

LIT 2000 • Writing Nature • Allegorical Creatures & Critters



Literature, Journalism, Writing & Languages

LIT 2000 • Section 5

Spring 2020 • Quad 1 • 2 units

Meeting days: M + W	Instructor: Danielle Cervantes Stephens
Meeting times: 2:45-4 p.m.	Phone: 619-895-4285 (available by text between 11a-10p)
Meeting location: *PLEASE NOTE CHANGES BELOW* <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jan. 14 to Jan. 29: Work Independently• Feb. 3 to March 2: BAC 103	E-mail: dcervantes2000@pointloma.edu Office location/hours: Mondays/Wednesdays after class or by appointment.
Final Exam: Monday, March 2, 2:45-5:15 p.m.	

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

Section 5 of LIT 2000 Writing Nature will focus on “Creatures and Critters.” We will explore a curated selection of short allegorical animal narratives—including fables, short stories, excerpts from novels, poetry, and films. These works date from antiquity to the present and span the African, Asian, European and North American continents.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Read closely (comprehension) and critically analyze (analysis) texts in their original languages and/or in translation. (DLO) (GELO 1d, 2b; PLO 2, 3, 5).
- Recall and identify (knowledge) and use (application) fundamental concepts of literary study to read and discuss texts.
- Connect (synthesis) the works with your own life and the social, cultural, and historical contexts of the works and their creators. (GELO 1d, 2b; PLO 1).

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 two [2]-unit class delivered over eight [8] weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

COURSE SCHEDULE & ASSIGNMENTS

See R&Rs posted to Canvas for detailed reading assignment and analytical questions. The following table is a general guide to the course's content and schedule.

CLASS SESSION	LITERARY PERIOD	MODE / GENRE	AUTHOR / WRITER	GEOGRAPHIC REGION	READING	ASSIGNMENT
T • 1/14/2020	Prehistoric, Biblical	Scripture, oral tradition	Moses, et al	Middle East	The Holy Bible	R&R-1A
W • 1/15/2020 [independent study]	Ancient Greece	Fable	Aesop	Greece, Ethiopia	<i>Aesopica (Aesop's Fables)</i>	R&R-1B R&R-1C
Week 1 Independent Study (in lieu of meeting): See R&R-1C for mandatory self-directed activity details.						
M • 1/20/2020 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday • No class meeting.						
W • 1/22/2020 [independent study]	Antiquity	Myth, legend	Dagomba, Ashanti & Krachi "griots"	Ghana, Sudan	Anansi animal series	R&R-2A R&R-2B
Week 2 Independent Study: See R&R-2B for mandatory self-directed activity details.						
M • 1/27/2020 Chinese New Year! [independent study]	Antiquity	Myth, legend	Unknown	China	The origins of Chinese astrology	R&R-3A
W • 1/29/2020 [independent study]	Antiquity-Medieval	Encyclopaedia	Isadore of Seville	Spain-France-England	<i>Physiologus/ Etymologies</i>	R&R-3B R&R-3C
Week 3: Independent Study Activity: See R&R-3C for mandatory self-directed activity details.						
M • 2/3/2020 [BAC 103]	French Classicism	Fable	Jean de la Fontaine	France	<i>Les Fables</i>	R&R-4A
W • 2/5/2020 [BAC 103]	British Romantic	Poetry Gothic novel	William Blake Mary W. Shelley	England	"Tyger" <i>Frankenstein</i> [excerpt]	R&R-4B
M • 2/10/2020 [BAC 103]	Victorian	Novel, "nonsense"	Lewis Carroll	England	<i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i> [excerpt]	R&R-5A
W • 2/12/2020 [BAC 103]	American Gothic	Short story, horror	Edgar Allen Poe	United States	"The Black Cat" and "The Raven"	R&R-5B
M • 2/17/2020 [BAC 103]	American Renaissance	Epic novel	Herman Melville	United States	<i>Moby Dick</i> [excerpt]	R&R-6A
W • 2/19/2020 [BAC 103]	German Realism	Novella, fantasy	Franz Kafka	Germany	<i>The Metamorphosis</i> [excerpt]	R&R-6B
M • 2/24/2020 [BAC 103]	Post-war British	Political Novel	George Orwell	England	<i>Animal Farm</i> [excerpt]	R&R-7A
W • 2/26/2020 [BAC 103]	Late-19 th c. Contemporary African-American	Poetry Autobiography, <i>bildungsroman</i>	Paul Laurence Dunbar Maya Angelou	United States	"Sympathy" <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> [excerpt]	R&R-7B
M • 3/2/2020 Final Exam Day [Presentations] • 2:45 to 5:15 p.m. • BAC 103						

REQUIRED TEXTS & RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

As many texts as possible will be scanned and uploaded as **PDFs to Canvas**. Other texts will be available via a **website**. For the rest of the texts, students are required to have access to the **Amazon Kindle** application. Please purchase/download/rent the following Kindle titles using the ASIN code provided from Amazon as we work through the semester. Many titles are FREE or cheaper than a cup of coffee! You might also consider purchasing Kindle Unlimited for the two months of this course, which gives you unlimited access to many literary classics.

- LiterearyDevices.net [website]
- *The Holy Bible* [any version, your own]
- *Aesop's Fables (Aesopica)* [Kindle] [ASIN B07Q58ZWDF]
- *African Myths & Legends* [PDF on Canvas]
- Chinese Astrology [PDF on Canvas]
- Isadore of Seville *Physiologus/Etymologies* [website]
- Jean de la Fontaine *Les Fables* [Kindle] [ASIN B004UJ86DA]
- Mary W. Shelley *Frankenstein* [excerpt] [Kindle] [ASIN B06ZXT4MRB]
- Lewis Carroll *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* [excerpt] [Kindle Illustrated Version] [ASIN B00EOAFQVU]
- Edgar Allen Poe "The Black Cat" and "The Raven" [Kindle] [B0776W44RX]
- Herman Melville *Moby Dick* [excerpt] [Kindle] [ASIN B072KN8SYF]
- Franz Kafka *The Metamorphosis* [excerpt] [Kindle] [ASIN B07W9LYXD9]
- George Orwell *Animal Farm* [excerpt] [Kindle] [ASIN B003K16PUU]
- Paul Laurence Dunbar "Sympathy" [PDF on Canvas]
- Maya Angelou *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* [excerpt] [PDF on Canvas]

ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Your first-lowest R&R will be dropped. You may replace your second-lowest R&R grade with an **extra credit opportunity** (film review). **Percentage ranges are offered because your professor will reward your strength(s) and growth:** **[1]** strong quiz scores that prove you have read and retain important details, even if you do not necessarily grasp the work's ideas or themes; **[2]** your active participation and class attendance (Feb. to March); and/or **[3]** your improvement over the course of the semester, shown in your mastery of the material on the comprehensive final exam.

Grade Distribution		Grading Scale			
• Quizzes:	10-15 %	A = 95-100	B+ = 87-89	C+ = 77-79	D+ = 67-69
• R&Rs:	60 %	A- = 94-90	B = 83-86	C = 73-76	D = 63-66
• Group Project:	10 %		B- = 80-82	C- = 70-72	D- = 60-62
• Final Exam:	10-15 %				F = 0-59
• Participation (Feb./Mar.):	10-15 %				

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 & 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.