Mayville State University

ENGL 345: World Literature (30602)

Fall 2025
3 Credit Hours

Course and Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Matthew Berglund
Contact Information:

Office: CB 126

Email: matthew.berglund.1@mayvillestate.edu (make sure to put a 1 before the @ sign)

Work phone: 701.335.9582

Hours of Availability:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 11-11.50AM and 1-1.50PM

Tuesday and Thursday: 9.30-11.00AM and 1.30-3.00PM

Also available for meetings on other days and times by appointment.

Instructional Mode: Online Asynchronous
Course Dates: August 25, 2025—December 19, 2025
Time Zone: All times indicated throughout this syllabus reflect Central Time (CT).
Final Exam Time and Location: Turn in Final to Blackboard by Wednesday, December 17, 2025, by 3PM

Course Materials and Technologies

Required

Aurelius, Marcus. *Meditations*. Translated by Meric Casaubon, Project Gutenberg, 2001, www.gutenberg.org/files/2680/2680-h/2680-h.htm.

Confucius. *The Analects of Confucius*. Translated by James Legge, Project Gutenberg, 2002, www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/3330.

Dazai, Osamu. *No Longer Human*. Translated by Donald Keene, New Directions, 1973.

Endo, Shusaku. *Silence: A Novel*. Translated by William Johnston, Picador Classics, 2016.

Jastrow, Morris & Albert Tobias Clay, translators. *An Old Babylonian Version of the Gilgamesh Epic*. Project Gutenberg, 2024, https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/11000.

Machiavelli, Niccolo. *The Prince*. Translated by W.K. Marriott, Project Gutenberg, 2022, https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1232.

Murosaki Shikibu. *The Tale of Genji*. Translated by Arthur Waley, Project Gutenberg, 2024, https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/66057.

Natsume, Soseki. *Kokoro: A Novel*. Mint Editions, 2021.

Tzu, Sun. *The Art of War*. Translated by Lionel Giles, Project Gutenberg, 2005, www.gutenberg.org/files/1322/1322-h/1322-h.htm.

Use of Artificial Intelligence in this Course

You may use AI programs e.g. ChatGPT to help generate ideas and brainstorm. However, you should note that the material generated by these programs may be inaccurate, incomplete, or otherwise problematic. Beware that use may also stifle your own independent thinking and creativity.

You may not submit any work generated by an AI program as your own. If you include material generated by an AI program, it should be cited like any other reference material (with due consideration for the quality of the reference, which may be poor).

Any plagiarism or other form of cheating will be dealt with severely under relevant MaSU policies.

Mayville State University

This course encourages the responsible use of Microsoft Copilot as a learning aid and professional development tool. Students are expected to use Copilot ethically and transparently, following business professional standards. All AI usage must be documented and students must be able to explain and defend their work. Specific guidelines for each assignment will be provided.

Course Description

A survey course that analyzes significant literary masterpieces around the world. Students will have the opportunity to become familiar with non-English speaking cultures and the literary contributions of those cultures. The course serves as an introduction to the non-Western canon of poetry, drama, novels, religious, political, and philosophical texts.

Pre-requisites: ENGL 110; ENGL 120 or ENGL 125, or consent of the instructor.

Course Objectives

To successfully complete this course, the learner will be expected to meet the following objectives, as aligned to English Education Program Approval Standards through North Dakota's Education Standards and Practices Board (ND ESPB):

- To develop analytical skills and critical thinking through reading, discussion, and written assignments.
- To broaden a student's intercultural reading experience.
- To deepen a student's awareness of the universal human concerns that are the basis for literary work.
- To recognize that World literature can show how information is shared between cultures and nations.
- To provide insight into how cultural artifacts are transformed as they traverse languages and boundaries.

Standards Alignment (English Education Program Approval Standards-ND ESPB):

· 05020.1.1 Candidates are knowledgeable about texts—print and non-print texts, media texts, classic texts and contemporary texts, including young adult—that represent a range of world literatures, historical

traditions, genres, and the experiences of different genders, ethnicities, and social classes; they are able to use literary theories to interpret and critique a range of texts.

· 05020.3.1 Candidates use their knowledge of theory, research, and practice in English Language Arts to plan standards-based, coherent and relevant learning experiences utilizing a range of different texts—across genres, periods, forms, authors, cultures, and various forms of media—and instructional strategies that are motivating and accessible to all students, including English language learners, students with special needs, students from diverse language and learning backgrounds, those designated as high achieving, and those at risk of failure.

· 05020.3.5: Candidates plan instruction that incorporates knowledge of language—structure, history, and conventions—to facilitate students' comprehension and interpretation of print and non-print texts.

· 05020.5.2 Candidates use knowledge of theories and research to plan instruction responsive to students' local, national and international histories, individual identities (e.g, race, ethnicity, gender expression, age, appearance, ability, spiritual belief, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, and community environment), and languages/dialects as they affect students' opportunities to learn in ELA.

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Course Expectations

Instructor/Student Communication

Students are accountable for all academic communications sent to their Mayville State University email address.

I prefer that you contact me via email seven days a week from 7 am to 8 pm. I will get back to you within 24 hours with a response.

Assignments and Assessments

All assignments are found in Blackboard as are all the assessments. Timeliness of submission is paramount. Work will be docked if late or in the wrong format. All written submissions must be attached as a WORD.doc. Work submitted five days past the due date will be docked 10%: making an A grade impossible for this assignment.

If there are extenuating circumstances that might cause work to be submitted late, it is your responsibility to contact me (via email preferably) BEFORE the date due. We might be able to reach accommodation.

All students in this course are required to utilize the Writing Center 3 times during the semester. One of those times with the Writing Center should be for a major paper/assignment within ENGL 110, but the other 2 attempts can be for any assignment within any course.

Evaluation and Grading

Grading Policies

I strive to have all work graded and returned/posted to Blackboard within 1-week of the assignment being turned in. Please ensure that all assignments are submitted as a Word Document (docx) file.
I will accept and grade all late assignments; however, as stated earlier, any major assignment turned in later than 5 days from the due date cannot receive an "Excellent or A" grade. Part of work being considered excellent is timeliness.
All work will be graded on 4 areas: grammar & usage, proper formatting, flow/style of writing, and relevance/keeping to the assigned prompt.
Make sure that all work submitted is completed to your satisfaction, the correct file, and that the file is viewable within Blackboard (not corrupted). It is your responsibility to ensure that the submitted file is correct when submitting. You will not get extra time for the assignment if you submit the wrong file or a corrupted file; however, you will be able to submit the work under the late policy.

Attendance/Participation Policies

I will take attendance every class period; however, you are not "graded" on attendance for this course. Students who show up to class, pay attention, and turn in work are the ones that 100% will pass the course with a grade of C or better; those that fall behind in attending the lectures and class sessions are also the ones who inevitably fail the course from lack of assignments turned in and/or poor assignment submissions.
When it comes to needing an excuse from a specific class period. Please reach out to me, by email, before class. I do not require you to have a doctor's note for you to be excused from my class; I simply require you to communicate with me.

Grading Scale

A – 100-90   B—89-80   C—79-70   D—69-60   F—59 and below

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Breakdown of Grades

Activity	No. of Occurrences	Points Possible	Percentage of Total Grade
Essay	1	50	7.14%
4 Papers	4	100 (400)	57.14%
Presentation	2	75 (150)	21.43%
Discussions	10	10 (100)	14.29%
Total Points Possible		**700**	100%

Enrollment Verification

Online Course Statement

The U.S. Department of Education requires instructors of online courses to provide an activity which will validate student enrollment in this course. The only way to verify that a student has been in this course is if he, she, or they perform an action in the LMS, such as completing an assignment or taking a quiz. Logging into the LMS is **NOT** considered active course participation. Please complete the designated enrollment verification activity by the date indicated. If it is not complete your enrollment in this course will be at risk.

Proctor Notification

No proctors are required for this course.

Important Student Information

In the Announcements section of the Blackboard Institution Page, you can view and download the Important Student Information document for the current academic year. It includes information about:

- ✓ Land Acknowledgement Statement
- ✓ Academic Grievance Concerns and Instructor English Proficiency
- ✓ NetTutor - Online Tutoring Program
- ✓ Starfish - Student Success System
- ✓ Students with Documented Disabilities
- ✓ Student Learning Outcomes / Essential Learning Outcomes
- ✓ Academic Honesty
- ✓ Emergency Notification
- ✓ Continuity of Academic Instruction for a Pandemic or Emergency
- ✓ Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)
- ✓ Diversity Statement (Title IX)

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Course Timeline/Schedule

Tentative Course Schedule		
Week	Discussion/Reading/Assignment	Due Date
Week 1	Syllabus/Intro	
Week 2	Gilgamesh	
Week 3	Flood narrative comparison b/w Gilgamesh and Bible	Sunday, Sept. 14th @ 11:59PM
Week 4	The Art of War	
Week 5	The Prince Paper on War and Prince	Sunday, Sept. 28th @ 11:59PM
Week 6	Analects	
Week 7	Analects/Meditations	
Week 8	Meditations Paper on Analects & Meditations	Sunday, Oct. 19th @ 11:59PM
Week 9	Tale of Genji	
Week 10	Kokoro Paper	Sunday, Nov. 2nd @ 11:59PM
Week 11	Basho	
Week 12	Basho Presentation and haiku writing	Friday, Nov. 16th in class
Week 13	No Longer Human	
Week 14	Silence: A Novel Paper	Sunday, Nov. 30th 11:59PM
Week 15	Look at Short Stories	
Week 16	Short Story Presentations	
Finals Week	Short Story Presentation Due Wednesday, December 17th by 3PM	