

SYLLABUS
WORLD LITERATURE II:
TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE LITERATURE
IDS 102 - Summer-Fall 1999 Dr. Marcia Clouser, 214 Olin

Office hours: 1:00-1:50 p.m. & by appointment x 2230; email: mclouser

SUMMER SEGMENT:

WEEK ONE

- Origins, Tricksters, Culture Heroes & Heroines*
- July 26 10:15 Class goals and structure
Oral tradition and chant: "Night Chant" (Navajo)
Annotation journals: techniques of active reading
- July 27 10:15 Creation and Emergence tales (Native American)
Free writing (in class)
Developing a thesis and organizing an argument:
the shape of an essay
Development of topics for short paper #1
- July 28 10:15 Tales of Tricksters
(West African, Native American & Caribbean)
Short paper #1 due (1 page)
Selection of topics for oral reports (by pairs) during
Week 2
- 1:00 p.m. Introduction to Research: On-line indexes,
keyword searching and hardcopy resources
(Myrin Library: meet at information desk)
- July 29 10:15 Excerpts from The Popol Vuh (Maya)
Film: "Popol Vuh" (Meet in Olin 108 at 10:15)
- July 30 10:15 **Small group oral presentations: African Folktales**
Peer review forms
Film: "The Hopi"

WEEK TWO

- August 2 10:15 Introduction to Nicolas Black Elk and his times
Black Elk Speaks (1932)
Free writing (in class)
Annotation journals due
Oral reports: Spanish conquest of the Pueblos;
fetal alcohol syndrome as it affects Native
Americans
Selection of topics for short paper #2
- 1:00-3:00 p.m.
August 3 10:15 Individual conferences on writing
Black Elk Speaks
Short paper #2 (version 1) due
Peer review & editing
Introduction to the world of the Bhagavad Gita

- August 4 10:15 Bhagavad Gita
Short paper #2 (revised version) due (2 pages)
 Overview of sacred tales and religions
- August 5 10:15 *Native American Renaissance*
House Made of Dawn, by N. Scott Momaday (1968)
Oral reports: Peyote and the Native American Church; the cultural significance of Long-distance Running in Native American cultures
- August 6 10:15 House Made of Dawn
Oral reports: N. Scott Momaday; the Native American literary renaissance
Annotation journals due
- August 7 8:00 a.m.-midnight
 Day trip to New York City & Harlem Renaissance Museum

WEEK THREE

- August 9 No IDS 102 class (Art in the Park)
- August 10 10:15 House Made of Dawn
 Free writing (in class)
- August 11 10:15 House Made of Dawn
 Topic development for Short paper #3
- August 12 10:15 House Made of Dawn
Short paper #3 due (2 pages)
- August 13 10:15 Film: "Smoke Signals" (Meet in Olin 108 at 10:15)

Determination of Grade (summer session):

- 20 % - class discussion, preparation, and participation
- 20 % - oral reports
- 15% - annotation journals
- 10 % - free writing
- 35 % - 3 papers

Texts:

- Black Elk Speaks, as told through John G. Neihardt. U. of Nebr. Press 1979.
- House Made of Dawn, by N. Scott Momaday. Harper & Row, 1989.
- The Penguin Book of Caribbean Short Stories, ed. by E. A. Markham. Penguin, 1996.
- The Bhagavad-Gita, transl. by Barbara Stoler Miller. Bantam, 1986.
- Additional materials in the form of handouts.