WORLD LITERATURE
English 4220
Mr. Willis

Mr. Willis’s information:
Office: Elliott Basement
Telephones: Office: 285 7416, Cell: 765 465 1244

Office Hours:
MWF: 10-11:00am
MWF: 2:00-3:00pm
W: 6:30-8:00pm
Tues by appointment
Thursday: 1:00-2:00pm

Some information about the course.

Whenever I sit down to write a syllabus for this course, I am bewildered by what we can’t get into the class. There simply is not enough time to cover the literature of the world in one semester. What I have tried to do is select some of the representative works of British and World Literatures and some of the famous works that are often alluded to in other writings. I hope that such a class will be valuable. We might call it “the basics of cultural literacy in World Literature.”

Some rules and procedures

Be in class everyday. Everyone needs to be in class to provide good discussion of the assigned reading.

Be sure that you have read the material before coming to class. Literature cannot be discussed if it hasn’t been read!

If a student is absent with an illness or other excused absence, the assignment is due on the student’s return to class.

If a student has a pre-arranged absence, the assignment should be in before the absence.

If a lengthy absence has occurred, make up work needs to be discussed (as soon as possible) with the instructor.

An absence on Wednesday (for example) does not mean that a student should not be unprepared on Friday! You each have a syllabus; I have a telephone (or two) and email, and office hours.

Make up work is a student’s responsibility.

Students may submit written assignments to my office (slip it under the door if I’m not there) by 5:00pm of the day it is due, with no penalty.
Try to have all of your work word processed. Try also to find printers for your assignments. If no printers are available, you may occasionally email an assignment to me.

Requirements of each student.

Attend class sessions.
Read the material assigned by time it is due.
Participate in the discussions of the material in class. Many of the discussions will be graded. Discussion is a way that I will know if you have read and are understanding the material.
Complete all assignments timely.
Be co-operative in group and class projects.

Grades
Some of the major grades include:
Two major papers:
The Epics Paper 200-300 points
A research paper (a department and course requirement) 200-300 points

Quizzes, presentations, and assignments on writings:
Ancient literature 20-100 points
Medieval Literature 20-100 points
Hamlet 20-100 points
One Hundred Years of Solitude 20-100 points
A test on Hamlet 200 points
The Final Examination (on One Hundred Years of Solitude) 200-300 points

Good discussion and exciting work in class will help a grade.
There will be some opportunities for extra credit assignments.

Statement of Academic Honesty

"Honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental attributes of the university community. Academic dishonesty by a student will not be tolerated, for it threatens the foundation of an institution dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge. To maintain its credibility and reputation, and to equitably assign evaluations of scholastic and creative performances, the Indiana Academy is committed to maintaining a climate that upholds and values the highest standards of academic integrity."

The above is the statement of academic honesty from Ball State University.
If writing in your work does not come out of your head, it needs to be credited (using correct MLA form) to the original writer!

Grading Scale:

95-100% = A
90-94% = A-
88-89% = B+
85-87% = B
80-84% = B-
78-79% = C+
75-77% = C
70-74% = C-

Statement of Academic Honesty from The Indiana Academy

The policy for Academic Dishonesty as written in the Student Handbook will be in force during this course. Honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental attributes of the Academy community. Academic dishonesty by a student will not be tolerated for it threatens the foundation of this institution dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and critical thinking. To maintain credibility and reputation and to equitably assign evaluations of scholastic and creative performance, The Indiana Academy and this instructor, are committed to maintaining a climate which upholds and salutes the highest standards of academic integrity.

State of Equity.

Ball State University and The Indiana Academy aspire to be a university and gifted high school that attract and retain a diverse faculty staff, and student body. We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and The Indiana Academy and respect and civil discourse as expressed in the Beneficence Pledge and through university resources found at http://cms.bsu.edu/campuslife/multiculturalcenter.
THE SYLLABUS

Jan. 8 Mon. Introduction to the class and to *The Skin of Our Teeth.*

Jan. 10 Wed. Read/discuss Acts I and II of *The Skin of Our Teeth*

Jan. 12 Fri. Read/discuss Act III of *The Skin of Our Teeth*
   Quiz on the play.

Jan. 15 Mon. No school today: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Jan. 17 Wed. Introduction to the Epic and to *Gilgamesh.*
   Read Introduction to *Gilgamesh,* (Norton World Literature, Volume A)
   pp. 10-12. Also read from *Gilgamesh,* “Prologue,” “Gilgamesh, King in

Jan. 19 Fri Read and discuss the following sections from epics:
   *The Odyssey* Book IXX, “New Coasts and Poseidon’s Son” NWM-1,
   pp. 306-319
   *The Iliad,* Book SVIII. “the Shield of Achilles,” NWM-1, pp. 162-177.

Jan. 22 Read and discuss the following war poems (handouts)
Mon.  “The Charge of the Light Brigade,” by Alfred, Lord Tennyson
“Thy” by Siegried Sassoon
“The Soldier’ by Rupert Brooke
“Dulce et Decorum Est” by Wilfred Owen

Jan. 24  Read and discuss the following sections from epics:

Jan. 26  Read and discuss the following:
Fri.  *Gilgamesh,* “The Search for Everlasting Life, NWM-1, pp. 31-36, and
      Book 6, “The Return,” pp. 41-42, and Book 7, “The Death of
      Gilgamesh,” **Omit Book 5 at this time.**
      **Also read:** “Death Constant Beyond Love,” by Gabriel Garcia Marquez,
      *NWM.II,* pp. 2440-2436. **Note: a different book.**

Jan. 29  Read and discuss the following “Flood” stories.
Mon.  **Everyone read:**
      *Gilgamesh,* Book 5, “The Flood,”(NW-1-A) pp. 35-38
      *The Old Testament,* Genesis 6-9, ”The Flood,” (NW-1-A) pp. 60-63
      From Ovid’s *Metamorphoses,* “Deucalion and Phyr ra,” handout
      From *The Koran,* “Noah,” *(NWL-B)*1458-59 or handout.
      **Be prepared to compare and contrast the four accounts of the flood.**

Jan. 31  Wrap up and review
Wed.  

Feb.  2  Assign paper on the early epics
Fri.  

Feb. 5  **EXTENDED BREAK....NO CLASS**
Mon.  

Feb. 7  Introduction to *Beowulf.*
Wed.  

Feb. 9  Read Part I of *Beowulf,* (NWL-B) pp. 1632-1660
Fri.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 12</td>
<td>Read Part II of <em>Beowulf</em> (NWL-B) pp. 1661-1681.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 14</td>
<td>Read Part III of <em>Beowulf</em> (NWL-B) pp. 1681-1702</td>
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<td>Feb. 16</td>
<td>Work day on Epic Presentations</td>
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<td>Feb. 19:</td>
<td>Epic Group Presentation: Group 1</td>
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<td>Feb. 21</td>
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<td>Feb. 23</td>
<td>Epic Group Presentation: Group 2</td>
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<td>Feb. 26</td>
<td>Epic Group Presentation: Group 2</td>
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<td>Feb. 28</td>
<td>Epic Group Presentation: Group 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 2</td>
<td>Epic Group Presentation: Group 3</td>
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<td>March 3-March 11</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK.</td>
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<td>Mar. 12:</td>
<td>Introduction to Dante’s <em>Inferno</em>. Read in class- sections of The Introduction to Dante (NWL-B) pp. 1826-1836. Also read Canto I, pp. 1836-1839 in class.</td>
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<td>Mar. 14</td>
<td>Read and present Dante’s <em>Inferno</em>, as assigned.</td>
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<td>Mar. 16</td>
<td>Read and present Dante’s <em>Inferno</em>, as assigned</td>
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<td>Mar. 19</td>
<td>Introduction to <em>The Canterbury Tales</em></td>
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<td>Mar. 21</td>
<td>Read and study and discuss <em>The Canterbury Tales</em> as assigned.</td>
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<td>Mar. 23</td>
<td>Read and study and discuss <em>The Canterbury Tales</em> as assigned.</td>
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<td>Mar. 26</td>
<td>Introduction to Shakespeare and <em>Hamlet</em>.</td>
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<td>Mar. 28</td>
<td>Read and discuss Act I, <em>Hamlet</em>, (NWL-C) pp. 2829-2849</td>
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<td>Mar. 30</td>
<td>EXTENDED WEEKEND NO CLASS</td>
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<td>Apr. 2</td>
<td>EXTENDED WEEKEND NO CLASS</td>
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<td>Apr. 4</td>
<td>Read and discuss Act II, <em>Hamlet</em>, (NWL-C) pp. 2850-2865</td>
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<td>Apr. 6</td>
<td>Read and discuss Act III, <em>Hamlet</em>, (NWL-C) pp. 2866-2886</td>
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<td>Apr. 9</td>
<td>Read and discuss Act IV <em>Hamlet</em>, (NWL-C) pp. 2886-2902.</td>
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<td>Apr. 11</td>
<td>Read and discuss Act V <em>Hamlet</em>, (NWL-C) pp. 2903-2918.</td>
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<td>Apr. 13</td>
<td>TEST: <em>Hamlet</em></td>
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<td>Apr. 16</td>
<td>Introduction to <em>One Hundred Years of Solitude</em>.</td>
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<td>April 18 Wed.</td>
<td>Read and discuss <em>One Hundred Years of Solitude</em> (as assigned).</td>
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<td>April 20 Fri.</td>
<td>Read and discuss <em>One Hundred Years of Solitude</em> (as assigned).</td>
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<td>April 23 Mon.</td>
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<td>April 25 Wed.</td>
<td>Read and discuss <em>One Hundred Years of Solitude</em> (as assigned).</td>
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<td>April 27 Fri.</td>
<td>Read and discuss <em>One Hundred Years of Solitude</em> (as assigned).</td>
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<td>April 31 Mon.</td>
<td>Read and discuss <em>One Hundred Years of Solitude</em> (as assigned).</td>
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<td>May 2 Wed.</td>
<td>Read and discuss <em>One Hundred Years of Solitude</em> (as assigned).</td>
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<td>May 4 Fri.</td>
<td>Research papers due.</td>
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<td>May 15-26</td>
<td>May Term.</td>
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<td><strong>Yay 8-12</strong> <strong>FINAL EXAMINATIONS</strong></td>
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