/homer/iliad22.htm">http://records.viu.ca/~Johnstoi/homer/iliad22.htm</a> In Prose <a href="http://classics.mit.edu/Homer/iliad.22.xxii.html">http://classics.mit.edu/Homer/iliad.22.xxii.html</a>

4	Sept 25	The Epic: Abduction and Quest <i>The Iliad</i> Book 1, 22	Come to class having read <i>The Iliad</i> Book 1, 22
5	Sept 30	Introduction to the Indian Epic	Start reading <i>The Ramayana</i> Book I: Canto 2, 3 <b>Week 4 reading notes due</b>
5	Oct 2	Introduction to <i>The Ramayana</i>	Start reading Book III Canto 47, 48, 49
6	Oct 5	<i>The Ramayana</i> Book I : Canto 2,3 ; Book III Canto 47, 48, 49	Come to class having read Book I : Canto 2,3 ; Book III Canto 47, 48, 49 <b>Week 5 reading notes due</b>
6	Oct 7	The Epic in the East and the West: A Comparative Analysis	<b>Essay 2 due:</b> Comparative analysis of <i>The Iliad</i> and <i>The Ramayana</i> .
6	Oct 9	Introduction to Greek Tragedy	
7	Oct 12	Aeschylus <i>Agamemnon</i>	<b>Week 6 reading notes due</b>
7	Oct 14	Aeschylus <i>Agamemnon</i>	
7	Oct 16	Aeschylus <i>Agamemnon</i>	
8	Oct 19	Sophocles <i>Oedipus Rex</i>	<b>Week 7 reading notes due</b>
8	Oct 21	Sophocles <i>Oedipus Rex</i>	
8	Oct 23	Sophocles <i>Oedipus Rex</i>	
9	Oct 26	Euripides <i>Medea</i>	<b>Week 8 reading notes due</b>
9	Oct 28	Euripides <i>Medea</i>	
9	Oct 30	Euripides <i>Medea</i>	
10	Nov 2	Aristophanes <i>Frogs</i>	<b>Week 9 reading notes due</b>
10	Nov 4	Aristophanes <i>Frogs</i>	
10	Nov 6	Aristophanes <i>Frogs</i>	
11	Nov 9	Introduction to Shakespearean Tragedy	<b>Week 10 reading notes due</b>
11	Nov 11	Othello Act I	<a href="http://www.william-shakespeare.info/act1-script-text-othello.htm">http://www.william-shakespeare.info/act1-script-text-othello.htm</a>
11	Nov 13	Othello Act II	<a href="http://www.william-shakespeare.info/act2-script-text-othello.htm">http://www.william-shakespeare.info/act2-script-text-othello.htm</a>
12	Nov 16	Othello Act III	<a href="http://www.william-shakespeare.info/act3-script-text-othello.htm">http://www.william-shakespeare.info/act3-script-text-othello.htm</a> <b>Week 11 reading notes due</b>
12	Nov 18	Othello Act IV	<a href="http://www.william-shakespeare.info/act4-script-text-">http://www.william-shakespeare.info/act4-script-text-</a>

			<a href="#">othello.htm</a>
12	Nov 20	Othello Act V	<a href="http://www.william-shakespeare.info/act5-script-text-othello.htm">http://www.william-shakespeare.info/act5-script-text-othello.htm</a>
13	Nov 23	Trajectory of Tragedy	<b>Essay 3 due:</b> Comparative analysis of Greek tragedy vis-à-vis Shakespearean tragedy. <b>Week 12 reading notes due</b>
13	Nov 25	Introduction to Sufism	
14	Nov 30	Sufi Poetry: Attar	<a href="http://wahiduddin.net/sufi/sufi_poetry.htm#Attar">http://wahiduddin.net/sufi/sufi_poetry.htm#Attar</a> <b>Week 13 reading notes due</b>
14	Dec 2	Sufi Poetry: Hafiz	<a href="http://wahiduddin.net/sufi/sufi_poetry.htm#Hafiz">http://wahiduddin.net/sufi/sufi_poetry.htm#Hafiz</a>
14	Dec 4	Sufi Poetry: Rumi	<a href="http://wahiduddin.net/sufi/sufi_poetry.htm#Rumi">http://wahiduddin.net/sufi/sufi_poetry.htm#Rumi</a>
15	Dec 7	Student Presentations	<b>Week 14 reading notes due</b>
15	Dec 9	Student Presentations	
15	Dec 11	Student Presentations	<b>Week 15 reading notes due</b>

**Instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus. Updated syllabi will be posted on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to keep track of changes and prepare yourself accordingly.**