



University of International Business and Economics International Summer School

LIT 210 History of the Novel in English

Term: May 28 – June 28, 2018

Instructor: Takis Poulakos

Home Institution: University of Iowa

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Class Hours: Monday through Thursday, 120 minutes each day

Office Hours: TBD

Discussion Session: 2 hours each week

Total Contact Hours: 66 contact hours (45 minutes each)

Credit: 4 units

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of the development of the novel through the following six novels: Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe* (excerpts); Samuel Richardson, *Pamela* (excerpts); Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*; Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations*; F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*; James Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*. The course takes up these novels as representative texts of the development that the novel underwent from the epistolary and autobiographical forms in the 18th century to complex narrative structures in the 20th century. In addition to the major changes in the form of the novel, the course also looks at these novels as representative texts of the rich and ever-evolving relation of the novel to its social setting: reflecting and shaping morality in Richardson and Defoe, bringing social issues to public attention in Austen and Dickens, delivering a scathing critique against capitalism and catholicism in Fitzgerald and Joyce. The theme of social justice will provide the overriding theme of our course as we move from novel to novel.

Course Goals:

By the end of this course, students will have a better appreciation and a clearer understanding of the novel as a carrier of universal themes *and* context-specific truths; they will also gain an understanding of the novel as a vehicle for social critique.

Required Textbook: (Available online at no charge)

Samuel Richardson, *Pamela* (excerpts)

Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe* (excerpts)

Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*

Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations*

F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

James Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*.

Required Assignments:

Course requirements include a midterm exam and a final exam, two presentations, and 4 short essays (2-3 pages). Students must keep up with the readings, and be prepared to participate before and after each lecture. Students are strongly encouraged to do as much of the assigned reading as possible, **prior to the beginning of the summer session.**

Students wishing to take this course to satisfy a **writing requirement** will be given this option and, **in addition to course requirements**, will be expected to write 1) two 3-4 page essays (argument/analysis essays) that take a position on an aspect of social justice as it is depicted in any of two novels assigned; 2) one 10-12 page essay with proper documentation (academic research essay) on an aspect of social justice as it is informed by three of the assigned novels. Students choosing this option must meet with the instructor before the third class meeting, and draw up a schedule for turning in drafts, revisions, and finished versions of each paper.

Grading Policy:

- ✧ Midterm: 15%
- ✧ Final Exam: 15%
- ✧ 2 Presentations: 20%
- ✧ 4 Essays: 40%
- ✧ Class participation: 10%

Grading Scale:

Assignments and examinations will be graded according to the following grade scale:

A	90-100	C+	72-74
A-	85-89	C	68-71
B+	82-84	C-	64-67
B	78-81	D	60-63
B-	75-77	F	below 60

Class Rules:

Instructor's Policies for this Course

Students are expected to:

- ✧ Attend all class meetings
- ✧ Complete assigned readings on time
- ✧ Respect other students' input and communicate ethically
- ✧ Make positive contributions and participate in class activities, not engage in side conversations, website browsing, or text messaging

University Policies for this Course

This university has policies for academic conduct, including those regarding plagiarism and cheating. It is your duty to know these policies and not to violate them in any way. Academic misconduct is a serious offense and can be grounds for failing this course and possible expulsion from the university.

Attendance Policy:

Summer school is very intense and, to be successful, students need to attend every class. Occasionally, due to illness or other unavoidable circumstance, a student may need to miss a class. UIBE policy

requires a medical certificate to be excused. Any unexcused absence may affect the student's grade. Moreover, UIBE policy is that a student who has more than 1/3 of the class in unexcused absences will fail the course.

Course Schedule:

Monday May 28:

Lecture: The Rise of the Novel
Introduction to the course
Assign Student Presentations

Tuesday May 29:

Lecture, The epistolary novel; Richardson; *Pamela*
Reading Due: *Pamela*, letters I-XX
4 Student Presentations, 8-10 min each

Wednesday May 30:

Lecture, The Epistolary Novel, *Pamela*; *Clarissa*
Reading Due: *Pamela*, letters XXI-XXX
4 Student Presentations, 8-10 min each

Thursday May 31:

Lecture, The Rise of the Novel; Defoe; *Robinson Crusoe*

Monday June 4:

Lecture, *Robinson Crusoe*; *Moll Flanders*
Reading Due: *Robinson Crusoe*, chapters I-VII
4 Student Presentations, 8-10 min each

Tuesday June 5:

Lecture: Colonialism
Reading Due: *Robinson Crusoe*, chapters VIII-XIV
4 Student Presentations, 8-10 min each

Wednesday June 6:

Lecture: The novel and social commentary; Austen; *Pride and Prejudice*
Reading Due: *Pride and Prejudice*, vol. 1.
Short Essay #1 due (2-3 pages).

Thursday June 7:

Lecture: *Pride and Prejudice*, *Sense and Sensibility*
Reading Due: *Pride and Prejudice*, vol. 2.
4 Student Presentations, 8-10 min each

Saturday June 9:

First essay to satisfy writing requirement due (3-4 pages)

Monday June 11:

Lecture: Social critique

Reading Due: *Pride and Prejudice*, vol. 3.

4 Student presentations, 8-10 min each

Tuesday June 12:

Midterm

Short Essay #2 due (2-3 pages).

Wednesday June 13:

Lecture: The Novel and the tradition of *Buildungsroman*; Dickens; *Great Expectations*

Reading Due: *Great Expectations*, chapters I-XV

Thursday June 14:

Lecture: *Great Expectations*, *Hard Times*, *Oliver Twist*

Reading Due: *Great Expectations*, chapters XVI-XXX

4 Student presentations, 8-10 min each

Monday June 18:

Lecture: Social Justice

Reading Due: *Great Expectations*, chapters XXXI-LIX

4 Student presentations, 8-10 min each

Tuesday June 19:

Lecture, The novel in the age of Modernity; Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

Reading Due: *The Great Gatsby*, chapters 1-3

Short Essay #3 due (2-3 pages).

Wednesday June 20:

Lecture: The lost generation

Reading Due: *The Great Gatsby*, chapters 4-6

4 Student presentations, 8-10 min each

Thursday June 21:

Lecture: The critique of capitalism

Reading Due: *The Great Gatsby*, chapters 7-9

4 Student presentations, 8-10 min each



Saturday June 23:

Second essay to satisfy writing requirement due (3-4 pages)

Monday June 25:

Lecture, The novel and the critique of institutions; Joyce; *A Portrait*

Reading Due: *A Portrait of the Artist*, chapter I

4 Student presentations, 8-10 minutes each

Short Essay #4 due (2-3 pages).

Tuesday June 26:

Lecture, The novel and the stream of consciousness

Reading Due: *A Portrait of the Artist*, chapter V

4 Student presentations, 8-10 minutes each

Wednesday June 27:

Discussion: Other major novels in the British and American Tradition

Extra Credit Student Presentations: my favorite novel, 10-15 minutes each

Final essay to satisfy writing requirement due (10-12 pages)

Thursday June 28:

Final Exam

Concluding remarks