

Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Spring 2025	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Odd Years
Course Number	LANG346		
Course Title	Contemporary Literature, Politics, and Economy		
Prerequisites	LANG220 Rhetorical Analysis and Composition OR LANG/JPNA240 Contemporary Japanese Literature OR LANG/JPNA235 Japan: Lost in Adaptation and Representation		
Course Instructor	SUGIYAMA Kazutaka	Year Available (Grade Level)	3
Subject Area	Interdisciplinary Arts: Language Arts	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Language of instruction	English

(NOTE 1) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course

Course Description	<p>Prerequisite: LANG 220 OR LANG/JPNA 240 OR LANG/JPNA 235</p> <p>Lost in the Global Village</p> <p>Globalization has been often misconceived as a simple economic transformation on a global scale, like McDonaldization, and nothing more. However, it is in fact a more complex phenomenon. True, globalization has empowered multinational corporations which now accumulate a tremendous amount of wealth, but it is equally true that globalization transforms one's sense of identity for better or worse. On the one hand, some people's cultural identities are hybridized as they are exposed to cultural others more immediately than ever. On the other hand, due to the radicalization of capitalist logic, cultural differences become commodified and erased, changing human beings into mere living entities that are "for sale". In this course, we will look at texts which represent how humans are altered in a globalized world, investigating the complexity of what we casually call "globalization".</p>
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	This course is constructed based upon students' feedback and comments.
Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	None
Learning Goals	<p>The main objective of this course is to help students grow in their abilities to understand complex literary works, through which students gain in-depth knowledge of global reality, especially how people are affected by this fluid phenomenon called globalization. In addition, since it is a writing course as much as a reading course, students will improve their academic writing skills.</p> <p>As part of the iCLA program, by the end of the course, students will acquire (1) [Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge]; (2) [Having critical, creative, problem solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adapt to a changing world]; (3) [Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams].</p>

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1/DP2/DP3
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iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge – Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World – Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration – Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility – Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Flipped Classroom/Discussion, Debate/Presentation				
More details/supplemental information on Active Learning Methods	None				
Use of ICT	UNIPA				
Contents of class preparation and review	Writing/reading assignments, revision, research	Hours expected to be spent preparing for class (hours per week)	3 hours	Hours expected to be spent on class review (hours per week)	2 hours
Feedback Methods	Verbal commentaries and comments on writing assignments.				

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
Participation (Verbal) (DP 1, 2, 3)	10%	See the attached rubric
Participation (Written) (DP 1, 2)	10%	See the attached rubric
Mini-Presentation (DP 1, 2, 3)	10%	See the attached rubric
Midterm Paper (DP 1, 2)	30%	See the attached rubric
Research Presentation/paper (DP 1, 2, 3)	40%	See the attached rubric

Required Textbook(s)	<p>Selected short readings (will be provided)</p> <p>Books The books will be chosen from the list below. Please make sure you acquire books by yourself prior to the date we use them. If you have any trouble getting them, it is your responsibility to consult with the instructor. Aravind Adiga White Tiger Don DeLillo Mao II Karen Tei Yamashita Through the Arc of Rain Forest Kiran Desai The Inheritance of Loss Yann Martel Life of Pi Richard Powers Gain</p> <p>Film Dirty Pretty Things or/and District 9 and/or Life of Pi</p>
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Other Reading Materials/URL	None
Plagiarism Policy	<p>Plagiarism</p> <p>Plagiarism is one of the most common and serious academic dishonesty especially in writing courses. In this course, plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation of material (materials like words, ideas, illustrations, structure) from another source (book, magazine, internet documents, and even writings of a fellow student), and presenting it as if it is your own work. It means that students who fail to give credit for referring to other source materials are also guilty of plagiarism.</p> <p>A student who is found guilty of plagiarism will be given a serious penalty such as an automatic F for an assignment or an entire course depending on the nature of his/her act.</p> <p>AI use:</p> <p>This course policy is designed to promote your learning and intellectual development and to help you reach the course learning outcomes. Reliance on generative AI tools can only prevent you from learning in this course.</p>
Other Additional Notes (Outline crucial policies and info not mentioned above)	<p>GRADING BREAKDOWN</p> <p>-Participation (Verbal) (10%) Students are expected to not only be in class on time but also actively engage with class activities. Class activities include class discussions, group work, making appropriate comments, and asking questions. Just being in class for every class meeting does not qualify participation. Also, students may lose participation points when the instructor finds them listening to music, texting, and any other activities that have nothing to do with class materials. The decision is made at the instructor's discretion.</p> <p>-Participation (Written) (10%) As per our pedagogical philosophy, we encourage students to take initiative in class discussion. To facilitate it, students are required to prepare a question/comment on the reading assignments at least 10 times during the entire semester. One question/comment is 1 point. And the maximum is 10% of the entire grade.</p> <p>-Mini Presentation (10%) Students are expected to do a 10-minute presentation once during the semester. Choose a specific date for the presentation at the beginning of the semester. Students will cover the reading of the day they sign up for. This assignment is to encourage students to express their understanding of the texts and enrich the shared learning experience with classmates. Essentially, I expect students to teach us about the readings.</p> <p>-Midterm Paper (30%) Students are expected to write one analytical paper around midsemester. Students are encouraged to come up with their own topics, but if necessary I will provide some prompts. This paper will be graded. Since this is a 300-level course, I expect students to know MLA format and the basic concept of a critical analysis paper for literary studies. Word count: 2,000 words Use at least 3 secondary sources</p> <p>-Research Presentation/paper (40%) Students are expected to develop their own research in relation to the topic we cover. At the end of the semester, students will have their presentations (10mins). This presentation is DIFFERENT from the presentation assignment explained earlier. Also, submit research papers as the final exam. In this process, students are required to submit: 1) abstract 2) Annotated bibliography. Final Paper: Word count: 3,500 words Use at least 6 secondary sources.</p> <p>LATE SUBMISSION POLICY Assignments need to be submitted before they are due. Submitting before the next class will result in a one-letter grade reduction. For example, if the due date is Monday, and you submit on Tuesday, you will get a one-letter grade reduction. If you submit on Thursday, that will result in a two-letter grade reduction, and so on.</p> <p>ATTENDANCE POLICY 4 absences no penalty, no explanation needed. After this: 5-7 absences, -4 points (out of 20 points) from participation grade (Verbal and Written combined); 8-9 absences -8 points; 10 absences -10 points; more than 10 absences - Fail. Being more than 20 minutes late will be considered absent.</p>

(NOTE 2) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	<p>Class Schedule should be regarded as a guideline but may change to accommodate student needs; unless otherwise stipulated, students are responsible for following the schedule below once details such as page numbers are provided. In addition, minor assignments are not listed as they are highly likely subject to change.</p> <p>Introduction: Globalization and Literature</p>
Class 2	A theory of globalization (1)
Class 3	"The Interpreter of Maladies" by Jhumpa Lahiri
Class 4	White Tiger (1)

Class 5	White Tiger (2)
Class 6	A theory of globalization (2)
Class 7	White Tiger (3)
Class 8	White Tiger (4)
Class 9	White Tiger (5)
Class 10	A theory of globalization (3)
Class 11	The Inheritance of Loss (1)
Class 12	The Inheritance of Loss (2)
Class 13	The Inheritance of Loss (3)
Class 14	The Inheritance of Loss (4)
Class 15	The Inheritance of Loss (5)
Class 16	The Inheritance of Loss (6)
Class 17	On Midterm Paper
Class 18	Dirty Pretty Things (1)

Class 19	Dirty Pretty Things (2) Midterm paper due midnight
Class 20	Through the Arc of Rain Forest (1)
Class 21	Through the Arc of Rain Forest (2)
Class 22	Through the Arc of Rain Forest (3)
Class 23	Through the Arc of Rain Forest (4)
Class 24	A Theory of Globalization (4) Mao II (1)
Class 25	Mao II (2)
Class 26	Mao II (3)
Class 27	Mao II (4)
Class 28	Mao II (5)
Class 29	Final Project Presentation
Class 30	Final Project Presentation Course Evaluation