

**Syllabus for English 9 (DE):
World Literature**

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College of the Redwoods, Del Norte

*"In the case of good books, the point is not how many of them you can get through,
but rather how many can get through to you."*

-- Mortimer Adler

Note: This is a Distance Education Class and is conducted entirely online.

Semester & Year:	Fall 2015
Course ID /Section:	ENGL-9-V8519
Credits/Units:	3
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Technical Support:	If you are experiencing technical difficulties, submit a ticket to Tech Support http://support.redwoods.edu/ . For help with issues relating to Canvas , our course learning system, please ask for help with our Tech Support Team and visit http://support.redwoods.edu/ or call 707-467-4160.
Student Services :	College of the Redwoods http://www.redwoods.edu/ has a variety of student services available to you, even if you're taking classes entirely online. Check out the CR webpage and look under "Admissions and Financial Aid" for links to services like Financial Aid, Counseling, Child Care, and others.

Course Description: What is this course about?

English 9 is a comparative study of world literature from the 16th through the 20th century. Students read and discuss a variety of translated and English works in a wide range of genres to develop the critical and analytical skills necessary for the appreciation of diverse literatures and cultures.

Course Learning Outcomes: What will I learn to do?

In this course, you will learn to *think like a critical reader and writer*. By the end of the semester, you should be able to:

1. Critically analyze the significance of a text.
2. Differentiate genres in order to compare the relationship of genre to culture within specific contexts.
3. Compare and synthesize interpretations and claims of others with their own textual interpretations.
4. Trace major ideas and their evolution as they surface in various works of world literature.

Special accommodations: What If I have a disability?

College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. This class is designed to meet the needs to those with disabilities.

Please contact me if you have a DSPS accommodation request so that I can make arrangements to meet your needs. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services, such as extra time to complete weekly assignments, contact the Disabled Student Programs and Services at the Del Norte Campus Center (707) 465-2324 or on the Eureka Campus (707) 476-4280, or on the web at

Academic Misconduct: What are the expectations for student integrity?

Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, abuse of resource materials, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, multiple submissions, complicity in academic misconduct, and/ or bearing false witness will not be tolerated. Violations will be dealt with according to the procedures and sanctions proscribed by the College of the Redwoods. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams will receive an “F” in the course. The student code of conduct is available on the College of the Redwoods website at:

<http://redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/AP%205500%20Conduct%20Code%20final%2002-07-2012.pdf>. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the college catalog and on the College of the Redwoods homepage.

College of the Redwoods is committed to equal opportunity in employment, admission, and in the conduct of all of its programs and activities.

Course Requirements: What’s my expected commitment?

- Approximately 8 hours of dedicated time per week over a 16 week period
- The ability to navigate course websites, open and download files, use a word processor with Microsoft word or be able to convert files to rich text format or portable document format and submit files to the class website.

- Access the following books, making sure you get the editions listed so our translations and page numbers will be the same. Costs are approximate. Most are available free from your local library.

Note: Students report that they read more critically and carefully when they have paper editions which they can mark and highlight extensively. When using digital texts, print them out so you can highlight and mark them. It makes a huge difference in terms of reading comprehension.

1. *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka, translated by David Willie. Print out the online version from <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/5200/5200-h/5200-h.htm>
2. *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran. Publisher: Aziloth Books, 2013. ISBN-10: 1909735221. Approximate cost: \$5.99 or available free online with illustrations at https://archive.org/stream/TheProphetByKhalilGibran/The_Prophet_by_Khalil_Gibran#page/n11/mode/1up
3. *Three Tragedies: Blood Wedding, Yerma, Bernarda Alba* by Federico Garcia Lorca. Publisher: New Directions Paperbook, 1955. ISBN-10: 0811200922. Approximate cost: \$12.07 or access and print out *The House of Bernarda Alba*, free online at http://edenham.publishpath.com/Websites/edenham/Images/Drama/the_house_of_bernarda_alba.pdf
4. *The Joys of Motherhood* by Buchi Emecheta. Publisher: George Braziller, 1979. ISBN-10: 0807609501. Approximate cost: \$4.00.
5. *Like Water for Chocolate* by Laura Esquivel. Doubleday, 1989. ISBN-10: 0385420161. Approximate cost: \$0.85.

Should I Listen to Audio Books? Should I Watch the Film Versions?

I highly recommend listening to books on tape as a supplement to reading them in print. Make sure your audio book is not abridged or you will miss significant passages of the text. Follow along as you read with your hardcopy. Film versions can also be inspiring, but watch them in order to compare and contrast them with your reading experiences. Most film versions of the selected books are significantly different from the original stories. Remember that audio books and films are supplements, not substitutes, to the written word.

6. *How Do I Begin? A Hmong American Literary Anthology* by the Hmong American Writers' Circle. Heyday, 2011. ISBN-10: 159714150X. Cost: \$14.42.

Course Participation is expected regularly. Students must log in and complete the weekly work to be able to continue on to the next week. The English Department requires regular “attendance” (defined here as submitting work for the week); in addition to being penalized for submitting late work, if students miss more than two weeks of work before the 11th week of classes, they will be dropped from the course.

If you need to drop or withdraw from the course for whatever reason, be mindful of the drop deadline listed on the schedule below.

Course Assignments and Grading Criteria: How Will I be Graded?

Grading Scale:

A (100-90%) / B (89-80%) / C (79-70%) / D (69-60%) / F (59-0%)

Quizzes, Discussion Posts, Peer Review (40% of total)

Each week after attending a mini-lecture (usually under 15 minutes) and reading the assigned literature (usually about 70 pages), you will take a quiz, to ensure that you have read carefully and are ready to enter into the discussion forum. You must get 100% on the quiz to pass, but you can retake if you need to. A passing grade on the quiz will be your ticket into the discussion forum, where you will read the posts of others and leave your own post.

To receive full credit for discussion posts:

- Address the question fully and carefully
- Support your answer with textual evidence (short quotes or paraphrases with clear page references)
- Respond to what others in the discussions have said (unless your post is one of the first)
- Use at least 300 words in each post
- Use a polite, formal style that conforms to standard written English rules for grammar, spelling, and mechanics (I'll be providing guidance on the discussion boards to guide you)

Twice during the course you will be required to submit rough draft of critical essays for peer review and to provide helpful feedback for your peers. The feedback you provide peers will be graded as part of this category.

Critical Essays (60% of total)

You will be required to complete two 1000 word critical essays, one at midterm and one during finals week. Each must be formatted in MLA style, submitted to

Turnitin.com. Your class ID will be 10301303. Your enrollment password will be **rhodes**.

I will provide support on how to write and format the papers. You will be ready to write them because of your work in the discussion forums.

Late Work: What's the Policy?

Quizzes, discussion posts, and rough drafts of critical papers will be due by midnight on Sundays (or as assigned). Late assignments will lose 30% of their point value if not completed on time. You will have up to a week to submit late work; assignments more than a week late will not be accepted and cannot be made up.

Expectations of the Instructor: What will my instructor do?

I will post weekly work assignments on the Friday before the week begins. I will access the course Monday through Friday and reply to your posted questions and e-mails no later than 48 hours after you send them.

I will participate and monitor discussion forums, read and comment on your ideas, and make extensive notes on your essays to help you grow as writers, readers, and thinkers. I will be part coach, part cheerleader, and part referee as we navigate our way through a small selection of that vast realm of text we identify as "world literature."

Schedule, English 9 (DE)

Fall, 2015

Note: "Weeks" begin on a Monday and end on a Sunday for our purposes.

Module 1: *Metamorphosis*

Week One (August 24-30):

- Watch the mini-lecture "What is World Literature?" at <http://youtu.be/2zJsVFPqWtQ>
- Read *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka translated by David Wyllie
- Pass the quiz with 100%
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Week Two (August 31-September 6)

- Watch the mini-lecture "Ways of Reading *Metamorphosis*"
- Read Vladimir Nabokov's "Lecture on *The Metamorphosis*" given at Cornell University in 1954.
- Pass the quiz with 100%
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Module 2: *The Prophet*

Week Three (September 6-13)

- Watch the mini-lecture "An Introduction to *The Prophet*"
- Read *The Prophet* (all poems)
- Pass the quiz
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Week Four (September 14-20)

- Watch the mini-lecture "Literary Value and *The Prophet*"
- Read Anthony Daniel's "The False Prophet" from *New Criterion*
- Pass the quiz
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Module 3: *The House of Bernarda Alba*

Week Five (September 21-27)

- Watch the mini-lecture "World Literature on Stage"
- Read *The House of Bernarda Alba*
- Pass the quiz
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Week Six (September 28-October 4)

- Watch the mini-lecture “Lorca’s Casa: Benarda Alba in the Context of Its Culture”
- Read John Corbin’s critical article “Lorca’s Casa”
- Pass the quiz
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Module 4: Critical Essay 1

Week Seven (October 5-October 11):

- Watch the mini-lecture “Writing about World Literature: Preparing for Critical Essay 1”
- Read the briefing on Critical Essay 1
- Post a proposal to the discussion board and comment on the proposals of others
- Submit your *rough draft* of Critical Essay 1 for peer review

Week Eight (October 12-October 18)

- Complete the peer feedback requirements
- Revise, edit, and submit your final draft of Critical Essay 1

Module 5: *The Joys of Motherhood*

Week Nine (October 19-October 25)

- Watch the mini-lecture: “Art as Ambassador?”
- Read *The Joys of Motherhood* Chapters 1-7
- Pass the quiz
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Week Ten (October 26-November 1):

- Watch the mini-lecture “Africa is Not a Country”
- Watch Chimamanda Adiche’s talk “The Dangers of a Single Story”
- Read *The Joys of Motherhood* Chapters 8-14
- Take the quiz
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Week Eleven (November 2-November 8)

- Watch the mini-lecture “Ways of Reading *The Joys of Motherhood*”
- Finish reading *The Joys of Motherhood*
- Read Patricia McLean’s “How Buchi Emecheta’s *The Joys of Motherhood* Resists Feminist and Nationalist Readings”
- Pass the quiz
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Module 6: Like Water for Chocolate

Week Twelve (November 9-November 15)

- Watch the mini-lecture “ ”
- Read Chapters 1-6
- Pass the quiz
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Week Thirteen (November 16-November 22)

- Watch the mini-lecture “”
- Read Chapters 7-end
- Pass the quiz
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Module 7: How Do I Begin?

Week Fourteen (November 23-November 29)

- Watch the mini-lecture “Cultures Within This Culture”
- Read the following selection of short stories and poetry:
 - “Here I Am,” “Our Fields,” “Hunger,” and “In My Fresno Backyard” by Soul Choj Vang
 - “My Father, after Reading Ecclesiastes 12” and “Polaroids of Tom” by Burlee Vang
 - “Photograph of the Fire at Nam Yao Refugee Camp, 1980” by Andre Yang
 - “Endings” by Mary Lee-Yang
 - “Broken Chords” by Yia Lee
 - “The Two of Us” by Maiyer Vang
 - “Being a *Nyab*” by Mai Neng Moua
 - “Sacrificial Replica” and “To Make a Return” by Mai Der Vang
- Pass the quiz
- Read and contribute to the discussion board

Week Fifteen (November 30-December 6)

- Watch the lecture: “Advice for Writing Critical Essay 2”
- Read the briefing on Critical Essay 2
- Post a *rough draft* of Critical Essay 2 for peer editing

Week Sixteen (December 7-December 13)

- Complete 2 separate peer reviews
- Submit your final draft of Critical Essay 2
- Read and contribute a reflection to the closing discussion board