

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. Extra-literary research
3. Connect the works with their own lives and with the social, cultural, and historical contexts of the works and their authors.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Bad Feminist by Roxane Gay. **ISBN-13:** 978-0062282712

Citizen by Claudia Rankine. **ISBN-13:** 978-1555976903

Fun Home by Alison Bechdel. **ISBN-13:** 978-0618871711

Passage to Ararat by Michael J. Arlen. **ISBN-13:** 978-0374530129

Rose by Li-Young Lee. **ISBN-13:** 978-0918526533

The Dream of Water by Kyoko Mori. **ISBN-13:** 978-0449910436

The Way to Rainy Mountain by N. Scott Momaday. **ISBN-13:** 978-0826304360

We the Animals by Justin Torres. **ISBN-13:** 978-0547844190

*While digital copies of some of these texts exist, it's preferable to purchase the hard copy so that you can annotate the text as you read it and so you can easily reference the text during exams.

Additional readings may be posted to Canvas and shared with you (you'll need to print these out and bring them with you to class the day they are due)

Please bring a notebook and writing utensil to each class to take notes, as well as the book that will be discussed for that class period.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading/Reading Quizzes:

Dates for the readings are clearly indicated on the schedule. Complete all reading prior to the class session when the text will be discussed. You will be expected to read and annotate (take notes in the margins) all assigned course readings for your own learning. Reading quizzes will total 200 points, but there is no set number of quizzes planned: rather, the quiz grades will be totaled across the semester and then the percentage will be taken out of 200. Example: Fifteen 10-point reading quizzes in a semester and you get 80% total on them (120/150). You would then score 160/200 (80%) for this category.

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, one reading journal, a Writing Event reflection, and a final exam, which includes a take-home reflective essay written outside of class to fulfill gen-ed lit. requirements. Students cannot pass the course without completing all of these major assignments.

Group Presentation:

In groups no larger than five, students will present on a work of literature (loosely defined) beyond what we've explored as a class by a writer from a historically-underrepresented demographic, and present the work to the class. Each presentation will be 8-10 minutes in length and presented in class at the end of the semester. A group grade will be given for the presentation content, quality, and delivery. Each student will individually write and turn in an annotated bibliography detailing three sources that they read to contribute to the presentation content and a detailed breakdown of how each group member contributed to the presentation. This portion of the presentation grade will receive an individual grade.

Attendance:

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 [for this course, that's 4 class periods], the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent [for this course, that's 8 class periods], 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.

MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the midterm and final examinations **on their scheduled days**. The Midterm will consist of a multiple-choice component and an essay exam. The Final Exam will consist of a multiple-choice component and a take-home essay exam. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

This class is interactive and discussion-based. So you'll need to come to class prepared to talk and write about the literary texts we're reading and contribute to and lead discussions, small groups, and peer reviews. You can only understand what is happening during our classes if you have done the reading beforehand, and you will miss out on valuable perspective and insights from your classmates if you do not attend class. The same goes for the writing assignments: they are designed to increase your understanding of the texts and make class more productive. Students who attend regularly, stay engaged in the class activities, and keep up with all of the assigned reading and writing usually succeed in this course.

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

CANVAS

Throughout this course, students will be required to utilize Canvas to post homework responses, receive course grades, and access any changes to the *Course Schedule* throughout the semester. If the *Course Schedule* is updated, students will be notified well in advance, but will need to download the updated schedule which the instructor will post on Canvas.

CANVAS SUPPORT

If you have questions about the content you find in my Canvas course or need clarification on assignment instructions please let me know. If you are unsure how to use any given feature in Canvas you will find the [Canvas Guides](#) to be a very helpful resource. If you cannot access something in my Canvas course or it appears that some part of the course is not working properly, please contact the Office of Instructional Technology for support at oit@pointloma.edu. Include specific information in the request (course ID, section, assignment or module name, etc.) to expedite the troubleshooting process. Screenshots are helpful.

PLNU EMAIL

Students must regularly check their PLNU email account for updates on assignments and scheduling.

RESPECT

Practice basic respect and consideration toward your peers and professor. There will likely be some tricky moments in this class because the literature we read may bring up some conversations about sensitive issues, challenging topics, and difficult language. Remember that we are interested in inquiry, especially critical inquiry, not in establishing one common view. Students who do not actively pay attention and participate in class and will lose participation points.

CONTENT WARNING

As mentioned above, this class will ask you to engage with challenging topics and sensitive issues. Content warnings will not be provided by the professor for individual assigned readings because students should be empowered to judge content for themselves; if content is triggering, or if students determine class discussion of a specific reading will not be a positive or safe space for them, they should contact the professor to discuss alternatives.

TECHNOLOGY

Refrain from using technology during class time unless a classroom activity calls for it to be used. This means cell phones, laptops, iPads, and other electronic devices. Taking notes by hand has been shown to aid long-term comprehension much more so than typing notes, so by all means, *please take handwritten notes* in class. Unauthorized use of technology during class will result in lost participation points.

TURNING IN ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments must be turned in on Canvas by the deadline specified on Canvas.

Late assignments are those turned in any time after the specified due date. Late assignments will lose a letter grade for each calendar day they are late (so an A becomes a B after one calendar day, and so on). Late assignments will not be accepted after a week from the due date. It is your responsibility to ensure that your assignment is uploaded to Canvas on the day it is due. **I will not accept late homework, and missed in-class work and quizzes cannot be made up.**

ACADEMIC HONESTY

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 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.

SPIRITUAL CARE

PLNU strives to be a place where students grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. If you have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain, or if you have prayer requests, you can contact the [Office of Student Life and Formation](#).

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.

PERSONAL NEEDS

Counseling is available in the Wellness Center for undergraduate students at PLNU. They are open Monday through Friday during the academic school year to offer morning, afternoon, and evening appointments. Please call (619) 849-2574 to schedule a counseling appointment.

READING JOURNAL

For each assigned book, you'll have the option of writing your **Reading Journal** entry of two full pages (2 pages = onto page 3) that critically engages with the text, and formulates a brief, thesis-based literary argument. You will be required to turn in **one Reading Journal for the EIGHT books that we read**, so it is up to you which text to respond to. If some part of one of our readings speaks to you or you think of something interesting early on in a text, feel free to write and turn in your journal in advance of the deadline the day after we finish each text. Please see the Course Schedule for due dates. The reading journal will be worth 50 points. No extra credit will be given for additional reading journals turned in beyond the one.

WRITING EVENT REFLECTION

Each student will attend two Writing Events across the semester (see schedule) and write a one-page analysis of what they learned at the events (half a page per event). The written reflection will total 50.

PARTICIPATION

Coming to class well-prepared is critical in a discussion-based course like this one. I expect you to come to each class prepared—that means not just doing the reading, thinking about it, and digesting it, but also *bringing your book to class discussion* because we will often reference the text during class. Coming to class without the assigned reading for the day will result in a loss of participation points. You should also be prepared to actively engage in class discussions, peer reviews, and other in-class activities. I expect you each to meaningfully engage with the coursework and with one another.

Class participation and attendance will be graded out of 100. Each class day is worth 2 points, up to a max of 72 points (39 non-exam, non-prep, non-presentation MWF meetings). You can miss three classes without it affecting your grade (any points above 72 (up to 78) will be counted as extra credit [6 points possible])—but you are still responsible for the readings/homework due on the days you're absent, and in-class quizzes cannot be made up. If you miss class or are significantly unprepared for class, you'll earn a zero for that day. **Each absence beyond three will result in 5 points being subtracted from the participation category.**

For the remaining 28 points of your participation grade, you'll earn a 23 if you're doing the basics of engaging with the class and participating in discussion; you'll earn a 24+ if I see you regularly leaping in and making strong contributions; you'll earn a 22 or lower if you are frequently late, unprepared, inattentive, disruptive, or do not regularly participate in discussion.

I expect you to attend class and to arrive on time—but I also understand that things come up. In the case of an emergency, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss what arrangements can be made.

COURSE GRADING OVERVIEW

- 50 points – Reading Journal
- 50 points – Writing Event Reflection
- 100 points – Presentation
- 100 points – Class Attendance and Participation
- 200 points – Reading Quizzes
- 200 points – Midterm Exam
- 300 points – Final Exam

LETTER GRADE GUIDELINES

880 - 899 points	B+	920 - 1000 points	A	900 - 919 points	A-
780 - 799 points	C+	820 - 879 points	B	800 - 819 points	B-
680 - 699 points	D+	720 - 779 points	C	700 - 719 points	C-
		620 - 679 points	D	600 - 619 points	D-

WHAT ESSAY EXAM GRADES ACTUALLY MEAN

A: Exceptional Work: complex understanding and insightful application of skills and concepts; sophistication and depth in interpretation and style; proficiency in standard grammatical form and documentation conventions; high competence in all or almost all categories of the grading rubric.

B: Very Good Work: clear, thoughtful understanding and sound application of skills and concepts; correct written presentation; high competence in most categories of the grading rubric.

C: Adequate Work: obvious, general, or vague understanding and application of skills and concepts; acceptable written presentation; basic competence in many categories of the grading rubric.

D: Less-than-Satisfactory Work: limited understanding and weak application of skills and concepts; poorly presented written work; low competence in many categories of the grading rubric.

F: Unsatisfactory Work: inadequate understanding and incorrect application of skills and concepts; unacceptable written presentation; incompetence in most categories of the grading rubric.

LIT 3052 COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE	READING	ASSIGNMENTS DUE (in bold)
WEEK 1		
Tuesday, August 30	Syllabus Day	
Wednesday, August 31	Arlen's <i>Passage to Ararat</i> , pgs. V-54	
Friday, September 2	Arlen's <i>Passage to Ararat</i> , pgs. 55-99	
WEEK 2		
Monday, September 5	LABOR DAY: NO CLASS	
Wednesday, September 7	Arlen's <i>Passage to Ararat</i> , pgs. 100-154	
Friday, September 9	Arlen's <i>Passage to Ararat</i> , pgs. 155-201	
WEEK 3		
Monday, September 12	Arlen's <i>Passage to Ararat</i> , pgs. 202-250	
Wednesday, September 14	Arlen's <i>Passage to Ararat</i> , pgs. 251-293	
	WRITING EVENT: Book Release Celebration w/ Dr. Katie Manning, Dr. Margarita Pintado, and Emma McCoy (senior lit major)—4:30-5:30pm @ Colt Hall	
Friday, September 16	Mori's <i>The Dream of Water</i> , pgs. 1-60	Turn in Reading Journal
WEEK 4		
Monday, September 19	Mori's <i>The Dream of Water</i> , pgs. 61-100	
Wednesday, September 21	Mori's <i>The Dream of Water</i> , pgs. 101-151	
Friday, September 23	Mori's <i>The Dream of Water</i> , pgs. 152-204	
WEEK 5		
Monday, September 26	Mori's <i>The Dream of Water</i> , pgs. 205-275	
Wednesday, September 28	Torres's <i>We the Animals</i> , pgs. 1-29	Turn in Reading Journal
Friday, September 30	Torres's <i>We the Animals</i> , pgs. 30-60	
WEEK 6		
Monday, October 3	Torres's <i>We the Animals</i> , pgs. 61-97	
Wednesday, October 5	Torres's <i>We the Animals</i> , pgs. 98-125	
Thursday, October 6	WRITING EVENT: Poetry Day w/ Jen Grace Stewart: Workshop and Q&A 11:00am, Fermanian Reading and Q&A 4:30pm, ARC	
Friday, October 7	Lee's <i>Rose</i> , pgs. Foreward-19	Turn in Reading Journal
WEEK 7		
Monday, October 10	Lee's <i>Rose</i> , pgs. 20-33	
Wednesday, October 12	Lee's <i>Rose</i> , pgs. 37-45	
Friday, October 14	WRITING EVENT: Interview of Chitra Divakaruni: Read excerpt posted to Canvas Attend interview: 1:30pm, location tbd	
WEEK 8		
Monday, October 17	Lee's <i>Rose</i> , pgs. 46-58	
Wednesday, October 19	Lee's <i>Rose</i> , pgs. 59-69	
Friday, October 21	FALL BREAK: NO CLASS	
WEEK 9		
Monday, October 24	MID-TERM EXAM	
Wednesday, October 26	Momaday's <i>The Way to Rainy Mountain</i> , pgs. 1-35	

		Turn in Reading Journal
Friday, October 28	Momaday's <i>The Way to Rainy Mountain</i> , pgs. 36-64	
WEEK 10		
Monday, October 31	Momaday's <i>The Way to Rainy Mountain</i> , pgs. 65-89	
Wednesday, November 2	Gay's <i>Bad Feminist</i> , pgs. ix-43	Turn in Reading Journal
	WRITING EVENT: Poetry on Point: 4:30-5:30pm, Colt Hall	
Friday, November 4	Gay's <i>Bad Feminist</i> , pgs. 61-82, 128-153	
WEEK 11		
Monday, November 7	Gay's <i>Bad Feminist</i> , pgs. 187-191, 207-232, 267-279, 290-293, 303-318	Writing Event Reflection
Wednesday, November 9	Excerpt [on Canvas] of Scott McCloud's <i>Understanding Comics & Bechdel's Fun Home</i> , pgs. 1-23	Turn in Reading Journal
Friday, November 11	Bechdel's <i>Fun Home</i> , pgs. 24-86	
WEEK 12		
Monday, November 14	Bechdel's <i>Fun Home</i> , pgs. 87-150	
Wednesday, November 16	Bechdel's <i>Fun Home</i> , pgs. 151-232	
Friday, November 18	Rankine's <i>Citizen</i> , pgs. 1-38	Turn in Reading Journal
WEEK 13		
Monday, November 21	Rankine's <i>Citizen</i> , pgs. 39-80	
Wednesday, November 23	THANKSGIVING BREAK: NO CLASS	
Friday, November 25	THANKSGIVING BREAK: NO CLASS	
WEEK 14		
Monday, November 28	Rankine's <i>Citizen</i> , pgs. 81-119	
Wednesday, November 30	Rankine's <i>Citizen</i> , pgs. 120-161	
Friday, December 2	Presentation work day in class	Turn in Reading Journal
WEEK 15		
Monday, December 5	Presentations	
Wednesday, December 7	Presentations	
Friday, December 9	Presentations; Course Evaluations	Turn in Presentation Written Component
WEEK 16—FINALS WEEK		
Friday, December 16	FINAL EXAM PERIOD: Friday 1:30-4:00pm: Multiple Choice and Written Essay Exam	