



Fall 2017

Meeting days: Tuesday and Thursday	Instructor: Karl Martin, PhD
Meeting times: 1:30-2:45	Phone: 2275
Meeting location: BAC 103	E-mail: karlmartin@pointloma.edu
Office location: BAC 113	Office hours: Monday-Friday 11:00-Noon
Final Exam: Tuesday, Dec.12th, 1:30-4:00	

**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 becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Diverse Voices in American Literature is a course designed to allow students to listen to the voices of American writers representing groups who have often been oppressed or marginalized by the dominant culture in the United States. We listen to these voices with the hope that they can teach us more about both the promise of the American experience and the challenges we face in striving to be a nation that lives up to that promise for all of its citizens. Content may vary each time the course is taught. This semester we will read works detailing the experience of coming to America. The course fulfils a general education requirement and a requirement for Literature majors.

**GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES**

*Context #2: Growing, In a Christ-Centered Faith Community*

**Institutional Learning Outcome #2: Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of self and others as they negotiate complex environments.**

General Education Learning Outcome 2b. Students will understand and appreciate diverse forms of artistic expression.

**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.

## COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

## TEXTS

Carlos Bulosan, *America is in the Heart*  
Willa Cather, *My Ántonia*  
Jhumpa Lahiri, *Interpreter of Maladies*  
Chang-Rae Lee, *Native Speaker*  
John Okada, *No-No Boy*  
Henry Roth, *Call It Sleep*

## COURSE REQUIRMENTS

*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 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:* Each student will complete a mid-term exam, a final exam, and an analytical essay written outside of class. Students cannot pass the course without completing all of the 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 of four or five, students will complete a creative or scholarly project related to one of the assigned texts and present their work in class. Class presentation will be between seven and ten minutes in length. A group grade will be given for the project. Each student in the group will complete a one-page summary of the project and her or his role in its preparation.

*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:

Mid-Term Exam	300 Points
Final Exam	300 Points
Response Essay	100 Points
Analytical Response	100 Points
Group Presentation	100 Points
Canvas Assignments	50 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 an A, those who earn between 80-89% of the points earn a B, 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

## **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.

## **PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY**

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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**

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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**

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If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at [DRC@pointloma.edu](mailto:DRC@pointloma.edu). See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

## **PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY**

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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 352 Diverse Voices in American Literature

Thur. 8/31	Introduction to Immigrant Stories
Tues. 9/5	Cather, Introduction and Book I: The Shimerdas
Thur. 9/7	Cather, Book II: Hired Girls
Tues. 9/12	Cather, Books III: Lena Lingard and Book IV: The Pioneer Woman's Story
Thur. 9/14	Cather, Book V: Cuzak's Boys
Tues. 9/19	Roth, Prologue and Book I: The Cellar, chapters I-X
Thur. 9/21	Roth, Book I: The Cellar, chapters XI-XVI
Tues. 9/26	Roth, Book II: The Picture
Thur. 9/28	Roth, Book III: The Coal
Tues. 10/3	Roth, Book IV: The Rail, chapters I-XVII
Thur. 10/5	Roth, Book IV: The Rail, chapters XVIII-XXII
Tues. 10/10	Okada, chapters 1-4
Thur. 10/12	Okada, chapters 5-8
Tues. 10/17	Okada, 9-11
Thur. 10/19	<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>
Tues. 10/24	Bulosan, Part One
Thur. 10/26	Bulosan, Part Two
Tues. 10/31	Bulosan, Part Three
Thur. 11/2	Bulosan, Part Four
Tues. 11/7	Lee, pages 1-81
Thur. 11/9	Lee, pages 82-155
Tues. 11/14	Lee, pages 156-230
Thur. 11/16	Lee, pages 231-292
Tues. 11/21	Lee, 293-349
Thur. 11/23	<b>No Class Session in Honor of Thanksgiving</b>
Tues. 11/28	Lahiri, "A Temporary Matter," "When Mr. Pirzada Came to Dine," and "Interpreter of Maladies"
Thur. 11/30	Lahiri, "A Real Durwan" and "Sexy"
Tues. 12/5	Lahiri, "Mrs. Sen's" and "This Blessed House"
Thur. 12/7	Lahiri, "The Treatment of Bibi Haldar" and "The Third and Final Continent"
Tues. 12/12	<b>Final Exam 1:30-4:00</b>