

Course Information	
Department of Literature, Journalism, Writing and Languages	
LIT2000: Independent Study	
2 Units	
Spring 2022	
1/11 – 5/6	

Contact Information	
Weekly Meetings	Instructor: Dr. Eddie Matthews
Office Hours: By appointment	Phone: (805) 668-9147
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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.

HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE

It is expected that all students will abide by the health and safety standards set by the university. Here is a link to the most current [Health and Safety Guidelines](#).

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of representative works of literature and cultural contexts.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Closely read and critically analyze texts in their original languages and/or in translation. (FELO 1d, 2b, 2c)
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 (FELO 1d, 2b)
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. (FELO 1d, 2b)

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

- *Being Heumann: An Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Activist* by Judith Heumann and Kristen Joiner
- *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande
- Third text: TBD shortly

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 2 unit class delivered over 8 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 75 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

- Assignment #1: One submission to the *Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories from the Twenty-First Century* anthology
 - Due*: third week of February
- Assignment #2: One podcast episode – “Disability Belongs: in Literature”
 - Due: third week of March
- Assignment #3: One 10-page research paper connecting three course texts with academic sources
 - Due: third week of April

*Due dates are flexible depending on student’s health.

PROMPTS

Assignment #1: *Disability Visibility* chapter

Taking inspiration from *Disability Visibility*, an anthology of essays edited by Alice Wong, craft a personal narrative of 1,500 – 2,000 words in alignment with one of the four sections of the book: Being, Belonging, Doing, and Connecting. You may interpret these terms in any way you'd like. Your essay should, in Wong's words, "show Disabled people simple being in [their] own words, by [their] own accounts" (xx, emphasis original). This is your account.

Assignment #2: Podcast Episode

For this assignment, you will produce and host a podcast episode for the "Disability Belongs" podcast. Your episode should examine one of the course texts from a new angle, infusing your analysis with your personal experience. The episode should reflect a high degree of professionalism and knowledge of the subject matter.

Assignment #3: Research Paper

In a 10-page research paper (not including Works Cited), you will craft a research-based argument that critically analyzes all three course texts and examines their social, cultural, ethnic, gendered, and/or historical context. This argument should contribute a novel insight into the discourse of Disability literature and its impact in 21st century Western culture. Your analysis could describe a problem that needs rectifying or a cultural development that needs more awareness or a gap in the literature or any other research-based angle you'd like to pursue.

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	

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.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

The amount of meetings will be established between instructor and student in the case of this independent study course.

The student and instructor will meet three times over Zoom to review the assignment submissions. These meetings will take place in February, March, and April respectively. Meeting times will be determined by student and instructor.

SPIRITUAL CARE

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

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](#)

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Since most courses will have online components, in order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use. If a student is in need of technological resources please contact student-tech-request@pointloma.edu.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.