

ENGL 2363 WORLD LITERATURE SINCE THE RENAISSANCE:  
AMERICAN IMMIGRANT LITERATURE  
Spring 2024

Instructor Information:

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Office hours by appointment only.

COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

Email is the best way to contact me. If you need to visit with me in person or via phone, schedule that conference via email. Although I check my email regularly, please do not expect to receive a reply to weekend/holiday emails (those sent between late afternoon Friday and Monday morning before 8:00 a.m.).

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course includes texts written by multigenerational authors with multiethnic backgrounds that include Eastern and Western Europe, the continent of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and readings come primarily from the late 19th century through the end of the 21st century. Readings range from a graphic novel to memoirs, autobiographies, poetry, and prose fiction to explore the few of immigrant voices from around the world that have contributed so much to the unique American literature and identity.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

As the semester progresses, successful students will:

- broaden their knowledge about and apply analysis to the rich multicultural tradition of American literature and gain a greater awareness of its aesthetic, cultural, and personal value
- develop their skills in discussion, literary analysis, and written response
- identify the ways writers express ideas and themes related to immigration
- summarize, analyze, integrate, and draw conclusions about particular works of literature
- demonstrate an ability to explain the practices (e.g. beliefs, values, perspectives) of other cultures, nations, or regions
- value difference among people and express an appreciation of cultures (language, religion, philosophy, family and community structures, and material culture)

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

*The Buddha in the Attic* by Julie Otsuka (ISBN: 978-0-307-74442-5)

*Maus I: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History* by Art Spiegelman (ISBN: 0394747232)

*Maus II: A Survivor's Tale: And Here My Troubles Began* by Art Spiegelman (ISBN: 0679729771)

*Growing Up Ethnic in America*, ed. Maria Mazziotti (ISBN: 0140280634)

Selected works (accessible via Canvas)

Note: Maus by Spiegelman can be purchased as a single volume: The Complete Maus, 25th Anniversary Edition (ISBN: 0679406417)

### GRADING/PERCENTAGES

Participation/Engagement/Discussion Board Posts	30%	
Presentation	10%	
Unit Essay Exams	60%	(3 at 20% each)
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	100%	

### GRADING SCALE

90-100 A demonstrates exceptional competence

80- 89 B demonstrates competence

70- 79 C demonstrates promise of competence

60- 69 D demonstrates probability of incompetence

< 60 F demonstrates incompetence

### COURSE POLICIES & PROCEDURES REGARDING ATTENDANCE and PARTICIPATION

Attendance involves:

- arriving on time
- remaining the entire class period,
- staying mentally alert and authentically involved during all activities

Participation involves:

- completing scheduled readings and writing assignments on or before their due dates,
- contributing substantive information to class and group discussions
- listening attentively to the contributions of others (the instructor's as well as classmates')
- taking notes during class discussions

Instructor Expectations

- Late work will not be accepted unless there are rare and extenuating circumstances.
- You are responsible for your own technology and access.
- Assignments and grades will be posted regularly and consistently. It is your responsibility to check email and Canvas for announcements, grades, and assignments.
- Students will speak, post, reply, and communicate with the instructor and classmates with thoughtful respect and using Standard American English.
- Your cell phone or other devices should not interrupt the class.

## **ACTIVITIES**

### **Group Discussions/Discussion Board Posts**

I will post essay exam questions and discussion questions on DB throughout the semester. These will give you an opportunity to practice and get feedback from me in addition to from your peers.

Sometimes, you will be divided into groups to discuss the assigned reading(s). When groups are given class time to prepare contributions, they are expected to use the allotted time preparing the best possible answers to the question(s) provided by the instructor. This activity is a part of your Participation grade.

### **PRESENTATION**

Throughout the semester you will be asked to give one presentation based on the theme or/and historical, political, social, or/and cultural context of one of the readings from the course. The purpose of this presentation is to better understand the reading discussed in class in terms of its multiple contexts (not content). While the presentation should not be long (no more than 7-12 minutes), it should be well-organized and informative. An additional handout with further information will be forthcoming.

### **ESSAY EXAMS**

This course includes three essay exams-each worth 20% of your final grade. These tests measure not only knowledge and comprehension but also measure the higher level of thinking skills such as analysis and synthesis.

### **EXTRA CREDIT**

I do not give work for extra credit. Improving one's grade average requires improving performance on regular assignments. I strongly encourage students worried about grades to meet with me personally to discuss their concerns.

### **UT TYLER RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS**

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), [writingcenter@uttyler.edu](mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu)
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), [tutoring@uttyler.edu](mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu)
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.565.5746). The 24 hour Crisis Line can be reached by calling 903.566.7254 during regular business hours as well as nights and weekends.

### **UNIVERSITY POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that

will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

### Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow visit:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/StudentRightsandResponsibilities.html>

### Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at

<http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

### UT Tyler is a Tobacco-Free University:

- All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.
- Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.
- There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free).

### Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

"Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper; using during a test materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failing to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes." The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation only if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment

without authority;

- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned to or kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or information about an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of the university, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or résumés, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or injuring another student academically or financially.

"Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to,

- the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.

"Collusion" includes, but is not limited to,

- the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

"Falsifying academic records" includes, but is not limited to,

- altering or assisting in the altering of any official record of the university or the University of Texas System,
- the submission of false information or the omission of requested information that is required for or related to any academic record of the university or the University of Texas System. Academic records include, but are not limited to, applications for admission, the awarding of a degree, grade reports, test papers, registration materials, grade change forms, and reporting forms used by the Office of the Registrar. A former student who engages in such conduct is subject to a bar against readmission, revocation of a degree, and withdrawal of a diploma.

#### Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by

the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
  - Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
  - Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
  - Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
  - Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid
- State-Mandated Course Drop Policy. Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstances. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

#### Student Disability/Accessibility Services.

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079

**Student Absence due to Religious Observance.** Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

**Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities.** If you intend to be absent for a

university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement. It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation. Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.