COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Please consult the online class schedule for specific days and times of these courses.
https://sunspot.sdsu.edu/schedule/

CLA 270A WORLD LITERATURE GUTHRIE, M

This course is a survey of literary classics from the ancient to the medieval period. We will read epic poetry, drama, and prose primarily from the ancient Greek and Roman world and from medieval Europe. Texts will include Homer's *Iliad and Odyssey*, Aeschylus's *Agamemnon*, and Dante's *The Divine Comedy*. We will also read one contemporary novel, Donna Tartt's *The Secret History*, that takes up classical texts and themes. Our reading will be supplemented by film, photography, and artwork. The course requires active participation, including group activities, short quizzes, two exams, a short essay and a longer final paper.

CLA 270B WORLD LITERATURE GRANGER, J

Description Not Available

CLA 270B WORLD LITERATURE CUMMING, T

Ever travel?

What if you could go to any land you like or slip through time to a foreign but strangely familiar land? What would you look for? What would you find?

Fortunately enough, we have a device that will help you go on this journey, and we have decided to share it with you. Come to sixteenth century England, zip on over to Italy circa 1945, stick around for the contemporary scene in Sicily. See what was going on in 1980's USA. Take this world literature class, and hold in your own hands the magical device that lets you travel to any land at any time and visit any people that ever devoted itself to writing.

Once there, you will find warriors and lovers and discover how they spent their time in battles and in love. You will see what people fought against and cared for, what they struggled over and why they decided to cooperate. We will visit royal courts and the demi-monde, converse with generals and explorers, pilots in disguise, young fishermen, and people who fought to keep their world alive. We will read four major texts, a scattering of poetry, and, to help us understand the magic in them, ten to fifteen helpful textbook pages per week.

Course Requirements: Four major texts, a poetry collection, textbook reading [totally approximately 15 pages per week in the textbook and 50-200 pages per week fiction or 25 pages poetry], participation, clicker quizzes, two midterms, online discussion and online process journals, one formal paper. Additional possibilities for the daring include the creation of an alternate syllabus.

CLA 270B WORLD LITERATURE (Revised) GUTHRIE, M

This course will introduce students to literature through the genres of detective fiction, crime novel, and more loosely defined mystery stories. We will concentrate primarily on twentieth-century novels though we will also read poetry that ties in with one or more of the fictional works discussed. Topics within these genres will include developing cultural and historical consciousness, race and ethnicity, gender, and ecology. In this multi-media course, we will also make comparisons between several of the novels and their film adaptations. Readings include Conan-Doyle’s *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, Raymond Chandler’s *The Long Goodbye*, Toni Morrison’s *Song of Solomon*, Peter Hoeg’s *Smilla’s Sense of Snow*, and Haruki Murakami’s *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*.
FALL 2014

Course offerings listed below are subject to change. All courses may not be listed here.

C LT 440  AFRICAN LITERATURE  EDSON, L

An investigation of African literature from various countries representing the pre-colonial, colonial, and post-independence periods. Texts to be read include Chinua Achebe's Things Fall Apart (Nigerian), Flora Nwapa's Efuru (Nigerian), Ferdinand Oyono's Houseboy (Cameroon), Ousmane Sembene's God's Bits of Wood (Senegalese), Buchi Emeche's The Joys of Motherhood (Nigerian), and Tsitsi Dangarembga's Nervous Conditions (Zimbabwean).

Course Requirements: In class writing assignments, oral reports, mid-term and final exams.

C LT 513  19TH CENTURY EUROPEAN LITERATURE  EDSON, L

An investigation of 19th century European literature that includes close analysis of novels by Balzac, Flaubert, and Dostoevsky, the poetry of Baudelaire, and the drama of Ibsen and Strindberg. Issues to be discussed include realist representation, realist literature as a portrait of society, the politics of the family, the representation of consciousness, fagades and illusions, conscious and unconscious role-playing, the nature of desire, Symbolist poetry, and the semiotics of the theatre.

Course Requirements: In-class writing assignments, oral reports, mid-term and final exams.

C LT 580  NEUROTEXTS  EWELL, J

NeuroTexts is a course on the meaning and the mystery of thinking, bringing together approaches from contemporary neuro- and cognitive science with an array of literary texts to explore brains, minds, intelligence, and their role in culture. We'll begin the course with discussions of the classic "mind-body problem" and the importance of that philosophical quandary in shaping our understanding of minds, brains, consciousness, and human experience more generally. Our readings will draw from a range of literature, philosophy, and early psychoanalysis, including works by Edgar Allan Poe and Sigmund Freud, before venturing into later 20th-century works by Alan Turing, Douglas Hofstadter, Oliver Sacks and several others to show how advances in our understandings of neurophysiology and computer-based artificial intelligence have fundamentally changed the terms of the mind-body problem, giving us new perspectives on ourselves and our physical and mental being. The second unit "Signifying brains," looks at how the mind represents the world and also how the mind represents itself. We'll explore representations of the mind in literature and popular nonfiction, ranging from Virginia Woolf's stream of consciousness style in Mrs. Dalloway to neural representations in contemporary science fiction. Throughout this second unit, too, we'll be studying a selection of recent scholarship that has attempted to bring cognitive science to our understanding of fiction, literature, and the arts.

C LT 594  FILM AND FICTION  JAFFE, H

Focus: Graphic and Quasi-Graphic Novels

We will read four graphic or graphic-like novels and view films which bear some--though not always a literal--relationship to the reading.

Books

Charles Burns, Black Hole
Marjane Satrapi, Persepolis
Chris Hedges and Joe Sacco, Days of Destruction and Days of Revolt
Harold Jaffe, Induced Coma

Course Requirements: Student requirements will include responses on aspects of the books and films, a midterm, and a final examination; each exam will be comprised of essay questions.