



American University of Ras Al Khaimah

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE - REDEFINED



Course Syllabus

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|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Course Title: | Literature Across Cultures | Course Code: | ENGL 201 |
| Class Time: | MW | Class Room: | G213 |
| Final Exam Date: | TBA | Final Exam Location: | TBA |
| Instructor: | Dr. Steven Zani | Office: | Bldg A – G01 |
| E-mail: | steven.zani@aurak.ac.ae | Office Hours: | TBA |

Course Description:

Students explore world literature as a form of cultural expression and develop their sensitivity to cultural diversity through a critical study of the literatures of the world, through a study selections from a variety of texts which may include short fiction, novels, graphic novels, plays, essays, poems and films, as a socio-cultural response by writers to the world in which they live. They will deepen their knowledge of the complexities of human life and nature, and develop respect for people and cultures, love for nature, desire for peace and commitment to justice and will also become familiar with those literary terms and conventions necessary to discuss and write about literary works.

Textbook(s) and/or Materials:

Necessary materials and supplies:

1. A college-level English dictionary or equivalent.
2. An AURAK email account.
3. Access to Blackboard.
4. Paper and pen/pencil, every day in class.

Web Resources

D. Web Resources:

1. Purdue OWL at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>
2. Diana Hacker Research and Documentation Online at <http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>
3. Dictionary: <http://www.dictionary.com>

Course Objectives:

This course enables students to:

- Analyze and interpret text in order to generate effective arguments.
- Apply critical writing strategies to accomplish delivery of message and content.
- Recognize and employ different critical analysis strategies to understand literary texts.
- Recognize discipline and work specific formats and guidelines for writing, and employ them effectively.
- Produce writing that demonstrates understanding of literature in various cultures

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| Course student Learning Outcomes | Through Development of Critical Thinking and Reasoning Learners Are Able To: |
| CSLO 1 | Demonstrate ability to write and revise effective and persuasive communication for various purposes and audiences through various course writing assignments. |
| CSLO 2 | Demonstrate ability to apply critical reading strategies that are appropriate to advanced reading in their academic discipline and future workplaces through various course writing assignments |
| CSLO 3 | Demonstrate an understanding of how knowledge is constructed in their academic disciplines and future workplaces through various course writing assignments |
| CSLO 4 | Demonstrate ability to analyze rhetorical situations (audience, purpose, and context) of texts produced in their academic disciplines and future workplaces through various course writing assignments |
| CSLO 5 | Produce writing, including arguments and proposals, that is appropriate for a range of rhetorical situations with particular attention to textual features such as common genres; organizational strategies; style, tone and diction; and expected citation formats |

| | Quizzes – 20% | Assignments – 30% | Research Essay 10% | Midterm 20% | Final 20% |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| CSLO 1 | | x | | | |
| CSLO 2 | x | | | x | |
| CSLO 3 | | x | x | x | x |
| CSLO 4 | x | | x | x | x |
| CSLO 5 | | | x | | |

Grading System and Scale:

University course work is measured in terms of quantity and quality. A credit normally represents one hour per Topic of lecture or recitation or not fewer than two hours per Topic, independent or laboratory work throughout a semester. The number of credits is a measure of quantity. The grade is a measure of quality. The university system for undergraduate grading is as follows:

| Grade | Percentage Scores | Grade Points |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| A | 90-100 | 4.0 |
| A- | 87-89 | 3.7 |
| B+ | 84-86 | 3.3 |
| B | 80-83 | 3.0 |
| B- | 77-79 | 2.7 |
| C+ | 74-76 | 2.3 |
| C | 70-73 | 2.0 |
| C- | 67-69 | 1.7 |
| D+ | 64-66 | 1.3 |
| D | 60-63 | 1.0 |
| F | 0-59 | 0 |

Relevant Policies

A. Academic Misconduct.

The Honor Code and Honor System

The Honor Code is an integral part of university life. Students are responsible, therefore, for understanding the code's provisions. Cheating and attempted cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing of academic work and related materials constitute Honor Code violations. In the spirit of the code, a student's word is a declaration of good faith acceptable as truth in all academic matters. To maintain an academic community according to these standards, students and faculty must report all alleged violations to the Honor Committee.

AURAK expects its students to uphold high standards of academic integrity and conduct. In particular, students are required to:

- Attend classes regularly and punctually.
- Be actively involved in class discussions and other course related classroom activities.
- Complete assignments on time.
- Meet the requirements for course and program completion.
- Abide by high standards of academic integrity, ethics, and honesty.
- Refrain from cheating on homework and examinations, plagiarizing other people's work by submitting it as their own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty.
- Adhere to the published test or examination rules and regulations.
- Make every effort to maintain good academic standing.

Given the internet and easy access to information and knowledge sources, the University is committed to students' learning in an ethical manner. For all academic assignments, project work, and presentations, students need to ensure that due acknowledgement is given to the source of any information which they incorporate in their work. The following are some examples of academic misconduct:

- Cheating/using unfair means in examinations
- Significant paraphrasing in written academic work that is unacknowledged
- Unacknowledged use of information or ideas unless such ideas are common place
- Citing sources which student has not read or referred to
- Breaching the word limit of assignments and mentioning wrong word count
- Plagiarism

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Plagiarism is the use of someone else's ideas, words, projects, artwork, phrasing, sentence structure or other work without properly acknowledging the ownership (source) of the property (item). Plagiarism is dishonest because it misrepresents the work of someone else as one's own. It is intellectual theft as it robs others of credit for their work. Plagiarism takes many forms including:

- Using someone else's words without putting those words in quotation marks and providing full information about their source, sufficient information so that another person could easily locate the words that are being quoted, whether it is in an article, a book, or on the web.
- Using unique, original ideas, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, or other materials, etc. from a single source or a variety of sources such as a text, journal, web page, electronic source, design, artwork, etc. in one's work without citing all sources. For a

student found plagiarizing, the punishment will be a failing grade in the assignment without the right to redo the assignment up to a failing grade in the course.

Examples of Cheating. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Copying from another student's paper during an exam, or allowing or encouraging another student to copy from your paper during an exam.
2. Having someone else take your exam in your place, or taking an exam for someone else.
3. Obtaining unauthorized access to exams and accepting exams obtained by unauthorized access.

Examples of Plagiarism. Acts of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following

1. Handing in as 'original', work prepared by someone else or preparing/completing someone else's work.
2. Copying from a book or other publication without citing sources.
3. Using the same work to satisfy the requirements of two or more courses (during the same or different terms).
4. Having someone else rewrite a rough draft or rewriting a rough draft that is not your own work.

Violations of plagiarism are subject to evaluation according to the criterion of "reasonable doubt". The student's right to appeal and the procedures to be followed in carrying out the appeal of the University's decision is clearly stated in the *Student Handbook*.

Any violations of the University's academic rules, regulations or directives are reported to the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs and may result in one of the following disciplinary measures.

- Verbal or written warning
- Repeating the term
- Dismissal from the University

Please refer to the relevant section in the *Handbook* and ensure a clear understanding of the provisions of the University honor code and honor system in order to avoid infringement of the policy and attendant penalization.

B. Concerns about grades or other course matters.

Students are responsible for their learning experiences. If you are concerned about a class matter, first discuss it with the instructor. If the matter is not resolved, the next step is to meet with the Program Chair. If you still have a concern, meet with the Dean. The matter is likely to be resolved before it reaches that point, but if it is not, then the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

C. Assignments

University policy is that assignments are due on the date assigned.

D. Attendance.

University policy is that students are to attend all classes and to arrive on time. Verified emergencies may require an absence or delay, but habitual tardiness or absence affects your

learning and disrupts the class. Your presence is important since student contributions are a significant part of classroom activity and absence deprives others of your contributions.

According to current University Regulations for attendance

E. Mobile Phones

Mobile phones, pagers and/or other communication devices are permissible in the classroom (with the exception of testing days, e.g. the Mid-Term and Final Exam). However, students may be removed from the classroom or otherwise suffer punitive measure if the possession of any such devices becomes disruptive or prohibits learning.

F. Diversity and the Use of English

English is the common language of the AURAK campus, the use of which includes everyone. It is the only language to be used in the classroom. AURAK brings together students and faculty from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds, which is one of the strengths of the university. This diversity provides an opportunity to share our different experiences and enlarge our understanding of the world.