

**Wheeling Jesuit University | Department of English**  
**ENGL 150-01 | Culture and Conflict in Literature (3 cr)**  
**Spring 2019 | TR 9:30 – 10:45 am**  
**Acker Science Center 316**

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**Office Hours:** MWF, 12:30-2:30 pm, TR 11:00 am – 1:15 pm, and by appt.

### **[Catalog Description] ENGL 150: Culture and Conflict in Literature (3 crs)**

Students will examine selected topics related to global perspectives within literary studies. Assigned literary texts must include a variety of perspectives of characters and authors from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Course topics will vary by section. Grade options: A-F; CR/NC. Prerequisite: None. Fall and Spring. Core: GP.

#### **Required Textbooks**<sup>1</sup>

1. Aristophanes. *Lysistrata*. ISBN: 9780486282251
2. Esquivel, Laura. *Like Water for Chocolate*. ISBN: 978-0385420174
3. Ibsen, Henrik. *Hedda Gabler*. ISBN: 9780486264691
4. Shakespeare, William. *Macbeth*. ISBN: 9780486278025
5. Ward, Candace (editor). *Great Short Stories by American Women*. ISBN: 9780486287768

#### **Student Learning Objectives**

This course examines “wives behaving badly” in different parts of the world, from antiquity through the twentieth century. Students will study a variety of characters engaged with the institution of marriage, particularly women—from those who merely question wifely limitations to women who rebel against marital expectations. This course will focus on WHY these women are “behaving badly,” taking into consideration the origins, environment, and culture surrounding each character. Throughout our study we will:

1. Analyze issues and themes in the study of various forms of literature through progressive steps of interpretation, both written and oral (*Applying on Bloom’s Taxonomy Scale*);
2. Articulate themes that address the nature of persons from diverse origins and in varying environments and cultures (*Applying on Bloom’s Taxonomy Scale*);
3. Develop an understanding and respect for the diversity that is the human condition (*Evaluating on Bloom’s Taxonomy Scale*);
4. Construct an appropriate thematic interpretation of a literary text through literary analysis (*Evaluating on Bloom’s Taxonomy Scale*).

#### **Course Expectations**

**Attendance:** *This class is interactive*, so in order to do well you must be present at class meetings. Moreover, you should arrive to class on time and remain in the classroom for the duration of the class.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> There may be times during this class, when writing exams or an in-class term paper, that students may access a course text while writing. If so, the text must be the approved, hard-copy edition; there will be no access to electronic readers during exam- or essay-writing sessions, and there will be NO EXCEPTIONS.

As stated in the WJU Course Catalog, “Prompt and regular attendance at all the classes [. . .] and other activities that are part of a course is expected of every student. Failure to attend a class [. . .] for any reason is counted as an absence; University policy does not differentiate ‘excused’ from ‘unexcused’ absences.” (47).

The WJU Course Catalog also states: “First-year and all students on academic probation are permitted no more than six absences in 3-credit courses that meet three times a week. For courses that meet fewer than three times weekly, [. . .], the number of allowed absences is proportionately reduced.” (47). **If you fit into either of these two categories and you miss more than FOUR classes, for any reason, you will receive the grade of FA (Failure due to Absence).**

*Note on Attendance:* I expect that you will attend every class period. Habitual absence will negatively affect your course grade. Habitual lateness and/or early departure will negatively affect your course grade. I define lateness as entering the classroom after I have concluded taking role. Falling asleep in my class and/or are using your cellular phone **in any capacity** during the class period will negatively affect your course grade.

*Individual Participation:* Attend class **prepared** to ask and answer questions; remain alert; take notes; and *participate actively* in daily discussions about assigned readings and in-class activities (including group work). I will take into account class participation in borderline grade situations. (*This happens more than you may realize.*) An important part of this course will be your own shared responses to the works we read and discuss.

Unless you have spoken to me WELL in advance and I have approved of alternate arrangements, an absence for whatever reason in no way excuses you from work due during that class period or the following class period. **You** are responsible for obtaining any notes, handouts, and other course materials if/when you miss class.

**Assignments:** Complete all reading and writing assignments **prior to class** (*with the exception of in-class writing assignments*). Always bring the assigned reading, a notebook, and a writing utensil with you to class. Submit/complete all assignments on time. Follow directions carefully for each assignment.<sup>3</sup>

**Respect:** Be respectful both of your professor and of your fellow students. This includes the manner in which you address others, your participation in class discussions, and your general attitude toward the course. More specifically, students should arrive to class on time, remain attentive, respect the classroom dynamic re: participation, and refrain from accessing and/or using cellular phones and/or other electronic devices.

**Email:** An official WJU e-mail is established for each registered student, each faculty member, and each staff member. All university communications sent via e-mail will be sent to this WJU email address. In your emails, include a salutation, maintain a professional and respectful tone, use appropriate diction, and sign your name.

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<sup>2</sup> If you need to use the restroom or get a drink, please do so prior to the start of class.

<sup>3</sup> If a student fails to attend class on the date of a major assignment, that student will automatically incur a penalty/grade deduction. It is at the discretion of the professor—based on the circumstances—to determine the appropriate penalty/grade deduction.

**NO LAPTOPS:** This class is a technology-free zone, which means that **laptops, I-Pads, Nooks, I-phones or any other form of technology beyond a notebook, a pen, and the text are prohibited**. While they may be brought into the classroom with the best of intentions – i.e. to take notes – they invariably serve as a distraction not only to the owner but also to other students in the general vicinity.<sup>4</sup>

### **TWO IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS ON CELLULAR PHONES:**

1. Out of respect for your instructor and fellow students, turn your cellular phone (and all electronic devices) **off**—not on “silent” or “vibrate”—for the duration of the class. Moreover, I expect you to put your phone away in your backpack/purse—not on your desk, in your lap, on the floor, etc.—for the duration of the class.
2. Students are prohibited from accessing cellular phones, smart watches, and other electronic devices **FOR ANY PURPOSE** during an exam, in-class essay, or other formal in-class assignment. If a student is caught accessing any of the aforementioned devices during the specified time—regardless of intention or purpose—the professor will confiscate the exam, dismiss the student from the class for the remainder of the period, **and assign the grade of “0” to the assignment in question**. This is a department policy, and there will be NO EXCEPTIONS.

**Last Date to Drop the Course:** The last day of the Add/Drop Period for this semester is Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The last day to withdraw from this course with a grade of a W is Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

## **Evaluation Methods**

### **Grading Scale**

100%-93%	A	86%-83%	B	76%-73%	C	66%-60%	D
92%-90%	A-	82%-80%	B-	72%-70%	C-	59% & below	F
89%-87%	B+	79%-77%	C+	69%-67%	D+		

### **Unit Exams: 75%**

- 25% Wives Before the 19<sup>th</sup> Century
- 25% 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Wives
- 25% 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Wives

### **Reading Quizzes: 25%**

- You are expected to complete all **announced and unannounced** reading quizzes.
- A student can make up a quiz **only** if he/she: (1) misses class while officially representing Wheeling Jesuit University (for athletic or academic reasons); (2) provides me with written documentation from a WJU authority **prior** to the absence; **AND** (3) has made **prior** arrangements with me to make up the quiz.<sup>5</sup>
- **You may not make up a quiz for oversleeping or missing class without prior notice**, nor may you make up a quiz if you have already participated in a class discussion of the work.
- Students are **not permitted** to show up, take the quiz, and leave. Students must be present for **the entire class period** in order to receive credit for a quiz given that day.

<sup>4</sup> A student who falls under ADA policy is the only exception to this rule. If you *do* fall under ADA policy, verification of the disability and compliance with all other pertinent University policies will be required.

<sup>5</sup> If there are extenuating circumstances, it is at the discretion of the professor—based on those circumstances and the student’s accountability—to determine the appropriate course of action re: a missed quiz.

- At the end of the semester, I will drop the lowest **two** reading quiz grades (including a zero<sup>6</sup>) before factoring your final grade.
- If students are late to class, I will not repeat any questions (for any student) that have been dictated prior to the last student's arrival.
- Cheating on a reading quiz will result in the grade of zero for that quiz.

## **Blackboard**

We will be using Blackboard during this course: <https://wju.blackboard.com/>. I will post pertinent course documents, announcements, and other helpful information on the site. Please visit Bb regularly before each class period. I will also use both the Grade Center feature and the Attendance feature on Blackboard throughout the semester. Consequently, each student may track his/her progress and attendance record at any point during the semester by accessing both individual grades and a "running total" of course points via the Grade Center.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity means giving credit where credit is due in an academic setting. A violation of academic integrity at Wheeling Jesuit University can fall under one of two categories:

1. It is unethical to present as your own work the ideas, representations, or work of another.
2. It is unethical to permit someone else to present your ideas, representations, or work as his/her own intellectual property.

All of the work submitted by you must be your own work product. Consequently, students must refrain from consulting sources that discuss the literary texts assigned for this course. All critical articles, resource guides, and **plot summaries** are off-limits. **Students will need to rely on their own abilities**; they should not use the insights of others as a substitute for their own analysis. The point of this class is for students, through discussion with their classmates, to address key issues and themes in the study of various forms of literature through progressive steps of interpretation.

Students are advised that WJU's Academic Integrity Policy will strictly be enforced in this course (see [www.wju.edu/studenthandbook](http://www.wju.edu/studenthandbook)). Questions regarding the policy may be directed to the Office of the Academic Vice-President. The sanctions that may be imposed upon finding that a violation of academic integrity has occurred range from a reduction in grade on the assignment to dismissal from Wheeling Jesuit University without expectation of re-admission. If you are ever unsure about whether you have properly credited a source, please contact me before submitting the assignment.

You are required to read the "Academic Integrity and Dishonesty Policy" section of the student handbook for further details on the academic integrity policy and the consequences of violating this policy at WJU: [http://www.wju.edu/about/hr/policies/cl\\_academicdishonesty.asp](http://www.wju.edu/about/hr/policies/cl_academicdishonesty.asp). You are also required to read the "Academic Integrity Policies and Procedures" document on Blackboard. During the first week of the course, you will be asked to submit a written statement via Blackboard, which indicates your comprehension and acceptance of the academic integrity policies in this course. **NOTE: I will not grade any of your work in this class until you have submitted your written statement.**

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<sup>6</sup> Exception: If you receive a zero due to cheating, that grade will not be dropped. Your next lowest quiz grade will be dropped instead.

## **Disability Services**

Wheeling Jesuit University offers students with documented disabilities individual accommodations on a case-by case basis with confidentiality in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

In order to receive academic or physical accommodations, students with disabilities must provide current (within three years) and comprehensive documentation concerning the nature and extent of the disability and communicate their needs to the Disability Services Director, located in Ignatius Hall Room G24 (phone number: 304-243-4484). Students are required to meet with the director to develop accommodation plans that they will present to their course instructors at the beginning of each semester. Students with disabilities that require specific housing accommodations must contact both the Director of Residence Life and the Disability Services Director.

Ultimately, all students with disabilities are responsible for their own academic achievement. They must attend classes, complete course assignments, and fulfill all university requirements for their chosen field of study. It is up to students with disabilities to seek out available assistance on campus and to utilize individualized accommodations that promote academic success.

It is your responsibility to make known to me any disability for which you are requesting accommodation. Verification of the disability and compliance with all other pertinent University policies will be required. Unless you fall under the ADA policy, no additional accommodations will be made for in-class work, including quizzes, tests, and in-class writing assignments.

## **The Academic Resource Center:**

The Academic Resource Center (ARC) is a totally free academic-support service available to all enrolled Wheeling Jesuit University students and staffed almost exclusively by WJU students recommended for employment by WJU faculty. The ARC is located in Bishop Hodges Library and is open five days a week (Sundays 6:00-8:00 p.m.; Mondays-Thursdays 1:00-9:00 p.m.). Please visit the ARC's website (readily accessible on the Cardinal homepage under "Quick Links" or as the first listing under "Student Services") to learn about the ARC's services (emphasizing writing, math, and the sciences) and to schedule appointments.

## **Title IX Statement:**

Wheeling Jesuit University seeks to provide an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have been the victim of sexual harassment, misconduct, or assault we encourage you to report this. If you report this to a faculty member, she or he must notify our college's Title IX coordinator about the basic facts of the incident (you may choose whether you or anyone involved is identified by name). For more information about your options at WJU, please go to <http://wju.edu/titleix/>.

## ENGL 150 Tentative Schedule of Assignments<sup>7</sup>

### Dr. Phillips | Spring 2019

Most reading assignments listed below refer to—or are located within—a required text. Additional assignments either appear on Blackboard (Bb) or will be distributed to you in hard copy. **The last day of the Add/Drop Period for this semester is Friday, January 11th, 2019. The last day to withdraw from this course with a grade of a W is Tuesday, March 26th, 2019.**

Tuesday, January 8, 2018	Introduction to Course <b>Context Day #1: Wives in Ancient Greece</b>
Thursday, January 10, 2018	<b>Context Day #1: Wives in Ancient Greece</b> Aristophanes' <i>Lysistrata</i> , Day One (1 – 18 [read through Chorus of Old Men])
Tuesday, January 15, 2018	Aristophanes' <i>Lysistrata</i> , Day Two (18-54)
Thursday, January 17, 2018	<b>Context Day #2: Wives in Medieval Europe</b> Marie de France's "Yöneç" ( <b>handout</b> )
Tuesday, January 22, 2018	Marie de France's "Yöneç" Marie de France's "Milun" ( <b>handout</b> )
Thursday, January 24, 2018	<b>Context Day #2: Wives in Tudor and Stuart England</b> William Shakespeare's <i>Macbeth</i> , Day One (Act I)
Tuesday, January 29, 2018	William Shakespeare's <i>Macbeth</i> , Day Two (Acts II - III)
Thursday, January 31, 2018	William Shakespeare's <i>Macbeth</i> , Day Three (Acts IV - V)
Tuesday, February 5, 2018	Shakespeare Wrap-Up Exam #1 Review
Thursday, February 7, 2018	<b>Exam #1</b>
Tuesday, February 12, 2018	<b>Context Day #3: Wives in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century</b> Kate Chopin's "The Storm" ( <b>Ward</b> )
<b>Thursday, February 14, 2018</b>	Kate Chopin's "The Storm" ( <b>Ward</b> ) Elizabeth Gaskell's "The Old Nurse's Story" ( <b>handout</b> )
Tuesday, February 19, 2018	Elizabeth Gaskell's "The Old Nurse's Story" ( <b>handout</b> )
Thursday, February 21, 2018	Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wall-paper" ( <b>Ward</b> )
Tuesday, February 26, 2018	Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wall-paper" ( <b>Ward</b> )
Thursday, February 28, 2018	Henrik Ibsen's <i>Hedda Gabler</i> , Day One (Acts I & II)
<b>March 4 – March 8, 2019</b>	<b>NO CLASS: SPRING BREAK!</b>
Tuesday, March 12, 2018	Henrik Ibsen's <i>Hedda Gabler</i> , Day Two (Acts III & IV)
Thursday, March 14, 2018	Henrik Ibsen's <i>Hedda Gabler</i> , Day Three Exam #2 Review
Tuesday, March 19, 2018	<b>Exam #2</b>
Thursday, March 21, 2018	<b>Context Day #4: Wives in the Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century</b> Susan Glaspell's "A Jury of Her Peers" ( <b>Ward</b> )
<b>Tuesday, March 26, 2018</b>	Susan Glaspell's "A Jury of Her Peers," Day Two ( <b>Ward</b> )
Thursday, March 28, 2018	Zora Neale Hurston's "Sweat" ( <b>Ward</b> )
<b>Tuesday, April 2, 2018</b>	<b>NO CLASS: RESEARCH DAY!</b>

<sup>7</sup> Schedule subject to change. The reading and writing assignments are to be completed **prior to class on the date listed** in the left-hand column.

Thursday, April 4, 2018	Laura Esquivel's <i>Like Water for Chocolate</i> (January – March)
Tuesday, April 9, 2018	Laura Esquivel's <i>Like Water for Chocolate</i> (April – June)
Thursday, April 11, 2018	Laura Esquivel's <i>Like Water for Chocolate</i> (July – September)
Tuesday, April 16, 2018	Laura Esquivel's <i>Like Water for Chocolate</i> (October – December)
<b>April 19 - April 22, 2019</b>	<b>NO CLASS: EASTER BREAK!</b>
Tuesday, April 23, 2018	Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's "The Disappearance" ( <b>handout</b> )
Thursday, April 25, 2018	Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's "The Disappearance," Day Two
<b>Tuesday, April 30, 2019</b>	<b>Final Exam (8:00 am – 10:30 am)</b>