



Dept. of Literature, Journalism, Writing & Languages
LIT 350 (3 units)
Fall 2018, Section 2

Meeting days: M/W/F	Instructor: Breeann Kirby
Meeting times: 1:30pm – 2:25pm	E-mail: bkirby@pointloma.edu
Meeting location: BAC 103	Office location: BAC 122
Final Exam: W 1 MAY 1:30pm – 4pm	Office hours: By Appointment

FAQ

What am I going to learn in this class?

LIT 350, World Literature—Comic Book Edition!, offers a semester-long examination of graphic voices from a variety of backgrounds around the world. By listening to these writers, we will address questions about gender, race, class, and agency. Specifically, we will focus on the use of comics to address social issues in various genres and styles.

We will read novels, short stories, non-fiction, and critical essays in a graphic format; we'll then discuss and question how these texts create their impact and lead us towards the larger conversation of how literature can offer moments of transformation. Class lectures will provide you with important historical/biographical information and literary theory/terminology to put these authors' works in context. Together, we will develop the means to engage in intelligent literary discussion and analysis.

Why do I have to take this class?

The short answer is that you need this class or one like it to graduate. The better answer is that this class will make you aware of how stories affect our lives—an awareness you can take from the classroom into many areas of your life. Being able to listen to/read, analyze, synthesize, and enact stories gives you agency in whatever field you may enter.

The more official answer is that this course is one of the components of the General Education Program (GELO) at Point Loma Nazarene University, under the category of Seeking Cultural Perspectives. By including this course in a common educational experience for undergraduates, faculty supports a survey of human endeavors from a historical, cultural, linguistic, and philosophical perspective, including developing critical appreciation of human expression—both artistic and literary (PLNU Catalog).

The Institutional (ILO) and General Education (GELO) Learning Outcomes addressed in this class are as follows:¹

<p>Context: Learning, Informed by our Faith in Christ</p> <p>ILO #1: Students will acquire knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world while developing skills and habits that foster life-long learning</p>
<p>GELO 1a <i>Written Communication</i>: Students will be able to effectively express ideas and information to others through written communication.</p>
<p>GELO 1b <i>Oral Communication</i>: Students will be able to effectively express ideas and information to others through oral communication.</p>
<p>GELO 1c <i>Information Literacy</i>: Students will be able to access and cite information as well as evaluate the logic, validity, and relevance of information from a variety of sources.</p>
<p>GELO 1d <i>Critical Thinking</i>: Students will be able to examine, critique, and synthesize information in order to arrive at reasoned conclusions.</p>
<p>GELO 1e <i>Quantitative Reasoning</i>: Students will be able to solve problems that are quantitative in nature.</p>
<p>Context: Growing, In a Christ-Centered Faith Community</p> <p>ILO #2: Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of self and others as they negotiate complex environments</p>
<p>GELO 2a Students will develop an understanding of self that fosters personal wellbeing.</p>
<p>GELO 2b Students will understand and appreciate diverse forms of artistic expression.</p>
<p>GELO 2c Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complex issues faced by diverse groups in global and/or cross-cultural contexts.</p>
<p>Context: Serving, In a Context of Christian Faith</p> <p>ILO#3: Students will serve locally and/or globally in vocational and social settings</p>
<p>GELO 3 Students will demonstrate an understanding of Christian Scripture, Tradition, and Ethics, including engagement in acts of devotion and works of mercy.</p>
<p align="center">Course Learning Outcomes for LIT 350: World Literature</p>
<p>CLO 1 Students will closely read and critically analyze texts. (GELO 1d, 2b, 2c)</p>
<p>CLO 2 Students will recall, identify, and use fundamental concepts of literary study to read texts: terms, modes/genres, element, periods (dates, writers, characteristics, developments). (GELO 1d, 2b)</p>
<p>CLO 3 Students will connect the literary works with their own lives and with the social, cultural, and historical contexts of the works and their authors. (GELO 1d, 2b, 2c)</p>

¹ SLOs have been taken from Dr. Pedersen's LIT 353 syllabus.

Are there any resources I can use online and/or on campus to help me?

Yes. The following are a few of my favorites.

Tutorial Services is located in Bond Academic on the left side of the building (closest to the gym). Help in many areas is provided FREE to you, but you must make your appointment at least one day before. Phone: 619.849.2593 or email tutorialservices@pointloma.edu.

The Writers' Studio is located in Bond Academic, room 159
<http://www.pointloma.edu/experience/academics/schools-departments/department-literature-journalism-modern-languages/writers-studio>.

The Library has not only many books but also databases that allow you to do specific searches for any topic you want. Further, it also contains very helpful librarians who can assist you.

Canvas will contain this syllabus, the assignments, some readings, and other fun sundries throughout the semester. Sometimes you might have to print them for class. Please check Canvas regularly.

OneLook is an online database of dictionaries www.onelook.com.

Wikipedia is an online encyclopedia www.wikipedia.org. Though this site can have errors from time to time, it is a wonderful place to look up any person, place, or event you encounter in your reading that you do not know. While I love Wikipedia for its ability to quickly provide information, DO NOT use this as a source for your papers.

Me I am available to answer any questions you may have. Tell me when you need to see me in class or email me; please include "LIT350" in the subject of your email.

What if I have to miss a class?

You must attend class to pass the class. However, I do understand that emergencies do come up. If you do choose to miss class, you are responsible for the material covered and assignments given. You must get this information from another student (not your instructor). Lecture information is a privilege for those students who choose to come to class. They may decide to share that information with you if you ask nicely. Also, you must be prepared for the next class you attend. "I didn't know what to do because I missed last class" is not an acceptable excuse.

You may be absent **four classes** (10%) without question. Wise students will not use up allowable absences early-on for fickle purposes, however. A total of four absences may result in a letter's reduction in the course grade. A total of eight absences (20%) may result in failure of the course.

Three times of arriving late or exiting class early will equal one absence. You should not depend on doctors' or deans' excuses to bail you out. The built-in allowances are there to cover such needs, so plan carefully and do not use up your allowed absences early in the quad. Please talk to me and e-mail me about extended illness, emergencies and absence for official university business. Students in traveling groups that represent the university should meet with me during the first week of classes to review the group's travel schedule and its impact on attending LIT 350. Students who are absent from eight class sessions within the first five weeks (without legitimate reasons communicated promptly to the professor via e-mail) should expect to be automatically and officially de-enrolled from the course. I warn students via e-mail of impending de-enrollment after five absences (See PLNU Catalog "Academic and General Policies" for more information on attendance).

Distracting and disruptive behavior will be considered an absence.

What if I want to use other people's writing in my writing?

As Solomon wisely noted, "There is nothing new under the sun." Thus, it is perfectly okay to reference other texts (written or visual) in your own writing. However, you must give credit to any ideas or sentences that are not originally yours or aren't common knowledge. To omit doing this action is an act of plagiarism.

Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Any word that is not your own must be in quotations and cited correctly. As explained in the university catalog, 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. Violations of university academic honesty include cheating, plagiarism, falsification, aiding the academic dishonesty of others, or malicious misuse of university resources. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for a) that particular assignment or examination, and/or b) the course following the procedure in the university catalog. Students may appeal also using the procedure in the university catalog (See PLNU Catalog "Academic Policies" for further information).

If you aren't sure if you are plagiarizing (you sweet, naïve thing), check out the information on the university cheating and plagiarism policy at

<http://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=864>

Or you can visit PLNU's library which also has an excellent tutorial on how to avoid plagiarism.

Finally, you can always talk to me.

Will you assign extra credit?

During a given semester, opportunities for extra credit may arise. These assignments are often difficult. These tasks give you a chance to make up a contracted assignment; therefore, they require extra effort.

How do I contact you?

At the top of the syllabus, all of my contact information is listed. In the subject line of your email, please indicate LIT 350.

What if I need some extra help in your class?

While all students are expected to meet the minimum academic standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may request academic accommodations. At Point Loma Nazarene University, students must request that academic accommodations by filing documentation within the first two weeks of class with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. Once the student files documentation, the Disability Resource Center will contact the student's instructors and provide written recommendations for reasonable and appropriate accommodations to meet the individual needs of the student. This policy assists the university in its commitment to full compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act of

1990, and ADA Amendments Act of 2008, all of which prohibit discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to the benefits of PLNU programs and activities.

Students have the right to appeal decisions regarding academic accommodations. In order to provide prompt and equitable resolution, the student must submit a written or verbal statement to the Director of Academic Advising who will conduct the appeal process in consultation with the Vice President for Student Development.

You can contact the DRC by phone at 619-849-2533 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu.

Also, come see me if you think you may need some extra assistance in passing this class.

What do I have to buy for this class?

1. McCloud, Scott. *Understanding Comics*
ISBN: 97800609762552.
2. Miyazaki, Hayao. *Nausicaa Of The Valley Of The Wind, V.1*
ISBN: 9781591164081
3. Goscinny, René and Albert Uderzo. *ASTERIX+CLEOPATRA*
ISBN: 9780752866079
4. Abouet, Marguerite and Clement Oubrerie. *Aya*
ISBN: 9781894937900
***This title is on reserve at the library.**
5. Masereel, Frans. *Passionate Journey*
ISBN: 9780486460185
6. Masamune, Shirow. *Ghost In The Shell, Volume 1*
ISBN: 9781935429012
7. Moon, Fábio and Gabriel Bá. *Daytripper*
ISBN: 9781401229696
8. Abirached, Zeina. *A Game For Swallows*
ISBN: 9781575059419
9. Bui, Thi. *The Best We Could Do*
ISBN: 9781419718786
10. Hergé. *Tintin And The Picaros*
ISBN: 9780316358491
11. Okorafor, Nnedi. and Andre Araujo. *Black Panther: Long Live The King*
ISBN: 9781302905385
12. Thompson, Craig. *Carnet De Voyage*
ISBN: 9781770463080
13. Some printouts from other material placed in the PAGES section of Canvas as well as a few written assignments.
14. Various office supplies (highlighters, pens, stapler, Scotch tape, paper for notes)

***In the interest of lightening the financial burden of college education, I have placed our additional readings on Canvas rather than constructing a course reader. 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. However, any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.**

How do I pass this class?

1. Come to class
2. Do all the assignments
3. Turn them in on time

**Disclaimer: This class requires a lot of reading and writing. ALL submissions done outside of class must be typed and in MLA format. I will take points off for work that does not meet these standards. I will often communicate with you via email and Canvas announcements.*

*** Further Disclaimer: You must avoid typos in your papers. Typos indicate to me that you are being too lazy to proof your text before you turn it in and that you believe I enjoy wasting my time with unreadable papers. Typos include but are not limited to spelling errors, misuse or nonuse of capitalization, fragments, or incorrect punctuation. Because no one is a perfect proofreader, I will allow one typo every page (meaning if you have a five page paper, you may have up to five typos total on any of the pages in that work).*

What are the specific assignments?

Contract (5%): You will write a contract for the grade you wish to earn in this class and evaluate yourself with regards to the contract at the midterm and the final.

Quizzes (10%): There will be 12 quizzes that will cover our readings. You need to do 10 of the 12 with a passing grade. These quizzes will happen about once a week on Canvas. There will be no make-up quizzes given; if you are absent for the class the day after the quiz, you will receive a zero for the quiz.

***Attend a Reading or Play (10%)²:** There are many opportunities on campus (and off) to see creative events. Many of these events are even followed by a time of interaction with the speaker. You will attend at least one reading this semester and write a 500-word minimum response. This response is **due no later than 1 week** after your attendance of the event

****Presentation (10%):** You will craft a 3-minute presentation to present the emerging issues, structures, themes, and authorial background of a graphic writer/illustrator of your choice (and genre). The selections will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. It will be your job to make your classmates and Prof. Kirby wish that we had been assigned to read your chosen text. More details and rubric for this assignment are on Canvas.

INSTAdiscussions (20%): As we read influential poetry and prose writers, I will post discussion questions about that day's reading on Instagram. First, you will create an academic Instagram account (not your personal account—you don't want to mess up your curation). Then you will follow me: @naturenarratives to see the prompt. You must post your answer to the prompt which will be both a photo (can be taken from our reading) and an explanation as to why that photo answers the question AS WELL AS the relevant hashtags. You may not duplicate a classmate's photo. You must post at least one hour

² * denotes a B-level project

** denotes an A-level project

before class begins on the due date, and you will comment (in addition to liking) at least two other of your classmate's responses. I will post 12 questions; you must respond to 10.

Midterm Essay (10%): Your midterm will be 1 March. It will be short essays, drawing from the ideas generated in INSTAdiscussion questions and class discussion, connecting more than one text.

Response Paper (10%): Drawing from your experience in class, you will choose one work from our course readings that has impacted your understanding and appreciation of cultural perspectives to some degree and write a 2- to 3-page response. It will be submitted in MLA format both electronically via LIVE TEXT as well as in paper copy.

****Final Part 1 – Response to a Class Text (5%):** You will create a response inspired by one of our texts. This response can be a short comic, a performance, a written story or poem, a video, pretty much you can respond in any way you'd like. You will do a short presentation of your work as part of the final.

Final Part 2 – Exam (10%): This will be a comprehensive exam.

Class Participation (10%): Effective learning happens in a dynamic environment. Therefore, you must interact with the instructor and the other students every class session—aka talk. If you wish to earn your participation grade, you must have a good attitude; you must read all of the readings; and you must speak out. Make it your goal to come up with one good thought for every class and to share it. **Also, you must turn off your electronics when you enter the classroom; use of electronics will not be permitted unless you have an academic accommodation OR I give you specific permission.**

Further, sometimes I may SPEAK information in class that is important. It is your responsibility as an active class participant to take notes. I often will use class discussion as a place to clarify how to do a certain writing assignment. This discussion may not appear on Canvas or a PowerPoint presentation. Thus, your taking good notes is important for your success in the class.

Much of the work we will do in this class is cooperative. 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.**

Respect in class is a must. This classroom is a safe space. As we discuss and analyze works that may address potentially emotional topics, we will encounter many different viewpoints within the class. In order to be a good participant in this class, you must be sensitive to your fellow learners. As we share ideas, personal insults and comments will not be tolerated. I will ask you to leave if you cannot be kind. If you aren't sure how to phrase your opinion, please ask me. The best rule to follow: **be kind.**

For all of these assignments, further instructions will be given on Canvas and/or in class

How will I know my grade in the class?

To eliminate grade anxiety, I've set this course up on a contract grading model. This model means that you can **choose** which grade you would like to earn right now at the beginning of the semester and then **allocate your time** wisely to earning that grade. A written contract is due the third week of class that states the grade you intend to earn in the class as well as the work you will do to meet contract; I will then ensure you meet your learning goals. At two other points in

the semester, you will evaluate your contract and contribution to the course. You are free to change your mind during the semester but we must then meet to negotiate your new contract.

I will not accept work that is unfocused and rife with grammatical and logical errors and typos. If you happen to submit an assignment that appears to be the product of lazy engagement with the material, you risk not meeting the conditions of our grade contract. **If I accept your work, it means you met contract and are earning the grade you chose.** I assume that none of you want a grade of D or F; if you are interested in a grade lower than a C, please meet with me to discuss your options.

70 -79 percent: C

To earn a C grade in this class, you will:

1. Create a contract for your grade, evaluating it twice in the semester (5%);
2. Contribute to class discussion every class (participation 10%);
3. Participate in the in-class notecard exercises (participation 10%);
4. Miss no more than 4 classes this semester;
5. Come to class on time;
6. Turn in your assignments on time;
7. Pass 10 quizzes with an average score of 65% (10%);
8. Contribute to 7 discussion questions on Instagram (20%);
9. Pass the midterm with a 70% or better (10%);
10. Pass the Final Exam (part 2) with a 70% or better (10%);
11. Submit your Response Paper (10%).

**For a grade of C+, you will be an active and positive contributor to our classes, offering a respectful spirit and coming up with insightful ideas and worthwhile feedback.*

I will not accept work that does not meet with the quality expected of a C. If you do not do C-quality work, then I will not accept it. The fluctuation in the points scale allows that there can be variable effort and quality put in at the C level. Thus you can earn a C- or a C+.

80 – 89 percent: B

To earn a B grade in this class, you will do all of the above C assignments as well as

1. Attend one literary event in the semester, providing a 500-word response to it (10%);
2. Pass 10 quizzes on Canvas with an average score of 80% (10%);
3. Contribute to 10 discussion questions on Canvas (20%);

**For a grade of B+, you will be an active and positive contributor to our classes, offering a respectful spirit and coming up with insightful ideas and worthwhile feedback.*

I will not accept work that does not meet with the quality expected of a B. If you do not do B-quality work, then I will not accept it. The fluctuation in the points scale allows that there can be variable effort and quality put in at the B level. Thus you can earn a B- or a B+.

90 – 100 percent: A

To earn an A grade in this class you will do all of the assignments listed for B and C grades as well as

1. Create and give a 3-minute presentation on a comics writer/author of your choice that we will not read as a class, signing up for this presentation by 28 January on Canvas (10%);
2. Create and present a response to one of our course readings (Final Part 1 5%).

**For a grade of A, you will be an active and positive contributor to our classes, offering a respectful spirit and coming up with insightful ideas and worthwhile feedback.*

I will not accept work that does not meet with the quality expected of an A. If you do not do A-quality work, then I will not accept it. The fluctuation in the points scale allows that there can be variable effort and quality put in at the A level. Thus you can earn an A- or an A (sorry there are no A+s).

What if I turn in a late assignment?

If you miss the day an assignment is due, your grade on the assignment will drop to not meeting standards of the contract. If you have more than two late assignments in your portfolio, you will not meet the contract for your desired grade. Late quizzes and INSTAdiscussions will not be accepted after the class starts the day it is due.

A	93-100 Percent
A-	90-92
B+	89-88
B	87-83
B-	82-80
C+	79-78
C	77-73
C-	72-70
D+	69-68
D	67-63
D-	62-60
F	Below 60

This syllabus is a contract. If you continue in this course, then you agree to comply with the class policies as stated here.

Schedule³

Readings and assignments are due on the date listed.

****CR denotes readings can be found on Canvas in PAGES section.****

WEEK 1

8 January	Syllabus/Getting to Know You
9 January	McCloud: Chapter 1 “Setting the Record Straight”
11 January	Masreel: <i>Passionate Journey</i> CR: Ernst excerpt from <i>Une Semaine de Bonté</i> DUE: INSTAdiscussion #1 DUE: Quiz 1

WEEK 2

14 January	McCloud: Chapter 2 “The Vocabulary of Comics”
16 January	Hergé: <i>Tintin and the Picaros</i> DUE: Quiz 2
18 January	Masamune: <i>The Ghost in the Shell</i> 01 – 02 (pp.1 – 52) DUE: INSTAdiscussion #2

WEEK 3

21 January	NO CLASS
23 January	Masamune: <i>The Ghost in the Shell</i> 03 – 09 (pp.53 – 282) DUE: Contract
25 January	Masamune: <i>The Ghost in the Shell</i> 10 – end (pp.283 – 349) DUE: Quiz 3 DUE: INSTAdiscussion #3

WEEK 4

28 January	McCloud: Chapter 3 “Blood in the Gutter” DUE: Sign-up for Presentations (your name and chosen comic)
30 January	Goscinnny and Uderzo: <i>Asterix and Cleopatra</i> DUE: Quiz 4
1 February	CR: Hwa excerpt from <i>The Color of Earth</i> DUE: INSTAdiscussion #4

³ Note: I reserve the right to change the syllabus as needed to facilitate our course goals. You will receive notification of these changes; after which time, you are responsible for required material.

Disclaimer: This class is taught at the college level; therefore, reading materials may be adult and/or controversial in connotation and/or denotation. The purpose of presenting such material is to expose you to various viewpoints—viewpoints that will act as sources for discussions. For this reason, no alternate materials will be provided.

WEEK 5

4 February	McCloud: Chapter 4 “Time Frames”
6 February	About and Oubrerie: <i>Aya</i> *On reserve at library
8 February	Okorafor and various artists: <i>Black Panther, Long Live the King</i> DUE: Quiz 5 DUE: INSTAdiscussion #5

WEEK 6

11 February	McCloud: Chapter 5 “Living in the Line”
13 February	CR: R.Crumb excerpt from <i>Genesis</i> DUE: Quiz 6
15 February	Miyazaki: <i>Nausicaa Vol 1</i> . (pp.1 – 61) DUE: INSTAdiscussion #6

WEEK 7

18 February	Miyazaki: <i>Nausicaa Vol 1</i> . (pp.62 - end) DUE: Quiz 7
19 February	WRITERS’ SYMPOSIUM: Nnedi Okorafor
20 February	McCloud: Chapter 6 “Show and Tell”
22 February	CR: McKean excerpt from <i>Pictures that Tick 2</i> DUE: INSTAdiscussion #7

WEEK 8

25 February	CR: Artist VS Writer CR: Gaiman excerpt from <i>Sandman</i> DUE: Quiz 8
27 February	TBD DUE: INSTAdiscussion #8
1 March	MIDTERM DUE: Contract Evaluation 1

WEEK 9

4 March – 8 March	NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK
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WEEK 10

11 March	Bui: <i>The Best We Could Do</i>
13 March	McCloud: Chapter 7 “The Six Steps” DUE: Quiz 9 DUE: INSTAdiscussion #9
15 March	PRESENTATIONS

WEEK 11

18 March	PRESENTATIONS
20 March	PRESENTATIONS
22 March	Abirached: <i>A Game For Swallows</i> (pp.1 – 72)

WEEK 12

25 March	Abirached: <i>A Game For Swallows</i> (pp.73 – end) DUE: Quiz 10
27 March	TBD
29 March	TBD DUE: INSTAdiscussion #10

WEEK 13

1 April	Moon and Bá: <i>Daytripper</i>
3 April	McCloud: Chapter 8 “A Word About Color” DUE: Quiz 11
5 April	CR: Maroh excerpt from <i>Blue is the Warmest Color</i> DUE: INSTAdiscussion #11

WEEK 14

8 April	McCloud: Chapter 9 “Putting It All Together”
10 April	Comics on the Internet
12 April	Comics on the Internet DUE: INSTAdiscussion #12

WEEK 15

15 April	Thompson: <i>Carnet de Voyage</i> (pp.1 – 145)
17 April	Thompson: <i>Carnet de Voyage</i> (pp.146 – 224) DUE: Quiz 12
19 April	NO CLASS

WEEK 16

22 April	NO CLASS
24 April	TBD
26 April	TBD

WEEK 17: FINALS WEEK

1 May	Final Exam 1:30pm – 4pm DUE: Contract Evaluation 2 DUE: Final part 1 - Textual Responses DUE: Response Paper (IN CLASS and on LIVE TEXT)
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