



Shanghai University of Finance & Economics

2020 Summer Program

ENG 115 How Literature Works

Course Outline

Term: June 1 – June 26, 2020

Class Hours: 14:00-15:50 (Monday through Friday)

Code: ENG 115

Instructor: Dr. Veruska Cantelli

Home Institution: Champlain College

Office Hours: TBA

Email: vcantelli@champlain.edu

Credit: 4

Class Hours: This course will have 52 class hours, including 32 lecture hours, professor 8 office hours, 8-hour TA discussion sessions, 4-hour review sessions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

How do we read literature? What are some of the key concepts and structures that define a genre? Why does literature move us and how can we understand the language of literary writing? In this course, we will lean on these and other questions to unpack literary texts from a critical perspective. We will read from a selection of classical texts from different genres and periods, applying critical thinking as a tool to define our own response and the literary techniques, rhetorical features, and contexts that emerge out of our reading. Literary criticism will be a fundamental compass to understand the conversation between texts, writers, context, aesthetics, and readership. The course is designed as a Socratic circle, you are encouraged to participate in class discussions. In class group activities will support and enhanced our ability to learn from different perspectives from close reading.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Gilgamesh

Selected Cantos from Dante's *Inferno*

A selection of Short stories by Tolstoy, Kathryn Mansfield, African Folktales, Assia Djebar

Dostoevsky's *White Nights*



Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

Literary Criticism: Excerpts from John Sutherland's *How Literature Works*

Excerpts from Anne H. Stevens' *Literary Theory and Criticism: An Introduction*

LEARNING GOALS

In this course you will:

- Learn how to practice close reading and how to analyze the particular rhetorical features of a literary text and to relate them to the text as a whole.
- Understand the fundamental elements of a genre and its historical and social background that influence canons.
- Think critically on a literary genre, analyze and converse in writing with literary criticism.
- Deepen your research and writing skills including how to conduct research, citations, how to write a thesis statement, how to write an effective introduction.

COURSE POLICIES and ASSIGNMENTS

Short critical response papers (600-700 words): 20%

Research Project (1500 words) + (Proposal, Annotated Bibliography, Draft, Final Draft): 40%

Participation: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

GRADING SCALE

A	94-100	C	74-76
A-	90-93	C-	70-73
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	84-86	D	64-66
B-	80-83	D-	60-63
C+	77-79	F	0-59

GENERAL COURSE GUIDELINES

For any writing in this class please use Times New Roman, Font 12, Double Space. Don't forget to write your name and class days and time. Please note that no handwritten assignments will be accepted.

Attendance: You are expected to be present, prepared, and on time for all class sessions. Three unexcused absences will result in a one-letter final grade deduction (e.g. a B+ will be lowered to a C+). Four absences will result in a failing grade.

Lateness: To be late once or twice during the semester can happen to anybody and it is not a problem, but tardiness and/or leaving class for extended amounts of time will count as an unexcused absence.

Use of electronic devices: phones, tablets, computers are NOT allowed in class UNLESS otherwise instructed.



上海财经大学

Shanghai University of Finance & Economics

中国上海市国定路777号 邮编200433 777 Guoding Road, Shanghai, 200433, China

Emails: I am available via email. Feel free to write with any questions you may have

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1

Introduction to the course

The Epic Genre

Gilgamesh

Selected Cantos from Dante's *Inferno*

Excerpts from John Sutherland's *How Literature Works*

First short response paper due

Week 2

The Short Story

A selection of Short stories by Tolstoy, Katheryn Mansfield, African Folktales, Assia

Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

Excerpts from John Sutherland's *How Literature Works*

Excerpts from Anne H. Stevens' *Literary Theory and Criticism: An Introduction*

Second short response paper due

Week 3

Dostoevsky's *White Nights*

Excerpts from John Sutherland's *How Literature Works*

Excerpts from Anne H. Stevens' *Literary Theory and Criticism: An Introduction*

Third short response paper due

Research Topic

Conducting research

Third short response paper due

Week 4

Excerpts from John Sutherland's *How Literature Works*

Excerpts from Anne H. Stevens' *Literary Theory and Criticism: An Introduction*

Annotated Bibliography

Peer review of draft

Final draft

Final exam