

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**

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

**2015-2016** Comparative Literature 102 B2: World Literature II  
(Winter Term)

Instructor: Mimi Okabe  
Office: Old Arts 441B  
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Personal Website: N/A

Time: T, Th 9:30am-10:50am  
Place: Tory Building 365  
Office Hours: Tuesday 12:00-5:00pm  
or by appointment  
Course Website: eClass

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**Course Prerequisite:** No prerequisites. Not open to students with C Lit100

**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)
- NA

**Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)**

Yes  No

**Course Description and Objectives:**

This course aims to introduce students to a selection of early modern and contemporary (literary) works across various cultural, national and linguistic boundaries. In a close reading of selected excerpts of poetry, short stories, novels, plays, graphic novel, and film, this class will discuss these works in relation to their socio-cultural and political context, but also in relation to the question of what constitutes “world literature.” The students’ critical engagement with various literary traditions, forms, genres, and themes will develop their critical reasoning, writing, and reading skills. Students will also

demonstrate familiarity with Western and non-Western literatures and methods of analysing these literary works and other media from a global/comparative perspective.

**Texts:**

Required Texts:

- Puchner, Martin, gen. ed. *The Norton Anthology of World Literature Shorter Third Edition*. Vol. 2. New York: Norton, 2012. Print. ISBN: 978-0-393-91961-5
- Gosick, Karen and Robert Kirschen. *Writing About World Literature*. New York: Norton, 2012. Print. ISBN: 978-0-393-91880-9
- Ibsen, Henrik. "A Doll's House" 1<sup>st</sup> ed. New York: Dover Publications, 1992. Print. ISBN-10: 0486270629
- Satrapi, Marjane. *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood*. Vol 1. New York: Pantheon Books, 2004. Print. ISBN03757157X

Recommended Texts:

- Abrams, M. H., and Geoffrey Galt Harpham. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. n.p.: Australia, 2015. Print. ISBN-10: 1285465067
- *The Modern Language Association. MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 7th ed. Modern Language Assn. of America. ISBN: 978-1-60329-024-1.

**Grade Distribution (see "Explanatory Notes"):**

Class Discussion, Participation and Attendance: 10%

Quizzes and Quick-writes: 10%

Midterm Exam: 20% (February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016)

Final Essay: 30% (April 7<sup>th</sup> 2016) Hardcopy accepted only

Final Exam: 30% (April 20<sup>th</sup> 2016 @ 9:00am)

**Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):**

A student who has missed a final exam because of incapacitating mental and/or physical illness, severe domestic affliction or for circumstances as described in the University's Discrimination, Harassment and Duty to Accommodate Policy (including religious belief) may apply for a deferred exam. Please consult the website for more information:

[http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.5.html#23.5.6\(3\)](http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.5.html#23.5.6(3))

**Explanatory Notes on Assignments:**

**Participation and Attendance 10%**

It is mandatory for students to attend all lectures and to engage in class discussions as they will be graded for their attendance as well as participation in class. An attendance sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class for students to sign-in. An absence without a valid reason will result in a complete loss of the grade for the day missed.

### **Quizzes and Quick-Writes 10%**

Quizzes and Quick-writes will constitute 10% of your total grade and **they will be assigned randomly throughout the course**. There will be 5 quizzes and 5 quick-writes. Quizzes will consist of multiple choice questions. For quick-writes, the instructor will provide you with a topic (related to one of the readings) on which you write for five minutes. This exercise is meant to get students in the habit of thinking and writing promptly. Make up quizzes and quick-writes, without a valid reason, will not be granted and result in a complete loss of the grade for the day missed.

### **Midterm 20%**

The midterm for this course will take place on **Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>** in class. The midterm exam will cover readings up to Realism and will consist of questions such as multiple choice, short answers, passage identification and analysis, and/or definition of terms.

### **Final Essay 30%**

The final essay for this course is **due April 7<sup>th</sup> 2016** in class. **I will only accept hardcopy submissions**. However, if you choose to write on *Persepolis*, it will be due April 15<sup>th</sup> (submit by e-mail). Requirements for the essay: 10 pages (not including Works Cited page), MLA citation, minimum of 2 secondary sources. By mid-March students will receive an essay outline, which consists of specific guidelines for the paper and a series of essay topics.

### **Final Exam 30%**

The final exam will take place **Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 2016**. The final exam will cover readings from Realism to Contemporary World Literature and will be formatted similar to the midterm: multiple choice questions, short answers, passage identification and analysis, and/or definition of terms.

Note: Additional information sheets will be provided in class

### **Required Notes:**

“Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University calendar.”

### ***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

<http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx> ) and avoid any behaviour which 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.”

***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 safe and free of discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels this policy has been or 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 directs 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 student ombudservice (<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/>).

Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at

<https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110>.

***Academic Honesty:***

**All students** should consult the information provided by the [Office of Judicial Affairs](#) regarding avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

**Students involved in language courses and translation courses** should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.” **Students in languages courses** should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

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](#).

***Recording of Lectures:***

Audio or video recording 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. Recorded material 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 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 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.

**In this course, regular attendance** of the class lectures is very important as it constitutes 10% of your total grade. An absence without a valid excuse (family emergency, health, or personal) will result in a total loss of the participation segment of the day missed. Emergencies are unpredictable, but **please consult with me at your earliest convenience** if you know that you will miss a class(es) for any of the reasons listed above.

***Policy for Late Assignments:***

Students who consult **in advance** with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension just one time throughout the course with no penalty. However, if a second excuse will be granted for late assignments, the student will be penalized at 5% per day (including weekends), unless you requested an extension for a valid reason. Extensions will not be granted after the due date. After the period of 7 days (from the due date) no assignments will be accepted.

***Student Accessibility Services:***

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; Email [sasrec@ualberta.ca](mailto:sasrec@ualberta.ca); Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB [www.ssds.ualberta.ca](http://www.ssds.ualberta.ca) ).

***Grading:***

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below (“**MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale**”). The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

**“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”**

Letter	%	Pts	Descriptor
A+	95-100%	4.0	<b>Excellent:</b> Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94%	4.0	<b>Excellent:</b> Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	86-89%	3.7	<b>Excellent:</b> Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	<b>Good</b>
B	75-81%	3.0	<b>Good:</b> average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	70-74%	2.7	<b>Good</b>
C+	66-69%	2.3	<b>Satisfactory:</b> Basic understanding of the subject matter
C	61-65%	2.0	<b>Satisfactory</b>
C-	58-60%	1.7	<b>Satisfactory</b>
D+	55-57%	1.3	<b>Poor:</b> Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
D	50-54%	1.0	<b>Minimal Pass:</b> Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49%	0.0	<b>Failure:</b> Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements