

Spring Semester 2020

Tuesday and Thursday 9:30-10:45 in RLC 102	Karl Martin, PhD, BAC 113
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Office hours: Mon. thru Friday 11:00-Noon	Final Exam: Tuesday, May 5 th 10:30-1:00

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Lit 3052 is an upper division Foundational Explorations course designed to introduce students to literature written by American who, for a variety of reasons, live or lived on the margins of American society. The content of the course varies by semester. This semester we will read material written by African Americans directly related to the fight to have Americans recognize the civil rights of those Americans of African descent.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course students will be able to:

1. Closely read and critically analyze texts in their original languages and/or in translation.
2. Recall, identify, and use fundamental concepts of literary study to read and discuss texts
 - a. Standard literary terminology
 - b. Modes/genres of literature
 - c. Elements of literary genres
 - d. Literary periods (dates, writers, characteristics, and important developments)
 - e. Contemporary critical approaches
 - f. Extra-literary research
3. Analyze the social, cultural, ethnic, gendered, and/or historical contexts of the works and their authors, and connect the texts with their own lives.

Foundational Explorations Program Mission Statement

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and culture.

Foundational Explorations Learning Outcomes

Lit 3052 is a course approved for credit in the Foundational Explorations program of PLNU. Its content is designed to help students meet General Education Learning Outcome 2c: "Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complex issues faced by diverse groups in global and/or cross-cultural contexts." The Learning Outcome will be measured by the Reflective Essay which will ask students to select appropriate course material and respond to the following prompt: "In what ways and to what degree has this literary work (novel, play, poem, short story, essay, creative nonfiction, film) impacted your cultural perspectives, AND what connections have you made between this work and other university courses and/or your own life experience?"

TEXTS

Charles Chesnutt, *The Marrow of Tradition*

Ernest Gaines, *A Gathering of Old Men*

The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., *Why We Can't Wait*

John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, and Nate Powell, *March: Book One*

Toni Morrison, *Jazz*

Alice Walker, *Meridian*

August Wilson, *Two Trains Running*

Other texts available through the course Canvas site

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading: Dates for the readings are clearly indicated on the schedule. Read daily if possible and complete all reading prior to the class session when the text will be discussed.

Discussion: The success of the course will be directly related to the quality of daily discussions. Each of you should feel comfortable contributing to discussions. And each of you should bring any questions you have about the reading to our attention during the course of our discussions.

Reading Journals: Rather than reading quizzes, I will ask each of you to maintain a reading journal. Every few weeks, I will ask you to submit your journal to Canvas so that I can review it. To receive full credit for the assignment, the journal must be at least 3,000 words long. To receive 90% of the points, the journal must be at least 2,500 words in length. To receive 80% of the points, the journal must be at least 2,000 words in length. To receive 70% of the points, the journal must be at least 1,500 words in length. To receive 60% of the points, the journal must be at least 1,000 words in length.

Writing: Each student will complete a mid-term exam, a final exam, and a brief reflective essay written outside of class. Students cannot pass the course without completing all of these major assignments. Late essays will receive a ten percent daily deduction and will not be accepted when the value would be zero.

Creative or Scholarly Project: In groups no larger than five, students will complete a creative or scholarly project related to the course material and present their work in class. Class presentation must be between seven and ten minutes in length. Individual and group grades will be given for the project. The AAC&U Oral Communications rubric will be used to assess the presentation which will be worth 100 points. The group members will receive one grade for the oral presentation. In addition, each student must complete an essay of 750-1,000 words related to the presentation. The essay can be primarily informative in nature and must draw upon at least three secondary sources, one of which must be an article from a peer-reviewed academic journal. The essay is due on the day of the group presentation. More details about this assignment will be distributed in a handout.

Attendance: Because your participation is essential, your attendance is mandatory. More than four absences for any reason will result in your final grade being lowered. Students who miss more than nine class sessions will be de-enrolled.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Reading Journals	50 Points
Mid-Term Exam	300 Points
Final Exam	300 Points
Reflective Essay	100 Points
Group Presentation/Paper	200 Points
Participation	50 Points

Your work will not be graded on a curve. A traditional scale will be used. Those who earn more than 90% of the possible points earn a grade in the A range, those who earn between 80-89% of the points earn a grade in the B range, and so on.

A indicates exceptional work (roughly 20% of students normally achieve this level)

B indicates superior work (roughly 30% of students normally achieve this level)

C indicates average work

D indicates passing work

F indicates unsatisfactory work

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic adjustments, modifications or auxiliary aids/services. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. (DRC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 (a) prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. The DRC will thereafter email the student's AP to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify their professor in that course. PLNU highly recommends that DRC students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not desire to take advantage of some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

Reading Schedule for Lit 3052, Section 1 Spring 2020

Thur. 1/16	Introduction to the course
Tues. 1/21	Washington and DuBois (available on Canvas)
Thur. 1/23	Chesnutt, Chapters I-VII
Tues. 1/28	Chesnutt, Chapters VIII-XX
Thur. 1/30	Chesnutt, Chapters XXI-XXIX
Tues. 2/4	Chesnutt, Chapters XXX-XXXVII
Thur. 2/6	Morrison, pages 3-51
Tues. 2/11	Morrison, pages 53-135
Thur. 2/13	Morrison, pages 137-184
Tues. 2/18	Morrison, pages 187-229
Thur. 2/20	King, Introduction thru Chapter 4
Tues. 2/25	King, Chapter 5 thru Chapter 8
Thur. 2/27	Group Presentations
Tues. 3/3	Group Presentations
Thur. 3/5	Midterm Exam
Tues. 3/17	Lewis, pages 3-62
Thur. 3/19	Lewis, pages 63-121
Tues. 3/24	Walker, Opening thru Awakenings
Thur. 3/26	Walker, Battle Fatigue thru The Recurring Dream
Tues. 3/31	Walker, the entire Truman Held section
Thur. 4/2	Walker, the entire Ending section
Tues. 4/7	Wilson, Act One
Thur. 4/9	No Class Session in Honor of Maundy Thursday
Tues. 4/14	Wilson, Act Two
Thur. 4/16	Gaines, George Eliot, Jr. aka Snookum thru Grant Bello aka Cherry
Tues. 4/21	Gaines, Cyril Robillard aka Clatoo thru Sully
Thur. 4/23	Gaines, Jacques Thibeaux aka Tee Jack to the end
Tues. 4/28	Group Presentations
Thur. 4/30	Group Presentations; Reflective Essays Due
Tues. 5/5	10:30-1:00 Final Exam