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**Department of Literature, Journalism, Writing, and Languages**

**Lit200, Section 3: The Literature of the Vietnam War and Its Aftermath**

**2 Units**

**Spring Semester 2018**

<b>Meeting days:</b> MW	<b>Instructor title and name:</b> Karl Martin, PhD
<b>Meeting times:</b> 11:00-11:55	<b>Phone:</b> 2275
<b>Meeting location:</b> Ryan Learning Center, 102	<b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:karlmartin@pointloma.edu">karlmartin@pointloma.edu</a>
<b>Final Exam:</b> Friday, May 4th 10:30-1:00	<b>Office location:</b> BAC 113 <b>Office hours:</b> Mon. and Wed. 1:30-2:30; Tues., Thur., and Fri. 11:00-Noon

**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**

A study of representative works of literature and cultural contexts. In this section, we will be examining the literature of the Vietnam War and its aftermath. Your enrollment in this course indicates your willingness to read narratives containing considerable violence.

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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. Extra-literary research
3. Connect the literary works with their own lives and with the social, cultural, and historical contexts of the works and their authors.

## REQUIRED TEXTS

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Robert Olen Butler, *A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain*

Bobbie Ann Mason, *In Country*

Tim O'Brien, *The Things They Carried*

Lê Thi Diem Thúy, *The Gangster We Are All Looking For*

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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*Reading:* Dates for the readings are clearly indicated on the schedule. Read daily if possible and complete all reading on time. You should come to class with the assignment for the day already read.

*Discussion:* The success of the course will be directly related to the quality of our daily discussions. Each of you must 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.

*Writing:* Students will complete reading journal entries related to each of the four books and will complete a final paper reflecting on their experience in the course.

*Film Presentations:* In groups, students will present their reactions to an assigned film.

*Exams:* Students will complete a midterm and final exam. Each will contain both objective items and brief written portions.

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

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<u>Sample</u> assignment distribution by percentage:	<u>Sample</u> grade scale:												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mid-Term Exam 30%</li><li>• Film Presentation 10%</li><li>• Reading Journal 20%</li><li>• Participation 5%</li><li>• Final Exam 35%</li></ul>	<table><tbody><tr><td>A=93-100</td><td>C=73-76</td></tr><tr><td>A-=92-90</td><td>C-=70-72</td></tr><tr><td>B+=87-89</td><td>D+=67-69</td></tr><tr><td>B=83-86</td><td>D=63-66</td></tr><tr><td>B-=80-82</td><td>D-=60-62</td></tr><tr><td>C+=77-79</td><td>F=0-59</td></tr></tbody></table>	A=93-100	C=73-76	A-=92-90	C-=70-72	B+=87-89	D+=67-69	B=83-86	D=63-66	B-=80-82	D-=60-62	C+=77-79	F=0-59
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C+=77-79	F=0-59												

## INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

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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

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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.

## UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

See the course Canvas site for all pertinent university and departmental policy statements.

## Reading Schedule

Lit 200, Section 3, Spring 2018

Tues. 1/9	Introduction to the Course
Wed. 1/10	O'Brien, 1-40.
Mon. 1/15	<b>No Class Session in Honor of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.</b>
Wed. 1/17	O'Brien, 41-91.
Mon. 1/22	O'Brien, 93-144.
Wed. 1/24	O'Brien, 145-73.
Mon. 1/29	O'Brien, 175-243.
Wed. 1/31	O'Brien, 245-73; <b>O'Brien Reading Journal due by 10:00 pm.</b>
Mon. 2/5	Butler, 1-43.
Wed. 2/7	Butler, 45-93.
Mon. 2/12	Butler, 95-123.
Wed. 2/14	Butler, 125-54.
Mon. 2/19	Butler, 155-234.
Wed. 2/21	Butler, 235-269; <b>Butler Reading Journal due by 10:00 pm.</b>
Mon. 2/26	<b>Film Presentations</b>
Wed. 2/28	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
Mon.-Fri. 3/5-3/9	<b>Spring Break</b>
Mon. 3/12	Mason, Part One-Part Two, Chapter 3.
Wed. 3/14	Mason, Part Two, Chapter 4-Chapter 10.
Mon. 3/19	Mason, Part Two, Chapter 11-Chapter 17.
Wed. 3/21	Mason, Part Two, Chapter 18-Chapter 23.
Mon. 3/26	Mason, Part Two, Chapter 24-Chapter 28.
Wed. 3/28	Mason, Part Two, Chapter 29-Part Three, Chapter 2; <b>Mason Reading Journals due by 10:00 pm.</b>
Mon. 4/2	<b>No Class Session in Honor of Easter</b>
Wed. 4/4	<b>Film Presentations</b>
Mon. 4/9	Thúy, 3-35.
Wed. 4/11	Thúy, 36-77.
Mon. 4/16	Thúy, 78-124.
Wed. 4/18	Thúy, 125-158; <b>Thúy Reading Journals due by 10:00 pm.</b>

Mon. 4/23 **Film Presentations**  
Wed. 4/25 Conclusion of the Course

**Fri. 5/4 10:30-1:00 Final Exam**