

**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES**  
**WORLD LITERATURE GENERAL SYLLABUS**

<b>Course Title</b>	EN 201: World Literature
<b>Course Credits</b>	Three (3) hours
<b>Academic Year</b>	Fall 2018
<b>Class Location</b>	TED 108
<b>Class Time &amp; Date</b>	TU/TH 8:00-9:15 a.m. & 9:25-10:40 a.m.
<b>Instructor</b>	Deb Payne Purnell, M.A., M.F.A.
<b>Office Location</b>	TED 163
<b>Office Hours</b>	Mondays & Wednesdays, noon-4:00 p.m.
<b>Office Phone Number</b>	662-254-3449
<b>E-mail address</b>	<a href="mailto:Deborah.purnell@mvsu.edu">Deborah.purnell@mvsu.edu</a>

**Course Description:**

This course is a survey of world literary masterpieces beginning with various creation myths, the Greek epic of *The Iliad*, the British epic *Beowulf*, the religious writings of Confucius, as well as Shakespeare's *The Tempest*.

**Expected Student Learning Outcomes:**

- To improve students' reading comprehension skills, content knowledge, analytical abilities, and interpretation through close reading and analysis of selections from world literature.
- To develop students' skills in written expression—emphasizing clarity, organization, specificity, and standard American English.
- To promote students' awareness and sensitivity to the aesthetics—intellectual, emotional, and cultural—inherent in world literature using a reader response approach.

**Required Text:**

Damrosch, David. *Gateways to World Literature. Volume 1. The Ancient World through the Early Modern Period*. New York: Pearson, 2008.

**The Syllabus:** The syllabus should be used as an outline for the class. The instructor reserves the right to make changes at any time and without notice to course structure, dates, content, etc.

**Class Attendance Policy:** Attendance will be taken at the beginning and end of every class meeting and recorded in an online gradebook, [www.learnboost.com](http://www.learnboost.com). You are expected to be at every session. Regular attendance is required. For a three credit course a total of FIVE unapproved absences are allowed. The student will fail the course with three or more unapproved absences. The class will begin promptly with attendance being taken. You are tardy if you enter class after your name has been passed during the roll call; it is then your responsibility to inform me immediately after class has concluded that you were indeed present, so you can receive a tardy instead of an absence. You may take a brief restroom break at any time, but if you leave the classroom and do not return,

you are absent for that day. Furthermore, if you miss as much as two-thirds of a class by arriving late and/or leaving early, you will be marked absent, even if you are present during roll call. Absences are counted from the first day of class until the end of the semester. Only official University excused absences do not incur attendance penalties. Reading quizzes or vocabulary checks may be given at the start of class. If you arrive in class during or after quizzes have been given, you will not be allowed to make up the quiz.

**Classroom Demeanor:** You must show respect to the professor and students in this class at all times. You may not shout out during the class period by speaking without being addressed by the professor. Some days the class will divide into small groups, and you must be willing to participate in groups. Infringements on these rules may result in a zero for class participation. You may not engage in any private conversations during the class. You must be prepared to work for the entire class period. Remember that the professor is always in charge of the class even on days when class participation is active. By remaining enrolled in this course, you are agreeing to complete all assignments and participate in discussions, regardless of objections you might have on these grounds. All ethical perspectives and opinions will be respected by the instructor and by all class members at all times. Religious perspectives can be shared in class, but religious beliefs are not a replacement for intellectual exchange and scholarly research.

**Classroom Decorum Statement:** Students should behave in a manner that is conducive to a teaching/learning environment. Students who engage in behavior that is disruptive or obstructive to the teaching/learning environment will be subject to disciplinary sanctions outlined by the Code of Student Conduct. Disruptive/obstructive behavior is not limited to but may include the following: physical abuse, verbal abuse, threats, stalking, intimidation, harassment, hazing, possession of controlled substances, possession of alcoholic beverages, sleeping, etc.

**Participation:**

Everyone is expected to participate in this class. I expect our classroom to be a dynamic, accountable space where everyone can engage in a multiplicity of academic debates, deliberation, and where everyone is held accountable for their words and actions. This means coming to class prepared for all discussions, peer review sessions, and quizzes etc. If you are absent, you cannot get daily participation grades. Every day you are absent, you are missing something, and you will receive a ZERO for each day you miss. If you have an official university excuse, those days will be marked “excused” in the gradebook. Daily work CANNOT be made up.

\*\*Note that your participation and attendance are inherently linked. Additionally, in order to encourage participation, the classroom will be an electronic free zone. All laptops, tablets, phones, etc. are to remain in purses/backpacks, which will remain closed unless otherwise instructed\*\*

**Cheating and Plagiarism Policy:**

A student who engages in intentional plagiarism (copying someone’s paper or summaries from e-notes, cliff notes, Wikipedia and the like) will receive an F for that assignment; no student will be accused of plagiarism without clear evidence. If the student engages in intentional plagiarism a second time, the student may fail the course.

**Make-up Policy:** Assignments are due at the start of class on the due date marked on the syllabus, unless otherwise noted. Late papers are accepted ONLY in the case of a documented medical or family emergency. The

instructor will determine what constitutes an emergency. ALL other late submissions will not be accepted, and a grade of zero will be assigned. NO PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE CLASS TIME. NO PAPER SLID UNDER MY OFFICE DOOR WILL BE ACCEPTED without prior arrangements AND an Official University excuse.

Exemption from assignments includes documented medical and family emergencies, and university sponsored trips ONLY. After submitting an official excuse, the student will have a specific time frame to complete assignments for credit, as determined by professor. Failure to submit make up assignment by the specified time will result in a zero for the assignment.

**The Writing Center and Lab:** Students should use the writing center to receive individual attention to improve essays in progress and the writing lab to develop grammar skills for correcting surface errors in their essays. While attending the Writing Center and Lab is not mandatory, it is strongly encouraged.

### **Teaching/Learning Strategies:**

- Up to 20 major journal entries of at least 2 pages each are required (unless otherwise noted). Students will receive a “prompt” for each of these papers. The papers must be written in a composition notebook and turned in at the end of this semester. Each journal entry should be in the form of a focused, well-organized, grammatically correct paper. This includes having an interesting introduction, relevant body paragraphs that incorporate brief, useful citations that support the thesis statement, and a satisfactory conclusion, prepared according to Modern Language Association guidelines. Each response must follow the correct format, be an analysis (not a summary), and must include a well-integrated quotation and two literary terms. Students are also required to take up to 10 reading response quizzes. You will receive a rubric regarding the responses that lists expectations. Each response must follow the correct format, be an analysis (not a summary), and must include a well-integrated quotation. A mid-term examination and a final examination are each required.

### **Journaling Rules:**

Be very strict in the form the journal takes. Use a standard 8.5x11 composition notebook, either lined or unlined, or purchase a fancy, but an inexpensive 5x7 journal. Do not use a heavy three-ring binder or a spiral notebook.

- **Date** and **number** the entries and begin each entry on a new page. Do not write on the back of entries. Doodling is fine but make it your practice to write on one side of the paper only.
- The more you use the journal throughout the term, the more beneficial it will be to you. If it works as it can, it will institute the habit of daily writing, which is the minimal expectation you should have for yourself if you wish to improve as a writer.
- Write 2-3 pages for each journal prompt.
- Bring the journal and textbook to each class.

### **Grading Criteria:**

Only grades of “A,” “B,” “C,” “D,” and “F” may be earned. “I” grades will only be given under extreme circumstances and in accordance with university policy.

**Scale: 90-100 = A      80-89 = B      70-79 = C      60-69 = D      0-59 = F**

Class Participation/Attendance	10%
Journal	30%
Reading Comp Exams	30%
Midterm	15%
Final	15%
Total:	100%

**Disabilities Statement:**

Mississippi Valley State University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with a documented disability. If you feel you are eligible to receive accommodations for a covered disability (medical, physical, psychiatric, learning, vision, hearing, etc.) and would like to request it for this course, you must be registered with the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) program administered by University College. It is recommended that you visit the Disabilities Office located inside the EMAP Computer Lab in the Technical Education (IT) Building to register for the program at the beginning of each semester. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Mr. Billy Benson, Jr. via phone or email at 662-254-3005 or [billy.benson@mvsu.edu](mailto:billy.benson@mvsu.edu).

201 Course Outline

August 21	Introduction to Course (Syllabus), Basic MLA-Formatting, Summary versus Analysis, Lecture on the Ancient World, pp. 1-24
August 23	Lecture the Ancient World, pp. 1-24 & from "Genesis," pp. 74-80
August 28	from "Genesis," pp. 80-84, class discussion
August 30	<b>Comp Exam 1</b>
September 4	Lecture on Homer & <i>The Iliad</i> , Book 1, pp. 98-111
September 6	<i>The Iliad</i> , Book 18, pp. 111-124
September 11	Book 22, pp. 124-134; class discussion
September 13	<b>Comp Exam 2</b>
September 18	Lecture on Ovid, <i>The Metamorphoses</i> , Books 1, 3, pp. 444-449, Literary Analysis #1 Assignment rubric
September 20	<i>The Metamorphoses</i> , Books, 6 & 8, pp. 449-456
September 25	<i>The Metamorphoses</i> , Books, 10 & 15, pp. 463-467, class discussion
September 27	<b>Comp Exam 3</b>
October 2	<b>Midterm Exam; Literary Analysis 1 due</b> at class time
October 4	Lecture on the Medieval Era, pp. 477-499 & Beowulf
October 9	Part 1 "Grendel," <i>Beowulf</i> , pp. 651-670
October 11	Part 2 "Grendel's Mother," pp. 670-711, class discussion

October 16	<b>Comp Exam 4; Literary Analysis #2 Assignment rubric</b>
October 18	Lecture on Chaucer and <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> , pp. 868-870; “The General Prologue” 15-minute movie
October 23	The Wife of Bath’s Prologue,” pp. 890-910
October 25	“The Wife of Bath’s Tale,” pp. 910-918, class discussion
October 30	<b>Comp Exam 5; Literary Analysis #2 due at class time</b>
November 1	Lecture on the Early Modern Period, pp. 920-931 & Shakespeare
November 6	<i>The Tempest</i> , Act 1, Literary Analysis #3 Assignment rubric
November 8	<i>The Tempest</i> , Acts 2 & 3, class discussion
November 13	<i>The Tempest</i> , Act 4
November 15	<i>The Tempest</i> , Act 5
November 19-23	Fall Break
November 27	Review of <i>The Tempest</i> ; <b>Literary Analysis #3 due at class time</b>
November 29	<b>Comp Exam 6</b>
December 3-7	<b>Final Exam Week</b>
December 4	<b>Journals due by 10 a.m.</b>