ENG 247.001/002 Multicultural Literature      Fall/2015/Pimomo
Office:          L&L 408 F; Phone: 963-1553; Email: pimomop@cwu.edu
Office hours:    MTW: 11:00-12:00 am. Or by appointment.
Class days:      Monday through Thursday. Friday is a reading/research/writing day.

Texts:
2. Course handouts.

Course Content:
This is an introductory course in multicultural American literature. Because American literature and culture have roots in many knowledge traditions, we shall begin with some foundational texts from different parts of the world. We shall then focus our attention on the main literary strands in the United States, and end with literature written in English from other parts of the world, thus returning to the global context we started with. This course is based on the understanding of the multicultural realities of American society, from the time of the many Native peoples to the ever-growing diversity in our time.

The Objective of this course is to learn about multicultural America through the literary and cultural expressions that are part and parcel of American history and society.

Goals:
- Read, understand, talk and write meaningfully about literary works that are expressive of the multifaceted American lives and cultures.
- Understand the cultural contexts that gave rise to the different traditions of American literature and recognize the literary concepts and features in the traditions.
- Develop an appreciation of the differences in and connections among the traditions.

Graded assignments (goals and outcomes are assessed in these ways):
- Quizzes (announced & unannounced)……………………………………… 20%
- Midterm Exam (Questions to be announced in advance). *Due Nov. 9* 30%
- Essay on a relevant topic based on the readings from CWU’s website theme, “Mass Incarceration”. *Due Nov. 16* ………………………………………… 20%
- Final Paper (Topics to be announced in advance). *Due Dec.10* 30%
- The Exam, Essay, and Paper details will be made available to you in advance.

Percentage points conversion to Letter Grades Table:

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<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<td>95-100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>90-94</td>
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<td>45-49</td>
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<td>00-44</td>
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Teaching/Learning Method:
Participatory. Come prepared to discuss the day’s reading. You can’t participate if you’re absent, so attendance is crucial.

Attendance Policy
Attendance and consistent effort are necessary for success in this class. Hence regular attendance is required. The 4th absence lowers your grade by a full letter (example: A = B). The 5th or more equals F for the class.

Policy on papers and missed work: Late papers are accepted only for authorized university reasons. No make-up for missed work is given except for documented reasonable circumstances.

Plagiarism
Using someone else’s paper as your own, having someone else write for you, allowing other students to use your work as theirs, or lifting parts of other people’s work without properly acknowledging them, are serious intellectual offenses and can result in your failing this class, or worse, including disciplinary action by the Student Affairs Office.

Disabilities Policy
Students with disabilities should contact Disability Services to discuss a range of options for removing barriers, including accommodations. Student Disability Services is located in Hogue 126. Call (509) 963-2214 or email ds@cwu.edu for more information.

Class etiquette
As a sign of respect for one another and for our common learning space, please have your cell phone and other diversionary gadgets turned off while in class. Do speak up thoughtfully and freely, but do not advocate violence as a way to solve real life problems or model aggressive behavior in your interaction with people in the class. Please be on time for class.

Schedule

September
23  Introductions (syllabus and the class to one another)
24  Multicultural America (an introductory outline by professor)

Course Foundation: Principles of Human Relations and Co-existence (a selection)
28  Protagoras “Great Speech”; Native American story of Gluskabe and Grandmother Woodchuck (class handouts).
29  Ten Commandments, Exodus 20; The Beatitudes, Matthew 5; The Good Samaritan, Luke 10; First Christians, Acts 4 (Class handouts)
30  M. Gandhi, “Poverty in the Midst of Plenty” (Class handouts); Jainism’s The Acaranga Sutra & Non-violence (class handout).

October
01  Human Rights: Sophocles’ Antigone, (see LAC)
05  Sophocles’ Antigone, 868, contd….
07  Yevgeny Yevtushenko, “People,” 856.
08  Multicultural Issues & Values: A Review of Course Foundation.

African American Lit.:
13 Langston Hughes, (LAC). The Negro Speaks of River, 80; The Weary Blues, 646; Dream Variations, 647; Harlem, 647.
15 Read at home and take notes from “Prison Culture” section on CWU Website under “Mass Incarceration.”
21 Discussion: African American culture and literature readings. Led by prof.
22 Assignment for Essay on “Mass Incarceration.”

Native American Lit.
26 Red Jacket, 1805 Oration (class handout)
27 Joseph Bruchac, “The Circle…” (class handout)

Latino/a Literature.
November
03 Martin Espada, LAC, 662-665 (3 poems); 627Aurora L. Morales, 656; Pat Mora, 658.
04 Midterm Questions and Instructions.
05 Preparation for Midterm exam
09 Midterm Exam
11 Veterans Day Holiday

Asian-American Lit.

World Lit.
18 Chinua Achebe, Dead Men’s Path,” 832.
25, 26, 27: Thanksgiving Recess.

December
Kate Chopin, “Desiree’s Baby,” 611
Topics for Paper; brainstorming for paper.
How to write an interpretive paper.
Final Exam week.
Paper is due in the English Department Office.

Note: There may be slight changes in the schedule as we work into the quarter. The very best to each and every one of you! PP