HONR 2305, Honors Seminar in the Humanities
Fall 2020: Landscapes, Real and Imagined
Days/times: MWF 10:00-10:50am, RASS 265
Instructor: Dr. Hama; e-mail: mark.hama@angelo.edu
Office: A021a; Telephone: 486-6147
Office Hours: Due to the COVID-19 situation, office hours will be held by e-mail; an in-person or Zoom meeting may be arranged with 24hr. notice

CLASS POLICIES

Required Texts

Additional readings will be made available electronically.

Please be aware that the ASU Bookstore returns unused copies of these texts to their suppliers relatively soon after the beginning of the semester, so make sure you purchase them all before that time. Each student is required to bring his/her own copy of each text to class during the assigned period, and you are strongly urged to buy the listed edition. In the case of possible open-book exams, students with the wrong edition may find themselves at a disadvantage in finding listed passages. Also, you must complete the assigned reading prior to the time we cover it in class.

Course Overview
HONR 2305 is designed to stimulate an exchange of ideas among first-year Honors students majoring in various disciplines. Topics and readings vary by semester but generally focus on issues that can be viewed from multiple perspectives, including historical, cultural, philosophical, artistic, and scientific. This semester’s theme is landscapes, physical and imaginative. Throughout the semester, we will examine and reflect upon how humans have constructed realities out of the physical and imaginative landscapes they encounter and inhabit.

Student Learning Objectives
At the end of the course, students should be able to:
• demonstrate a basic understanding of historical, scientific, political, and cultural implications of landscapes in all their global manifestations
• critically analyze a range of scientific, philosophical, literary, and artistic representations of landscape formation
• demonstrate an understanding of how science, technology, and human culture advance through inquiry and experimentation
• demonstrate an awareness of how social and political ideologies affect our responses to how we construct the “realities” of our world
• present information effectively in both written and oral formats

Requirements and Grading
Assignments will include oral presentations, reading quizzes, active class participation, a 4-5 pg. paper, and a final exam. In the case of late written assignments, five points will be deducted from the grade for each day late, including weekends and holidays. To be considered for a passing grade, each student must complete and turn in all assignments. Class sessions will include lectures, class discussions, group work, and possibly some additional written assignments. The final grade will be calculated as follows:

Reading quizzes 4 @ 7.5 pts. each-------30%
Oral presentation-------------------------------15%
Paper------------------------------------------20%
Final examination--------------------------------25%
Class participation-----------------------------10%

Absence Policy
Each student is allowed three unexcused absences without penalty. For each subsequent unexcused absence, 3 points will be deducted from your final semester grade. All absences will be charged against this allotment unless proper written documentation indicating the nature of the absence is presented; in any case, I reserve the right to determine whether the absence will be excused. Further, you are responsible for keeping up with the syllabus during any absence. Finally, a total of ten or more absences will constitute grounds for failing the course.

Academic Honesty
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is available on the web at http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf. At minimum students who are determined to have violated this policy will receive a failing grade on the assignment and may also receive a failing grade in the course.

Students with Disabilities
Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Student Life Office (Room 112 University Center; in order to request such accommodations prior to any being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Absences for Observance of Religious Holy Day
Students who intend to be absent from class to observe a religious holy day (as defined in ASU OP 10.19) must inform the instructor in writing prior to the absence and make up any scheduled assignments within an appropriate timeframe determined by the professor. While the absence will not be penalized, failure to complete the make-up assignment satisfactorily
and within the required timeframe will result in penalties consistent with other absences and assignments.

**Classroom Decorum**
To succeed in the course, each student must be **completely** prepared with all assigned reading and must undertake an active, responsible role in all classroom activities. The 10% for class participation is not awarded simply for attendance; each student must earn it by contributing to the exchange of ideas upon which every successful course depends. Please **do not** come to class unprepared; if you do, I reserve the right to ask you to leave and to charge you with an absence. Any student who falls asleep will be awakened and asked to leave the class. If these actions would embarrass you, please come to class prepared and alert. Also, eating, drinking, talking disruptively, habitually forgetting the textbooks, and doing coursework for other classes are prohibited. Following University tobacco-use policy, no tobacco or vaping products of any kind, including chew or dip, are to be used in the classroom. Finally, please turn off all electronic communications devices—cell phones, smart phones, etc.—and place them out of sight. If I see one out during class, I will ask you to put it away. The next time I may ask you to leave class and charge you with an absence.

**Title IX at Angelo State University**
The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

**Michelle Boone, J.D.**
*Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator*
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-942-2022
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7 at [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form).

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the *University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.*

For more information about Title IX in general you may visit [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).
*Updates made to the policies on Academic Honesty, Disability Accommodations, Religious Holy Days, and Title IX will be made available at the following link: https://www.angelo.edu/opmanual/

Statement on Student Absences for COVID-19 Related and Other Illness: Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students on Campus
The Texas Tech University System has implemented a mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy campus experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests that there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person-to-person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Because of the potential for transmission of the virus, and to be consistent with the University’s requirement, students on campus are to wear a mask/facial covering. Observing safe distancing practices while on campus by spacing out and wearing a mask/facial covering will greatly improve our odds of having a safe and healthy campus experience.

Students requesting an exemption may need to wear a clear plastic face shield instead of a face mask. Students needing this accommodation should register with Student Disability Services and provide the appropriate documentation supporting this request. No accommodation exists that would exempt a student from wearing a mask/facial covering at any university-sponsored activity or event.

For religious or any other exemption-related questions, students should contact the Office of Student Affairs.
**Syllabus**

**M 8/17**  
Class introduction

**W 8/19**  
What is a Landscape? Defining the Terms

**F 8/21**  
What is a Landscape? The Artistic Imagination

**M 8/24**  
**Research Project and Presentations assigned**  
Overview on ASU Library databases and MLA formatting

**W 8/26**  
Lecture: Nature and the Romantic Imagination

**F 8/28**  
William Wordsworth, “Tintern Abbey,” available online

**M 8/31**  
Wordsworth, “Tintern Abbey”

**W 9/2**  
Discuss *The Sahara: A Cultural History*, Introduction & Parts One & Two, pp. xi-82

**F 9/4**  
continue *The Sahara: A Cultural History*, pp. 85-162

**M 9/7**  
**Labor Day Holiday**

**W 9/9**  
continue *The Sahara: A Cultural History*, pp. 163-248

**F 9/11**  
Presentation Group 1: The Landscape of the Fertile Crescent: James Bautista and Maddi Stephens

**M 9/14**  
Presentation Group 2: The Landscape of the Silk Road: Breanne Bittick and Katherine Spitzer

**W 9/16**  
**Reading Quiz #1**  
William Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, all

**F 9/18**  
**discuss A Midsummer Night’s Dream**

**M 9/21**  
**discuss A Midsummer Night’s Dream**

**W 9/23**  
Presentation Group 3: The Landscape of the Amazon: Loralei Briley and Kaylen Shetler

**F 9/25**  
Voltaire, *Candide*, “Eldorado” excerpt, Chaps. XVII & XVIII, online
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M 9/28</td>
<td>Film: <em>When Two World’s Collide</em>, directed by Heidi Brandenburg Sierralta and Mathew Orzel</td>
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<td>W 9/30</td>
<td>continue film</td>
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<td>F 10/2</td>
<td>continue film</td>
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<td>M 10/5</td>
<td>Presentation Group 4: The Landscape of the Congo, 1500-1800: Caroline Bronkhurst and Colton Rowe</td>
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<td>W 10/7</td>
<td><strong>Reading Quiz #2: Heart of Darkness, all; submit in Blackboard</strong>&lt;br&gt;Presentation Group 5: The Landscape of The Belgian Congo/Congo Free State: Ashlyn Dodson and Mariah Martinez</td>
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<tr>
<td>F 10/9</td>
<td>discuss <em>Heart of Darkness</em></td>
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<td>M 10/12</td>
<td>continue <em>Heart of Darkness</em> discussion</td>
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<td>W 10/14</td>
<td><strong>Reading Quiz #3: Chinua Achebe, Things Fall Apart, all; submit in Blackboard</strong>&lt;br&gt;discuss <em>Things Fall Apart</em></td>
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<td>F 10/16</td>
<td>continue <em>Things Fall Apart</em> discussion</td>
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<td>M 10/19</td>
<td><strong>Reading Quiz #4: Dorothy Scarborough, The Wind, all, online, submit in Blackboard</strong>&lt;br&gt;Presentation Group 6: The Landscape of the American Great Plains: C. J. Lemke and Mason Duebner</td>
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<td>W 10/21</td>
<td>Discuss <em>The Wind</em></td>
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<td>F 10/23</td>
<td>continue discussion of <em>The Wind</em></td>
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<td>M 10/26</td>
<td>Presentation Group 7: The Landscape of the Arctic: Avery Edinburgh and Emily Lee</td>
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<td>W 10/28</td>
<td>Presentation Group 8: The Landscape of Time: Anna Faught and Matthew Fields</td>
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<td>F 10/30</td>
<td>Marcel Proust, <em>In Search of Lost Time</em>, “The Madeleine” excerpt; online</td>
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<td>M 11/2</td>
<td>Presentation Group 9: The Landscape of Aztlán: Chloe Edinburgh and Anna Kerestly</td>
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<tr>
<td>W 11/4</td>
<td>Corky Gonzalez, “I Am Joaquín,” online</td>
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F 11/6  Presentation Group 10: The Landscape of the U.S./Mexico Borderland: Anna James and Sarah Keeling

M 11/9  Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera*, selections; online

W 11/11  continue discussion Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera*

F 11/13  Presentation Group 11: The Landscape of Space Exploration

M 11/16  MLA Style Workshop

W 11/18  Last day of class

**Research Papers due**

Discuss final exam

**Final examination:** Friday, November 20, 10:30am-12:30pm