

	Literature, Journalism, Writing, and Languages LIT 3053: Women Writers 3 Units
	Spring 2022

Meeting days: MWF	Instructor: Prof. Karina Westra
Meeting times: 1:30-2:35pm	Phone: 619.849.2978
Meeting location: BAC 151	Email: kwestra@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: Wednesday, May, 1:30-4pm	Office location and hours: BAC 118; MW 2:45-3:45 and by appointment or Zoom
Department Office: BAC 133	Department Assistant: TBD

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.

Foundational Explorations Mission

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and culture.

Course Description

LIT 3053 *Women Writers* is an advanced study of selected works written by women; themes and genres studied may vary. The course focuses on questions related to gender,

class, and race. *Prerequisite(s)*: Fulfillment of the College Composition requirement, LIT 2000, and Junior or Senior standing. **3 Units**

This course is part of PLNU's ***Foundational Explorations Program - IV. Exploring Arts and Culture*** “a survey of human endeavors from a historical, cultural, linguistic, and philosophical perspective, including developing critical appreciation of human expression—both artistic and literary” (Catalog: [Foundational Explorations](#)).

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Students will closely read and critically analyze texts. (*FELO 1d, 2b, 2c*)
2. Students will recall, identify, and use fundamental concepts of literary study to read texts: terms, modes/genres, element, periods (dates, writers, characteristics, developments). (*FELO 1d, 2b*)
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. (*FELO 1d, 2b, 2c*)

Foundational Exploration Learning Outcomes

FELO 1d Critical Thinking: Students will be able to examine, critique, and synthesize information in order to arrive at reasoned conclusions.

FELO 2b Students will understand and appreciate diverse forms of artistic expression.

FELO 2c Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complex issues faced by diverse groups in global and/or cross-cultural contexts.

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 16 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 112.5 minimum total hours meeting the course learning outcomes.

State Authorization

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to

offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student’s responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

Assessment and Grading

- Reading journal—weekly response assignment (30% (percentages are approximate))
- Graphic organizers and in class work—cannot be made up (10%)
- Presentations—2 group presentations on a woman writer (10%)
- Short Essays—3-4 pages (15%)
- FELO Signature Assignment: final summative essay discussing one course reading and its cultural impact on you (10%)
- Attendance and Participation (15%)
- Final exam (10%)

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 88-89	C+ 78-79	D+ 68-69	F 59 or less
A- 90-92	B 83-87	C 73-77	D 63-67	
	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. Essays and the research paper will be accepted late, but students will lose 10% for each day it is late. In class work may be made up only when prearranged between student and professor. 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.

FERPA

In compliance with federal law, neither PLNU student ID nor social security number should be used in publically posted grades or returned sets of assignments without student written permission. This class will meet the federal requirements by (each faculty member choose one strategy to use: distributing all grades and papers individually; requesting and filing written student permission; or assigning each student a unique class ID number not identifiable on the alphabetic roster.). Also in compliance with FERPA, you will be the only person given information about your progress in this class unless you have designated others to receive it in the “Information Release” section of the student portal.

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

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of 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.

As of right now, we will be on Zoom for Week 1, but we should all be prepared for this to be extended. When on Zoom mute yourself unless speaking. *Please keep your camera on unless there is a privacy concern. Please email me or place a note in chat if this is the case. Otherwise I will assume that if your camera is off that you are not present.*

Once we return to in person instruction, the expectation is that you will be present for every class. Please note that Zoom will be offered only for students who must missed class due to University sanctioned quarantine. If the situation changes, students will be notified.

When in class, make sure your mask covers both your nose and mouth. This is university policy until further notice.

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](#).

Academic Writing & MLA Style

For all written work, please use MLA Style and follow all standards of academic writing taught to you in your college composition class. The MLA Style includes the standard use of inclusive language. A MLA Review will be posted in Canvas. *Points are lost for errors in MLA Style use.*

Use of Technology

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work. Please make sure you are familiar with Canvas, check your university email regularly, and save your work often.

Campus computer cannot open Pages; submit all work in Word or Google docs. Please be aware that formatting does not always transfer from Google docs into Canvas.

Inclusive Language

Because the Literature, Journalism, Writing, and Language department recognizes the power of language, all public language used in this course, including written and spoken discourse, should be inclusive. This standard is outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and is the norm in university-level work.

Public Discourse

Much of the work we will do in this class is cooperative, by nature of the class discussions and general feedback given to written work and projects; thus 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.

Diversity Statement

Point Loma Nazarene University is committed to diversity in the classroom, in its publications and in its various organizations and components. Faculty and staff recognize that the diverse backgrounds and perspectives of their colleagues and students are best served through respect toward gender, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, culture and other personal characteristics. In addition, the department of Literature, Journalism, and Modern Languages is committed to taking a leadership position that calls for promoting a commitment to diversity in and out of the classroom and in the practices of writing, journalism and the study of literature.

Required Texts

Austen, Jane. *Sense and Sensibility*.

Bolz-Weber, Nadia. *Accidental Saints*. Convergent, 2015.

--anthology tbd--

Additional articles and essays provided by the professor.

Tentative Course Schedule

Professor reserves the right to make changes as needed.

Week 1, January 10-14

Tuesday	Introduction/Syllabus; Discussion in Canvas; reading journal assignment
Wednesday	Readings in Canvas: Hammond, "Does Fiction Make Us Better People?"; Siefert, "The Case for Reading Fiction"; Crowder, "Literacy and Democracy"
Friday	Why Women writers? Readings in Canvas

Week 2, January 17-21

Monday	No class: MLK Day
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Wednesday	Articles from <i>A Truth Universally Acknowledged</i> : Clarke, “Why We Read Jane Austen,” and Mead, “Six Reasons to Read Jane Austen”—posted in Canvas
Friday	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> commentary—in Canvas

Week 3, January 24-28

Monday	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> , Vol I, chapters 1-3
Wednesday	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> , Vol I, chapters 4-12
Friday	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> , Vol I, chapters 13-19

Week 4, January 31-February 4

Monday	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> , Vol I, chapter 20-Vol II, chapter 3
Wednesday	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> , Vol II, chapters 4-8
Friday	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> , Vol II, chapters 9-14

Week 5, February 7-11

Monday	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> , Vol III, chapters 1-4
Wednesday	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> , Vol III, chapters 5-8
Friday	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> , Vol III, chapters 9-14

Week 6, February 14-18

Monday	<i>Accidental Saints</i> , chapters 1-4
Wednesday	<i>Accidental Saints</i> , chapters 5-8
Friday	<i>Accidental Saints</i> , chapters 9-12

Week 7, February 21-25

Monday	<i>Accidental Saints</i> , chapters 13-16
Wednesday	No class—Writers’ Symposium by the Sea
Friday	<i>Accidental Saints</i> , chapters 17-19

Week 8, February 28-March 4

Monday	Presentations
Wednesday	Presentations
Friday	Presentations

Spring Break, March 7-11

Week 9, March 14-18

Monday	<i>Beyond the Gender Binary</i> Alok Vaid-Menon
Wednesday	Essays from <i>Interpreter of Maladies</i> Jhumpa Lahini
Friday	Essays from <i>Storyteller</i> Leslie Marmon Silko

Week 10, March 21-25

Monday	<i>The Hate You Give</i> Angie Thomas, chapters 1-3
Wednesday	<i>The Hate You Give</i> Angie Thomas, chapters 4-6
Friday	<i>The Hate You Give</i> Angie Thomas, chapters 7-8

Week 11, March 28-April 1

Monday	<i>The Hate You Give</i> Angie Thomas, chapters 9-14
Wednesday	<i>The Hate You Give</i> Angie Thomas, chapters 15-17
Friday	<i>The Hate You Give</i> Angie Thomas, chapters 18-19

Week 12, April 4-8

Monday	<i>The Hate You Give</i> Angie Thomas, chapters 20-21
Wednesday	<i>The Hate You Give</i> Angie Thomas, chapters 22-23
Friday	<i>The Hate You Give</i> Angie Thomas, chapters 24-26

Week 13, April 11-15

Monday	Presentations
Wednesday	Presentations
Friday	Easter Break

Week 14, April 18-22

Monday	Easter Break
Wednesday	Presentations
Friday	Presentations

Week 15, April 25-29

Monday	Women bloggers
Wednesday	Women on Social media
Friday	Wrap up—discuss final; Q & A; extra credit trivia

Final: Wednesday, May 4, 1:30-4pm