

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

<https://uofa.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies>

**2018-2019 MLCS 630: A1 The Disciplines of Literature
(Fall Term)**

Instructor: Dr LK Penrod
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Personal Website: NA

Time: W 2:00-4:50
Place: HC 4-78
Office Hours: W 12-1
or by appointment
Course Website: eClass

Course Prerequisite: consent of department.

It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites for the course.

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes No, not needed, no such projects approved.

Community Service Learning component

Required Optional None

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available

- Exam registry – Students’ Union
<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>
 - See explanations below
 - Document distributed in class
 - Other (please specify)
- N/A

Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)

Yes No

Course Description and Objectives:

The resurgence of world literature is widely considered the most significant development in contemporary literary studies. Much of the focus has been on the expansion of the canon, or its “deprovincialization,” to make it truly global. However, questions about world literature must also take on the nature of national literatures, indeed of literature itself. Because of migration, the broader dissemination of texts, the increasing importance of translation studies, national literatures are becoming

increasingly international in character.

In this course we will examine the dynamic interplay between “world” and “national” literatures. Translation, intermedia adaptation, and the circulation of texts, the relationship between so-called peripheries and centres within a given tradition between different literary systems will be the focus of weekly discussion. All readings for the course are in English, although students are encouraged to analyze text in the language (or languages) of their choice. At the end of the course successful students will be able to make an informed contribution to scholarship on the nature and function of literature regionally, nationally, and internationally.

Texts:

Required:

Damrosch, David, ed. *World Literature in Theory*. Malden MA: Blackwell, 2014.

Other texts will be provided either online or by photocopy by the instructor.

Grade Distribution (see “Explanatory Notes”):

Seminar presentations (2 x 15% = 30%) (assigned during first two weeks of seminar)

Discussion Leader 10% (assigned during first two weeks of seminar)

Attendance & Participation 10%

Final Paper 50%

Note: There is no final examination in this course.

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

Seminar Presentations:

Each student will be required to give two seminar presentations, which must focus on a topic distinct from the final paper. The presentation will be approximately 20 minutes in length (conference style) and will be followed by a response from the members of the seminar in terms of comments and questions.

Discussion Leader:

The discussion leader will be in charge of moving the discussion along and stimulating discussion with her/his comments and questions directed to the presenter.

Final Paper:

The final paper will involve a research question or question relating to the student’s personal interests within the issues discussed during the seminar. It will be between 5000 and 6000 words. The topic chosen must be discussed and approved by the instructor in advance. **Due Date:** 14 December 2018

Attendance and Participation:

Students must be prepared to come to the seminar and participate actively in discussion. Any absences need to be communicated in advance with the instructor. More than 2 absences will obviously result in a lowering of this portion of the seminar grade.

Required Notes:

“Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) of the University Calendar.”

Student Responsibilities:

Academic Integrity:

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Learning and Working Environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:

- Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
- If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the [Office of the Student Ombuds](#). Information about the [University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures](#) is described in [UAPPOL](#).

Territorial Statement:

“The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.” (*from the beginning of the Calendar*).

University of Alberta Sexual Violence Policy:

The Sexual Violence Policy was approved by GFC in June 2017. It plays a vital role in ensuring a safe and respectful learning and working environment.

As defined in the policy, **sexual violence** is any sexual act or act of a sexual nature, or act targeting sexuality, whether physical or psychological, committed without consent. **Sexual violence** is a complex and serious problem in society and on university campuses. Sexual violence can affect individuals of all gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations, as well as those from all ages, abilities, racial, cultural and economic backgrounds. Through this policy, the University of Alberta recognizes its responsibility to reduce sexual violence in the University community. The university aims to do so by fostering a culture of **consent** and support through education, training and policy. The University recognizes the possible effects of trauma on those who have experienced sexual violence and supports the efforts of individuals to seek support and recover.

To read the policy in more detail, please visit:

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Policies/Sexual-Violence-Policy.pdf>

Recording of Lectures:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:

Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections [Attendance](#) and [Examinations](#) of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

In this course, regular attendance is expected. Any absences should be cleared in

advance with the instructor.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Late assignments will be accepted **ONLY WITH PRIOR NOTICE TO THE INSTRUCTOR AND AN AGREED UPON ALTERNATE DATE FOR SUBMISSION.**

Disclaimer:

Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

Accessibility Resources: (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

The Academic Success Centre: (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

The Centre for Writers: (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

Health and Wellness Support: There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds:

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

Grading:

Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#)). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of

the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/>). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

“MLCS Graduate Grading Scale”

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|----|--------|--------------|
| A+ | 97-100 | Excellent |
| A | 93-96 | Excellent |
| A- | 90-92 | Excellent |
| B+ | 87-89 | Good |
| B | 79-86 | Good |
| B- | 74-78 | Satisfactory |
| C+ | 68-73 | Satisfactory |
| C | 63-67 | Failure |
| C- | 58-62 | Failure |
| D+ | 54-57 | Failure |
| D- | 50-53 | Failure |
| F | 00-49 | Failure |