

PLNU Banner and Course Details	
	Department of Literature, Journalism, Writing & Languages LIT2052 World Literatures: Ancient and Medieval Three Units
Fall 2022	

Course Meeting information	
Meeting days: M/W	Dr. Carol Blessing--Professor of Literature and Women's Studies
Meeting times: 2:45pm-4:00pm	Phone: (858)761-5155
Meeting location: RLC 103 (Library basement)	Email: carolblessing@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: Wed. 12/14 1:30pm- 4:00pm	Office location and hours: BAC118 1:30-2:30pm and by appointment

**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.

Foundational Explorations Mission

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.

COURSE DESCRIPTION (From the PLNU Catalogue):

A study of the literary classics of the ancient and medieval periods, including various genres, particularly epic and drama. Focuses on major works of world literatures within their historical/cultural contexts, from the *Epic of Gilgamesh* to Dante's *Divine Comedy*. Prerequisite: Fulfillment of the College Composition requirement.

Our Course Focus: The idea of covering world literature over the 3000 year period this course covers is daunting; we are by necessity covering only a sampling of what exists in written form, and reading beyond the classics to include works from multiple geographical regions. We are also limited by our reading in translation, which may vary greatly from edition to edition of the works. My goal is to whet your appetite to continue to read more literature from cultures other than American and British throughout your life. By looking at cultures other than our own, we can broaden our thinking and interacting with other peoples, appreciating differences as well as noting similarities. We can not only study literary structures, such as the epic hero's journey, but also probe the ways those stereotypes have shaped cultural expectations both positively and negatively, for example, in issues of race, class, and gender. We will also examine the ways literature has been appropriated to support values in contemporary society. Please bring your whole self and intellectual, spiritual, and emotional responses to your reading process, class discussions, and analytical writings!

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES [These are established by the LJWL Literature section]

You will be able to:

1. Closely read (comprehension, analysis) and critically analyze (analysis) texts in their original languages and/or in translation. **(LIT PLO 2, 3, 5)**
2. Recall (knowledge), identify (knowledge), and use (application) fundamental concepts of literary study to read and discuss texts **(LIT PLO 2, 3, 4)**
 1. Standard literary terminology
 2. Modes/genres of literature
 3. Elements of literary genres
 4. Literary periods (dates, writers, characteristics, and important developments)
 5. Contemporary critical approaches
 6. Extra-literary research
3. Analyze (analysis) the social, cultural, ethnic, gendered, and/or historical contexts of the works and their authors, and connect (synthesis, evaluation) the texts with their own lives. **(LIT PLO 1)**
4. Create (synthesis, evaluation) detailed and informed textual analysis of literary works employing secondary sources and applying concepts of literary study and literary theory. **(LIT PLO 2, 3, 4, 5)**

REQUIRED TEXT

Martin Puchner, editor. *The Norton Anthology of World Literature Shorter Fourth Edition*, Volume 1. W. W. Norton & Company, 2019. ISBN #9780393602876

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Grades will be based on the following:

- Reading of all assignments by the dates listed below, as the basis for all assignments. (CLO 1)
- Analysis Paragraphs **(250 points)** (CLO 2 and 3)
- Quizzes, in-class group work, and oral participation **(125 Points)** (CLO 2 and 3)
- Midterm Exam **(200 points)** (CLO 2)
- Final Exam **(200 points)** (CLO 2)
- One 1500 word paper—Details to follow. **(225 points)** (CLO 3 and 4)

Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentages				
A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F Less than 59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

STATE AUTHORIZATION⊗

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

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.

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

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND DISCRIMINATION

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students. If you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available through the Title IX Office at pointloma.edu/Title-IX. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, it is required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors at pointloma.edu/title-ix

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of 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.

SPIRITUAL CARE

PLNU strives to be a place where students grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If you have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain, or if you have prayer requests, you can contact the office of [Student Life Formation](#)

Dr. Blessing's Ground Rules:

Public Discourse: Much of the work we will do in this class is cooperative, by nature of the class discussions and general feedback given to written work and/projects; thus you should think of all your writing and speaking for and in class as public, not private, discourse. By continuing in this class, you acknowledge that your work will be viewed by others in the class. Thinking of our class work as public and shared also gives us the chance to treat one another with gentleness and compassion.

Maintaining Your Own Class Schedule through Online Registration: You will be responsible for maintaining your own class schedule. Should you need to drop this or any course, please remember to do

so before the deadline. If you need to drop a class, be sure to fill out and submit the official forms; simply ceasing to attend may result in a grade of F on your transcript.

Final Examinations: Final Examinations are the culminating learning event in a course, and they are scheduled to take into account all the different courses and departments across the university. The exam schedule varies from year to year. The final examination schedule is posted on the Class Schedules site. You are expected to arrange your personal affairs to fit the examination schedule.

Inclusive Language: Because the Literature, Journalism, Writing, and Languages department recognizes the power of language, in its essence and in the ways it may be used either for good or for ill, we ask that all public language used in this course, including written and spoken discourse, be inclusive. This standard is also outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and is the norm in university-level work.

Class Sessions, Preparation, Assignments, and Technology:

1. If you wish to use your laptop, iPad, phone, or other electronics during class, you may use the device only for note-taking, not checking email, social media, or other activities. If you are using an electronic reader or other device for the textbook, please let me know and do not use the devices for purposes other than class text/reading and note-taking.
2. **All other electronics must be muted or turned off for the entire class period, including cell phones.**
3. Completion of all assignments is required, and passing the course will be difficult without doing so. Readings and written responses must be prepared in advance of the date scheduled/due and of sufficient length and quality to meet the assignment's requirements and intents. Missed work (quizzes and written responses) may be made up only in truly extenuating circumstances and only if you and I have had a conversation about your situation. No make-up work will be otherwise given for missed work.
4. Late assignments will not be accepted (unless you and I have communicated prior to the deadline about extenuating circumstances).
5. You may be requested to attend office hours with the professor if a need arises.

Email and Canvas: You are responsible for checking your PLNU email account and Canvas regularly for electronic messages from me (and sometimes from your classmates). You are fully accountable for all course material, announcements, communications that are distributed via email and Canvas; and I will send messages only to these sites. Please let me know if you encounter any technical problems with these sites.

No *Cliff's Notes*, *Barron's Notes*, *Spark Notes* or similar guides are to be used to write homework or papers, brought to class, or used as a **substitute** for the reading.

The class is designed to encourage regular reading. To that end, there are short analysis paragraph assignments. These are important tools for developing reading, thinking, and retention skills and are not "busy work." Regard them as athletes would their regular practice and conditioning times. Keeping up with the reading and writings leads to a higher degree of subject mastery, as well as analytical adeptness and application of the works to your own life.

Class Schedule - Complete all readings by the assigned days

***USE THE MODULES VIEW FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION**

For each class, read the material, answer the analysis question, and be ready to discuss the work and raise any questions you have. Your advance work will form the basis of class discussion and possible quizzes.

Reading assignments

DATE	Read Prior to Class	IN CLASS COVERAGE	WORK DUE
Week 1			
Aug. 30	Course Introduction Reading Ancient and Medieval World Literature--Introduction Norton Anthology of World Literature — <i>Introduction</i> and <i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i> , pp. 3-38		
Aug. 31	<i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i> , pp. 38-74 Analysis: What is the philosophical viewpoint of this work?		Analysis Paragraph
Week 2			
Sep. 5	Labor Day—No Classes		
Sep. 7	Homer—Intro., pp. 122- 129, and <i>The Odyssey</i> , pp. 195-231 Analysis: What is the importance of hospitality in the value systems of this epic?		Analysis Paragraph
Week 3			
Sep. 12	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp. 245-295 Analysis: What significant knowledge does Odysseus gain on his journey?		Analysis Paragraph
Sep. 14	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp. 331-378 Analysis: What virtues does Penelope embody?		Analysis Paragraph
Week 4			
Sep. 19	Sappho—Poetry, pp. 379-389 and handouts Analysis: What is a contemporary love song that talks about the pain of love in the way Sappho does?		Analysis Paragraph
Sep. 21	Ancient Athenian Drama and Sophocles, pp. 390-399; Canvas file on Aristotle's <i>Poetics</i> Analysis: Why was drama important for the ancient Athenians?		Analysis Paragraph
Week 5			
Sep. 26	Oedipus The King, pp. 400-437		Analysis Paragraph

	Analysis: What are problems with the Athenian state under the reign of Oedipus?	
Sep. 28	Euripides, <i>Medea</i> , pp. 438-472 Analysis: How and why has Medea subverted Greek patriarchy?	Analysis Paragraph
Week 6		
Oct. 3	Ancient Chinese poetry—Intro and Poems, pp. 689-731 Analysis: What is one possible positive and one negative outcome of following Laozi’s philosophy?	Analysis Paragraph
Oct. 5	<i>The Bhagavad-Gita</i> : 669-687 Analysis: What are the virtues extolled in this work?	Analysis Paragraph
Week 7		
Oct. 10	Virgil: “Introduction” and <i>The Aeneid</i> , pp. 473-520 Analysis: How does Aeneas compare to Odysseus?	Analysis Paragraph
Oct. 12	<i>The Aeneid</i> , 521-576 Analysis: What is the significance of the Dido and Aeneas love story and its outcome to the issue of Aeneas’ destiny?	Analysis Paragraph
Week 8		
Oct. 17	Ovid: <i>Metamorphoses</i> , pp. 577-619 Analysis: How is the work related to contemporary fantasy? Give an example.	Analysis Paragraph
Oct. 19	MIDTERM EXAM	MIDTERM EXAM
Week 9		
Oct. 24	Lady Murasaki: <i>The Tale of Genji</i> , pp. 1231-1265 Analysis: How do the male speakers categorize women?	Analysis Paragraph
Oct. 26	Lady Murasaki: <i>The Tale of Genji</i> , pp. 1265-1288 Analysis: What is your response to one of Genji’s relationships with a female?	Analysis Paragraph
Week 10		
Oct. 31	Marie de France, <i>Lais</i> , pp. 912-924 Analysis: Analyze the portrayal of love in one lai.	Analysis Paragraph
Nov. 2	Dante Alighieri: Intro. and <i>Inferno</i> , Cantos I-VIII, pp. 925-964 Analysis: How does the opening resonate with your own life’s journey?	Analysis Paragraph
Week 11		

Nov. 7	<i>Inferno</i> , Cantos IX- XVI, pp. 965-1000 Analysis: How effectively does the law of contrapasso function in one of these cantos?	Analysis Paragraph
Nov. 9	<i>Inferno</i> , Cantos XVII-XXV, pp. 1000-1040 Analysis: What is the ultimate consequence of the lack of virtue in one Canto?	Analysis Paragraph
Week 12		
Nov. 14	<i>Inferno</i> , Cantos XXVI-XXXVI, pp. 1041-1084 Analysis—How well does Dante’s Lucifer embody the concept of Vice?	Analysis Paragraph
Nov. 16	<i>Paradiso</i> , On-line resource Analysis—What reaction do you have to Dante’s portrayal of Heaven and the Divine?	Analysis Paragraph
Week 13		
Nov. 21	<i>The Thousand and One Nights</i> , pp. 1084-1108 Analysis: Analyze the gender dynamics of this work.	Analysis Paragraph
Nov. 23-27	Thanksgiving Break—No Classes	
Week 14		
Nov. 28	Christine de Pizan, <i>The Book of the City of Ladies</i> , pp. 1160-1177 Analysis: How successful is Christine de Pizan’s literary defense of women, in your point of view?	Analysis Paragraph
Nov. 30	<i>Sunjata: A West African Epic of the Mande Peoples</i> , pp. 1422-1450 Analysis: What does this epic have in common with another one we have read?	Analysis Paragraph
Week 15		
Dec. 5	<i>Sunjata: A West African Epic of the Mande Peoples</i> , pp. 1450-1467 Analysis: How does this epic differ from another one we have read?	Analysis Paragraph
Dec. 7	Student Presentations	1500-word Paper DUE
Dec. 14	Final Exam-Wed. Dec. 14 1:30pm-4:00pm Do not make travel arrangements that will require you to miss the final. You may <u>not</u> take it at another time. The published time for the final examination is one of the considerations when enrolling for a course. Students are expected to arrange their personal affairs to fit the examination schedule.	FINAL EXAM