

Community College of Vermont (CCV)/Spaulding High School

Course Title: CCV Contemporary World Literature

Department: English

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CCV Student Academic Advisor: Conner Gilbert, cmg01250@ccv.vsc.edu

Course Description:

This course introduces students to a variety of works of literature primarily published in this century. Through readings in long and short fiction and poetry, students explore the range of human experience across national and cultural boundaries. The primary focus is on diverse and multicultural texts. Through the literature of contemporary writers from around the world, students can gain a broader and deeper understanding of a variety of experiences.

Units of Study

Units focus on major literary themes, and will include whole class readings of shorter texts, individual novel study, discussion, presentation, essay writing, and language-building activities.

Unit 1: The Human Need for Belonging and Identity

Unit 2: The Dynamics of Power and Control

Unit 3: "Happier Endings": Hope, Love, Redemption, and Escapism

Unit 4: Student Choice

Materials/Text(s):

- Various shorter texts, available digitally through the Canvas platform
- A selection of contemporary novels, of which students will choose 4 for independent novel study, to include works such as:
 - *Exit West*, Mohsin Hamid
 - *Convenience Store Woman*, Sayaka Murata
 - *Winter Counts*, David Heska Wanbli Weiden
 - *Brooklyn*, Colm Tóibín
 - *Afterlife*, Julia Alvarez
 - *Mexican Gothic*, Silvia Moreno-Garcia
 - *The Enlightenment of the Greengage Tree*, Shokoofeh Azar
 - *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, Khaled Hosseini
 - *We Ride Upon Sticks*, Quan Barry

Approximate replacement cost(s) for novels: approximately \$15 each, varies by text

Contemporary World Literature Essential Objectives:

1. Define basic literary elements such as theme, character, plot, imagery, point of view, and narrative technique, and explain how these elements are used to express ideas, emotions, and values in specific works of literature.
2. Identify major themes in contemporary world literature.
3. Critically read, analyze, and evaluate examples of contemporary literature authored by representatives of a broad selection of nations and cultures.
4. Examine the social, political, and cultural circumstances that prompt the creation of various forms of literature.
5. Analyze the images of traditional cultures and individuals as presented in the works read.

CCV Course Information and Policies:

Academic Honesty: CCV has a commitment to honesty and excellence in academic work and expects the same from all students. Academic dishonesty, or cheating, can occur whenever you present -as your own work- something that you did not do. You can also be guilty of cheating if you help someone else cheat. Being unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty (such as knowing what plagiarism is) does not absolve a student of the responsibility to be honest in his/her academic work. Academic dishonesty is taken very seriously and may lead to dismissal from the College.

CCV Attendance Policy: While this class is being taught at SHS, you are taking this course for college credit, and as such, it is important to build the work habits expected of college students. Therefore in order to earn CCV credit, you are expected to adhere to the attendance policy of CCV, which states:

- “Missing more than 20% of classes may jeopardize course credit. Many faculty members count regular attendance as a requirement and consider class discussion to be essential to a vibrant, positive teaching and learning experience. You are part of a community of learners; that means making a commitment to be present.”

Deadlines and Re-assessment: While this class is being taught at SHS, you are taking this course for college credit, and as such, it is important to build the work habits expected of college students. In order to earn CCV credit, you are expected to adhere to deadlines for work completion.

- Work will only receive full credit if it is submitted by the due date.
- Once assignments are locked (one week after the due date), students may not work on them and will not receive credit for them (other than for severe extenuating circumstances).
- Students may not re-asses on assessments, unless it is part of a drafting process for a paper.

Classroom Expectations:

Personal Electronic Devices Policy:

All of the course material can be accessed through Canvas. If you have an academic need to use a personal device, **please ask first** and be ready to explain what that need is. You may listen to music during independent work time as long as it is not distracting you or audible to others.

Chromebooks should be brought to class and be sufficiently charged daily. Charging Chromebooks during class is not always possible, and you may not connect your device to a power source in a way that creates a tripping hazard for yourself or others (i.e., you may not keep a Chromebook on a table while charging at the back counter.)

A Note about Makeups/Extra Help:

If you miss class for any reason, it is your responsibility to check the weekly outline and our Classroom or Canvas space for missing assignments. Should you need further support outside regular class times,

please advocate for yourself by contacting me about it, and we will work together to figure out the best approach for you. I am here to help, but I want to see you taking responsibility for your work as well.

Classroom Habits:

As juniors and seniors, you are expected to conduct yourselves with maturity and respect.

Each student is expected to:

- Show respect for themselves and others (including the classroom and its contents).
- Accept responsibility for one's own learning.
- Make appropriate decisions about breaks and seating.
- Arrive on time and prepared (with appropriate text, Chromebook, & materials).
- Put their best effort forward in both individual and group work.
- Complete all assessments (formal and informal) by the decided deadline.
- Follow all school and classroom rules (see Student & Parent Handbook).

Course Grading

Per CCV's grading practices, students will be awarded credit using alpha-numeric grading.

GRADEBOOK CATEGORIES/WEIGHTS are based on the skills you are expected to strengthen in this course.

- Writing (Essays) **40%**
 - Unit 1 Literary Analysis (100 points)
 - Unit 2 Literary Analysis (200 points)
 - Unit 3 Literary Analysis (300 points)
 - Unit 4 Narrative Voice Mini-Essay (100 Points)
- Presentation **25%**
 - Unit 1 (100 points)
 - Unit 2 (200 points)
 - Unit 3 (300 points)
 - Unit 4 (400 points)
- Reading and Discussion **25%**
 - 10-25 points each
 - Weekly notebook submissions (independent reading)
 - Weekly class readings and discussion (online and in-person)
- Grammar and Writing Practice **10%**
 - 10-25 points each
 - Weekly Quill exercises and reflection
 - Targeted essay revision
 - MLA formatting and citation

ASSIGNMENT GRADING CRITERIA While individual rubrics will be used for each assessment, the list below represents a general description of how the quality of work submitted on a given assignment will be scored.

CCV	General Description of <u>Mastery</u>
<p>A+ through A-</p> <p>A+ 98-100 A 93-97 A- 90-92</p>	<p>Exceptional or outstanding work. It must demonstrate keen insight and original thinking. It must not only demonstrate full understanding of the topic or issues addressed, but it must also provide a critical analysis of these. In addition, an "A" grade reflects a student's ability to clearly and thoughtfully articulate his or her learning.</p>
<p>B+ through B-</p> <p>B+ 88-89 B 83-87 B- 80-82</p>	<p>Good to excellent work. It must demonstrate strong originality, comprehension, critical thinking, and attention to detail. In addition, a "B" grade reflects a student's ability to clearly articulate his or her learning.</p>
<p>C+ through C-</p> <p>C+ 78-79 C 73-77 C- 70-72</p>	<p>Work that meets the expectations of the assignment. It must demonstrate solid comprehension, critical thinking, and attention to detail. In addition, a "C" grade reflects a student's ability to adequately articulate his or her learning.</p>
<p>D+ through D-</p> <p>D+ 68-89 D 63-67 D- 60-62</p>	<p>Work that marginally meets the expectations of the assignment. It demonstrates minimal comprehension, critical thinking, and attention to detail. In addition, a "D" grade may reflect a student's difficulty in articulating his or her learning. Final grades of "D" do not earn credit.</p>
<p>F</p>	<p>Work that does not meet the expectations or objectives of the assignment. It demonstrates consistent problems with comprehension, organization, critical thinking, and supporting details. In addition, an "F" grade reflects a student's inability to articulate his or her learning. Students are strongly urged to discuss this grade with their instructor and advisor.</p>