

# Syllabus

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Instructor: Matt Martinson  
Office: L&L 416F  
Course Time: MTWF 12:00-12:50

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Office Hours: MWF 11-12  
Classroom: Black 136

## The Point of English 105

This course exists to introduce you to a variety of literary works—short stories, poems, plays, nonfiction, and novels—from different time periods and countries. We will examine the language, construction, meaning, and impact of each work, as well as its relationship to other works we read in class. Rather than find the supposed *hidden meaning* in each text, we will find how each text has a *variety* of meanings.

My personal goal this quarter is to be a literary ambassador of sorts, attempting to share my passion and appreciation for Literature to such an extent that it begins to rub off on you. I cannot guarantee that you will enjoy every reading we do this quarter. Or the assignments. But if you are open to it, this is a course that can expand your understanding of literature, the world, and yourself.

## What to Expect When You're Explicating

**From me,** you can expect a reasonable amount of notice before anything is due, as well as an equally reasonable return time on any assignments you turn in for a grade. You can expect emailed questions to be answered within twenty-four hours on weekdays and forty-eight hours on weekends. You can also expect me to be fair and courteous. Finally, you can expect up to fifteen hours of homework per week.

**From you,** I expect you to act respectfully, to do *every* reading and assignment, to attend class regularly, and to thoughtfully engage with this course. Additionally, I expect you to respect my time, which especially means checking your syllabus and Canvas before you ask a question that has already been covered in our syllabus—readings, due dates, my office location, office hours, etc.



## Course Outcomes

1. You will read and respond to literary works from a variety of cultures and from a range of historical periods.
2. You will read and respond to literary works of poetry, fiction, and drama; you may also read nonfiction or view films, depending on the organization and orientation of class materials.
3. You will demonstrate an understanding of how literary elements such as character development, setting, and figurative language relate to literary meaning.
4. In accordance with the General Education Writing Requirement, you will submit at least seven pages of writing "that is assessed for content and mechanics (grammar, spelling, punctuation, and organization)."

### Grades are determined as follows:

Quizzes, Participation*	100
<i>Frankenstein</i> Project	100
Essay #1	100
Essay #2	100
Essay #3	100

Total: 500 points

\*This includes attendance and Canvas prompts

#### Grades are assigned as follows:

- 93-100 = A
- 90-92 = A-
- 88-89 = B+
- 83-87 = B
- 80-82 = B-
- 78-79 = C+
- 73-77 = C
- 70-72 = C-
- 68-69 = D+
- 63-67 = D
- 60-62 = D-
- 0-59 = F

## Course Policies

- Twenty percent of your grade is based on attendance and participation. To receive full credit, bring the necessary books to class, do all the readings, attend class regularly, and participate respectfully, especially in peer review sessions. Quizzes are given at the beginning of class and cannot be made up, though your lowest three quiz scores will be dropped at the end of the quarter.
- You are expected to attend class regularly. After four absences, your overall score will drop 5% per absence.
- Turn in your assignments on time—by or before the due date. I will accept late journals, but they will receive *significantly less* points. **Late essays will not be accepted unless arrangements have been made in advance.** You may rewrite one essay for 50% of the points missed on the first draft (this includes the *Frankenstein* project as well).
- **A blatant case of plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the paper and may result in a failing grade for the class.** Furthermore, such a violation of the Student Code of Conduct may be reported to Student Affairs. (See CWU's policy on academic dishonesty in appendix B of the catalog.)

## Required Texts

Alexie, Sherman. *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*. ISBN: 978-0-8021-2199-8

Jones, LeRoi (Amiri Baraka). *Dutchman + The Slave*. ISBN: 978-0688210847

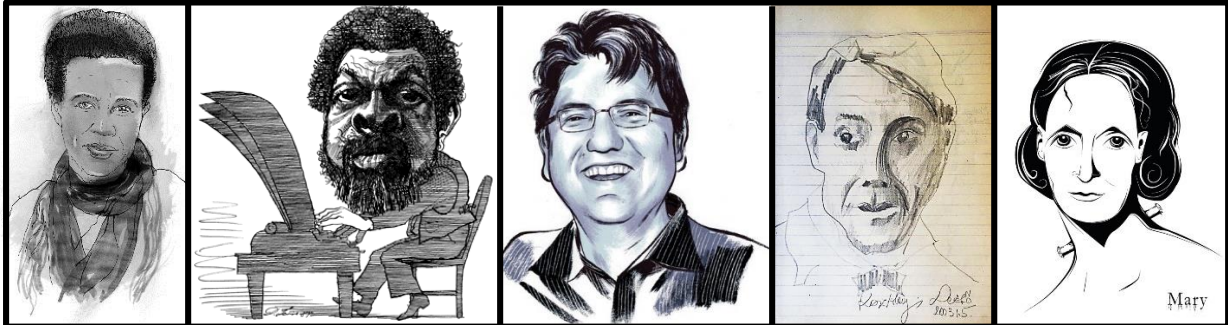
Kosztolányi, Dezső. *Skylark*. ISBN: 978-1590173398

Rankine, Claudia. *Citizen: An American Lyric* ISBN: 978-1-55597-690-3

Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus*. ISBN: 978-0486282114

## ADA Statement

Central Washington University is committed to creating a learning environment that meets the needs of its diverse student body. If you anticipate or experience any barriers to learning, discuss your concerns with the instructor. 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.



# Course Schedule

<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Getting Started</b> [Modules 1 and 2 on Canvas]
T Mar 29	Introductions Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Buy your textbooks</li><li>• Print and read E.M. Forster's "The Other Side of the Hedge" (linked on Canvas or easy to find by searching online).</li></ul>
W Mar 30	Reading fiction Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Print and read the following poems (linked on Canvas but available through web searches as well):<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*"Dream Song 14" by John Berryman</li><li>*"Cartographies of Silence" by Adrienne Rich</li><li>*"Hatred" by Wislawa Szymborska</li><li>*"Ozymandias" by Percy Bysshe Shelley</li></ul></li></ul>
F Apr 1	Reading poetry Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the introduction and Letters in <i>Frankenstein</i> (v-x and 1-14)</li></ul>

<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Mary W. Shelley's <i>Frankenstein</i></b> [Module 3 on Canvas]
M Apr 4	<i>Frankenstein</i> in history Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapters I-III of <i>Frankenstein</i> (14-29)</li> </ul>
T Apr 5	<i>Frankenstein</i> and Romanticism Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapters IV-V (29-39)</li> </ul>
W Apr 6	<i>Frankenstein</i> and science Book covers, introduction to the <i>Frankenstein</i> project Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapters VI-IX (40-65)</li> </ul>
F Apr 8	<i>Frankenstein</i> and religion Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapters X-XIV (65-90)</li> </ul>
M Apr 11	<i>Frankenstein</i> and gothic literature Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapters XV-XVI (90-104)</li> </ul>
T Apr 12	<i>Frankenstein</i> and plot Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapters XVII-XVIII (104-14)</li> </ul>
W Apr 13	<i>Frankenstein</i> and the sublime Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapters XIX-XXII (114-43)</li> </ul>
F Apr 15	(Mis-)Representations of <i>Frankenstein</i> Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish <i>Frankenstein</i></li> <li>• Create and bring a preliminary sketch or idea about your project to share on Monday</li> </ul>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>LeRoi Jones' <i>Dutchman</i> and Claudia Rankine's <i>Citizen</i></b> [Module 4 on Canvas]
M Apr 18	Project discussion, <i>Frankenstein</i> wrap-up Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Scene 1 of <i>Dutchman</i></li> <li>• Continue working on your <i>Frankenstein</i> project</li> </ul>

T Apr 19	Reading drama; race and the politics of literature Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read Scene 2 of <i>Dutchman</i></li><li>• Continue working on your <i>Frankenstein</i> project, bring it to class on Wednesday</li></ul>
W Apr 20	The nature of evil—comparing <i>Dutchman</i> and <i>Frankenstein</i> Project peer review Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete your <i>Frankenstein</i> project</li><li>• Read Part I of <i>Citizen</i> (5-18)</li></ul>
F Apr 22	<b>Frankenstein Projects Due</b> Essay 1 presentation/explanation <i>Citizen</i> —second-person pronouns, hybrid poetry Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read Part II of <i>Citizen</i> (21-37)</li></ul>
M Apr 25	<i>Citizen</i> and hybrid poetry (cont'd) Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read Part III of <i>Citizen</i> (39-55)</li></ul>
T Apr 26	<i>Citizen</i> , physicality, and <i>Frankenstein</i> Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read Parts IV and V of <i>Citizen</i> (59-79)</li></ul>
W Apr 27	<i>Citizen</i> , societal expectations, and <i>Dutchman</i> Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read Part VI of <i>Citizen</i> (81-135)</li></ul>
F Apr 29	Literature, Race, Politics, and Imagination Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finish <i>Citizen</i>,</li></ul>
M May 2	Final <i>Citizen</i> discussion Essay brainstorm, discussion Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create a thesis for your essay and bring it to class on Tuesday (it can be handwritten)</li><li>• Read chapter I of <i>Skylark</i> (1-6)</li></ul>

<b>Section 4</b>	Dezső Kosztolányi's <i>Skylark</i> [Module 5 on Canvas]
T May 3	Thesis review/check-up <i>Skylark</i> and literary Modernism Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapter II of <i>Skylark</i> (7-16)</li> <li>• Begin working on your essay</li> </ul>
W May 4	<i>Skylark</i> and literary Modernism (cont'd) Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapter III of <i>Skylark</i> (17-36)</li> <li>• Continue working on your essay</li> </ul>
F May 6	Characterization Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapter IV of <i>Skylark</i> (37-58)</li> <li>• Continue working on your essay</li> </ul>
M May 9	Characterization (cont'd) Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish essay rough draft</li> </ul>
T May 10	Peer Review Day Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapter V of <i>Skylark</i> (59-75)</li> <li>• Revise, finish Essay 1</li> </ul>
W May 11	<b>Essay 1 Due</b> Explanation for the <i>Skylark</i> essay (Essay 2) Humor in literature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapter VI of <i>Skylark</i> (76-98)</li> <li>• Start brainstorming for Essay 2</li> </ul>
F May 13	Figurative language Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapters VII and VIII of <i>Skylark</i> (99-126)</li> <li>• Continue brainstorming for Essay 2</li> </ul>
M May 16	Literature, lies, and truth Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapter IX of <i>Skylark</i> (127-53)</li> <li>• Start writing Essay 2</li> </ul>

T May 17	<p>Discussion—Literature and canon Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read chapter X of <i>Skylark</i> (154-77)</li> <li>• Continue working on Essay 2</li> </ul>
W May 18	<p>Debate—who is Skylark? Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish <i>Skylark</i></li> <li>• Continue working on your essay</li> </ul>
F May 20	<p>Final <i>Skylark</i> discussion Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete your <i>Skylark</i> essay</li> <li>• Read “Every Little Hurricane” in <i>The Lone Ranger and Tonto...</i> (1-11)</li> </ul>
<b>Section 5</b>	<p>Sherman Alexie’s <i>The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven</i> [Module 6 on Canvas]</p>
M May 23	<p>Peer Review Introduction to Sherman Alexie Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize Essay 2</li> <li>• Read “A Drug Called Tradition” and “Because My Father Always Said...” in <i>The Lone Ranger and Tonto...</i> (12-36)</li> </ul>
T May 24	<p>Postmodernism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize Essay 2</li> <li>• Read “Crazy Horse Dreams” and “The Only Traffic Signal...” (37-53)</li> </ul>
W May 25	<p><b>Essay 2 Due</b> Explanation of Essay 3 Literature and Place Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read “Amusements,” “...Phoenix, Arizona,” and “The Fun House” (54-82)</li> </ul>
F May 27	<p>Literature and Place (cont’d) Homework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read “The Trial of Thomas Builds-the-Fire”; “Jesus Christ’s Half Brother...”; “The Approximate Size...”; and “The Lone Ranger and Tonto...” (93-103; 110-29; 154-71; 182-91)</li> <li>• Begin working on Essay 3</li> </ul>

M May 30	<b>NO CLASS</b>
T May 31	Linking our texts—themes in literature Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read “Flight” and “Indian Education” (224-31, 171-180)</li><li>• Keep working on your essay</li></ul>
W Jun 1	Linking our texts—themes in literature (cont’d) Homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finish a draft of your essay</li></ul>
F Jun 3	Peer Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finish revising your essay</li></ul>
<b>M Jun 6 2 pm</b>	<b>Essay 3 is due by 2 pm in the English Department office, which is on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the L&amp;L. You may turn it in earlier if you so wish.</b>