

English 2100, Fall 2018
Writing About Literature: Global Journeys
Professor Elizabeth Chang
Arts and Science 234
MWF 10-11am

How to reach me and get information about the class

Office hours: Drop in anytime **between 2 and 4 on Wednesdays** or email me/use Canvas to make an appointment for another time.

Office location: Tate Hall 205

Mailbox Location: Tate 114

Email: change@missouri.edu (I won't respond very quickly between the hours of 5pm and 9am or on weekends but feel free to email whenever you like)

LMS: Canvas. This will be the main place where I share information about the class, so please let me know immediately if you have any questions or if anything doesn't seem to be working properly.

Course Description

This course number: This course provides instruction in the fundamentals of writing about literature. Designed with the needs of declared or prospective English majors and minors in mind, it employs a broad theme or topic in order to introduce students to the basics of literary research, interpretation, and criticism. A central goal of the course is to familiarize students with a variety of critical and theoretical approaches that are used in the study of literature. The course covers two or more of the traditional literary genres (fiction, poetry, drama, and/or non-fiction), at least one in verse and one in prose. The course may also present media (such as film, photography, etc.) in relation to those genres. Prerequisite: ENGL 1000 or equivalent, sophomore standing.

This class: The books we will read concern stories of past and present journeys around the world, some free, others forced, all with surprising consequences. I have paired 19C and 20/21C texts to help further prompt our thinking. We will discuss both the formal aspects of these texts as well as the ways that their different genres intersect with historical, gender and racial dynamics in literature. Along the way I will introduce you to a variety of methods and topics of study that can be included within the English major.

Required Reading:

Samuel Taylor Coleridge, "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" (available on Canvas)

Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*

Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Sign of Four*

Kazuo Ishiguro, *When We Were Orphans*

H. G. Wells, *The Time Machine*

Mohsin Hamid, *Exit West*

Oludah Equiano, *Interesting Narrative* and Mary Prince, *The History of Mary Prince* (available on Canvas)

M. NourbSe Philip, *Zong!* (available on Ellis Reserve and on Canvas)

Claudia Rankine, *Citizen*

A Note on Due Dates and Revisions:

You may have an extension on any assignment for any reason, provided that you give me **at least 24 hours advance notice**. However, assignments turned in late without prior notification will receive a zero. You may also revise any assignment that you originally turned in on time for a complete grade replacement as long as **you meet with me in person** to discuss the revision.

A Note on Reading:

I expect everyone to stay on top of the reading and assignments. If for any reason you find yourself slipping behind, please come see me in office hours so we can figure out a strategy to get you back on track. As you read, make sure to record interesting passages and ideas so you can bring them up during class. I will expect you to be prepared with specifics about the text during each class discussion. I will also expect you to bring some kind of text (electronic or paper) to every class.

A Note on Participation:

Your participation grade will reflect the following components: 1) how well prepared you are for the class, 2) how well your contributions to discussion help move things forward and contribute to class themes, and 3) how well you listen to your classmates (whether you agree or disagree with them) and demonstrate through your comments that you are taking part in a conversation. **If you spend time on your computer or your phone doing things unrelated to class, if you come in late or leave early without letting me know in advance, or if you are otherwise absent while present, you will be marked absent for the day.**

A Note on Attendance:

If you are not in class, you obviously cannot participate nor can you turn in assignments. If you miss a lot of classes, you can expect a low participation grade and zeros for your missed assignments. **If you miss more than 9 classes—3 weeks of the semester --- you will be dropped from the class for non-attendance.**

Students with Disabilities:

If you anticipate barriers related to the format or requirements of this course, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need to make arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible.

If disability related accommodations are necessary (for example, a note taker, extended time on exams, captioning), please establish an accommodation plan with the [MU Disability Center](#), S5 Memorial Union, 573-882-4696, and then notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For other MU resources for persons with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

Assignments and Grade Breakdown:

In-class Participation and Peer-editing (50 points)

Includes both thoughtful speaking and engaged listening, as well as careful, attentive and thorough peer-editing and peer response. Note, however, that I do not necessarily interpret silence as disengagement when it comes to class discussion. You can also earn points for

participation by turning in written comments that respond to and engage with class discussion—these must be given to me by the end of the class to earn credit for that day's discussion.

Due date: eternal, a way of life

Discussion Leading: (50 points)

Direct class discussion with prepared interpretive questions (and follow-up comments) addressing the reading; these questions are also to be posted on Canvas.

Due date: by sign-up, to take place throughout the semester.

Weekly Writing Prompts: (10 points each, 150 points total)

A way to keep your writing muscles exercised, to practice techniques for more formal assignments, and to try out creative forms of response. Specific assignments will be available one week in advance. Five prompts will be either pop reading quizzes or some other form of in-class writing.

Due Date: at start of class on Fridays as marked on syllabus, these will NOT be accepted by email or after class has begun. In-class writing will appear periodically.

"Why and What I Write about Literature": (50 points)

3 page informal paper that explains some of your ideas about literature and introduces me to you; topics you might wish to cover include: what you consider to be literature (and what is not literature), and why; how you prefer to think and write about literature and why; what literary research means to you; literature you love, literature you loathe, and reasons for both....or other topics of your choosing.

Due Date: August 27

Annotated Bibliography of 19C reviews of Jane Eyre: (150 points)

Three to five entries of a page or so each, analyzing a review published in the 19C of the novel *Jane Eyre*. Library instruction session will help you figure out how to find the review; it is up to you to determine how to assess and thoughtfully summarize the style, tone, approach and critical focus of the review.

Due Date: September 24

Contemporary Critical Article Assessment Paper: (150 points)

3-5 pages of reasoned and thoughtful analysis of a critical article published in the 21C concerning a text we have read in class; should cover article's argument, methodology, evidence as well as style, tone and other information about the author and publication as pertinent.

Due Date: October 29

Literary Analysis Paper: (100 points)

2 - 4 page paper performing close literary analysis on a text we have read in class, paper should have a thesis and use specific and direct evidence from the text to make a persuasive claim about the style, form, content, theme, or other important element of the text. Does not need to include outside research.

Due Date: November 16

Final Project Presentation: (75 points) + (25 points extra credit if you exhibit your poster at Class Project Research Day on December 6, see me for more info on this)
3 slide (approximately) or poster-sized presentation to be given to the class summarizing your research in your final project, to take approximately 5-7 minutes.

Final Research Paper: (First Draft 25 points if turned in on time + Final Draft 200 points)
6 - 8 page research paper elaborating and building on one of the previous assignments (primary research, critical article, or literary analysis). Thesis and approach to be developed in class and in consultation with me.

Due Date: First Draft, November 30; Paper Conferences December 3 and 5; Final Draft, December 12

FYI: English 2100 requires that at least 80% of your grade be determined by writing assignments; and at least 50% of your grade be determined by formal writing, which must include one research paper of 6-8 pages including drafting and revision.

Total Possible Points: 1000

Grading Scale Equivalencies

A = 950-1000 C = 730-769
A- = 900-949 C- = 700-729
B+ = 870- 899 D+ = 670-699
B = 830-869 D = 600-669
B- = 800-829 F = 590 and below
C+ = 770-799

Individual Assignment Equivalencies

Max Points	200	150	100	50
A	200	150	100	50
A-	186	139	93	46
B+	176	132	88	44
B	168	126	84	42
B-	162	121	81	40
C+	156	117	78	39
C	148	111	75	37
D	122	91	61	30
F	118	88	59	29

Schedule of Classes

August

M 20

Introductions, Course Goals, "Ulysses"

W 22

Rime of the Ancient Mariner

Last names A-M read 1798 version

Last names N-Z read 1817 version

Both versions are on Canvas

F 24 *Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, read the version you didn't read for Wednesday

Writing prompt due

M 27

Why and What I Write about Literature Paper Due, 3 pages

Jane Eyre Chs. 1-6

W 29

Jane Eyre, Chs. 7-12

F 31

Jane Eyre, 13-16

Writing prompt due

September

M 3

No Class, Labor Day

W 5

Jane Eyre, Chs. 17-20

F 7

Jane Eyre, Chs. 21-24

Writing prompt due

M 10

Jane Eyre, Chs. 25-28

W 12

Jane Eyre, Chs. 29-34

F 14

Jane Eyre, Chs. 35-38

Writing prompt due

M 17

Library Session: Meet in Ellis Library 213

read *Wide Sargasso Sea* Part One

W 19

Wide Sargasso Sea, first half of Part Two

F 21

Wide Sargasso Sea, second half of Part Two

Writing Prompt due

M 24

Annotated bibliography of *Jane Eyre* book reviews due, 3-5 pages/entries

Wide Sargasso Sea, Part Three

W 26

Sign of Four, Chaps. 1-7

F 28

Sign of Four, Chaps. 8-12

Writing Prompt due

October

M 1

When We Were Orphans, Part One

W 3

When We Were Orphans, Part Two

F 5

When We Were Orphans, Part Three

Writing Prompt due

M 8

When We Were Orphans, Part Four

W 10

When We Were Orphans, Part Five

F 12 **No class**

M 15 *When We Were Orphans*, Part Six and Seven

W 17

Time Machine Chaps. 1-4

F 19

Time Machine, Chaps. 5-7

Writing Prompt Due

M 22

Time Machine Chaps. 8-10

W 24

Time Machine, Chaps. 11-Epilogue

F 26 **No class**

M 29

Critical Article Assessment Paper Due, 3-5 pages

Exit West Parts 1-2

W 31

Exit West Parts 3-5

November

F 2

Exit West Parts 6-8

Writing Prompt Due

M 5

Exit West Parts 9-12

W 7

Selections from Equiano, *Interesting Narrative* (available on Canvas)

F 9

Selections from Mary Prince, *History of Mary Prince* (available on Canvas)

Writing Prompt Due

M 12

Zong! (available on Ellis Reserve and Canvas)

J.W. Turner, *Slavers Overthrowing the Dead and Dying*

W 14

Zong!

F 16

Zong!

Literary Analysis Paper Due, 3-5 pages

No Class Thanksgiving Week

M 26

Citizen

First Draft of Final Paper Due in Class, at least 3 pages + outline

Final Project Presentations

W 28

Citizen

Final Project Presentations

F 30

Citizen

Final Project Presentations

December

M 3

Final Project Presentations

W 5

Final Project Presentations

Th 6

Present at Class Research Project Poster Day (Optional, Extra Credit)

4:30-6pm, McQuinn Atrium of the Bond Life Sciences Center

December 12 by 5pm (or by arrangement)

Final Paper Due 6-8 pages

Submit hard copy to my mailbox in 114 Tate Hall

Syllabus Information from the University

Academic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards breaches of the academic integrity rules as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor.

Intellectual Pluralism

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the departmental chair or divisional director; the director of the [Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities](#); the [MU Equity Office](#), or equity@missouri.edu.

All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course.

Executive Order #38, Academic Inquiry, Course Discussion and Privacy

University of Missouri System Executive Order No. 38 lays out principles regarding the sanctity of classroom discussions at the university. The policy is described fully in [section 200.015](#) of the Collected Rules and Regulations. In this class, students may not make audio or video recordings of course activity, except students permitted to record as an accommodation under [section 240.040](#) of the Collected Rules. All other students who record and/or distribute audio or video

recordings of class activity are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of [section 200.020](#) of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

Those students who are permitted to record are not permitted to redistribute audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded. Students found to have violated this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of [section 200.020](#) of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.