

## F/W 2021-2022

<b>AP/EN 2261 3.0M (W)</b>	Introduction to World Literature
<b>Course Director:</b>	Professor Deanne Williams Atkinson 708 Ext. 44752 <a href="mailto:dmw@yorku.ca">dmw@yorku.ca</a>
<b>Time:</b>	Thursday, 2:30-5:30 pm
<b>Delivery Format:</b>	<b>REMOTE</b> – (synchronous delivery) – There are scheduled meeting times for this course. Students should plan to be available for course-related activities during the appointed times.
<b>Description:</b>	<p><b>Course Description</b></p> <p>In the early nineteenth century, the German author Goethe coined the term Weltliteratur, or World Literature, to describe the capacity of literature to transcend national and linguistic boundaries. He was then engaged with readings from Greek and Latin classics, Persian and Serbian poetry, and Chinese novels. This course surveys a wide range of literary texts that have circulated far beyond the time and place where they were written. It looks at literature as a single, interconnected whole, extending beyond temporal as well as geographic boundaries. We will explore some of the earliest surviving literary texts, as well as texts from the classical period, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance, and we will include books from all areas of the globe. We will also engage with some of the key critical interrogations of World Literature, most notably the challenges raised by translation. Students will learn about literary language (poetic metre and form, imagery, and rhetorical devices), literary and generic conventions, as well as the wide range of historical and topical issues raised by the texts themselves, including religious identity, social class, racial, ethnic and national designations, gender and sexuality, political struggle, the natural world and the environment, and warfare.</p> <p><b>Organization of the Course</b></p> <p>Each week consists of a three-hour class designed to provide historical, cultural, and other contexts through lectures and discussion of assigned reading material. There will also be discussion of the expectations for tests, presentations and written assignments. Films, slideshows and other fun visuals will supplement our class when possible. Students are expected to come to each class having read all of the assigned material for that day, and prepared to discuss various issues that the texts raise.</p>
<b>Category:</b>	N/A
<b>Historical Requirement:</b>	N/A

<b>Requirements:</b>	First Essay 1000 words (15%) Short Test (15%) Second Essay 1000 words (30%) End-of-Term Test (30%) Attendance and Participation (10%)
<b>Reading List:</b>	<i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i> (trans. Mitchell); Euripides, <i>The Bacchae</i> (trans. Carson); <i>The Ramayana</i> (selections, trans. Narayan); <i>Beowulf</i> (trans. Heaney); <i>The Arabian Nights</i> (selections, trans. Irwin); <i>The Lais of Marie de France</i> (trans. Burgess); Shikibu Murasaki, <i>The Tale of Genji</i> (selections, trans. Tyler); Is'haq Neburä-Id, <i>Kebrä Nagast</i> (selections, trans. Brooks); Wu Ch'eng En, <i>Monkey</i> (selections, trans. Waley); Miguel de Cervantes, <i>Don Quixote</i> (selections, trans. Rutherford)
<b>Open To:</b>	Open spaces – all majors