

HONR 2305, Honors Freshman Seminar in the Humanities

Fall 2021: Travel and Travelers

Days/times: MWF 10:00-10:50am, A007

Instructor: Dr. Hama; e-mail: mark.hama@angelo.edu

Office: A021b; Telephone: 486-6147

Office Hours: MWF 11:00am-12:00pm; TT/Th 10:45am-12:15pm; also, by appointment with 24hr. notice

CLASS POLICIES

Required Texts

Millward, James. *The Silk Road: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press, 2013.

ISBN 978-019-978286-4

Swift, Jonathan. *Gulliver's Travels*, edited by Albert J. Rivero, W. W. Norton, 2002.

ISBN: 978-0-393-95724-2

Twain, Mark. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, edited by Thomas Cooley, W. W. Norton,

1999. ISBN: 978-0-393-96640-4

Voltaire, *Candide*, translated and edited by Robert M. Adams, W. W. Norton, 1991.

ISBN: 978-0-393-96058-7

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 travel and travelers. Throughout the semester, we will examine and reflect upon how humans have moved across the world in search of adventure and discovery.

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 travel in all their manifestations

- critically analyze a range of cultural, philosophical, literary, and artistic accounts of travel
- 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 as well as an incident report.

Students with Disabilities

Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Student Life Office (Room 112 University Center); 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 vaping products or tobacco 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.

ASU COVID-19 Link

For current updates regarding COVID-19, follow this link: <https://www.angelo.edu/covid-19/>

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 Miller, 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.

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.

*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/>

Syllabus

- M 8/23 Class introduction
- W 8/25 Travel and Travelers: defining the terms
- F 8/27 **Research Project and Presentations assigned**
Overview on ASU Library databases and MLA formatting
- M 8/30 Film: *The Journey of Man: The Story of the Human Species*
- W 9/1 continue film
- F 9/3 continue film
- M 9/6 **Labor Day—no class**
- W 9/8 Discuss *The Silk Road*, Chapters 1 & 2, 1-38
- F 9/10 continue *The Silk Road*, Chapters 3 & 4, 39-86
- M 9/13 continue *The Silk Road*, Chapters 5 & 6, 87-121
- W 9/15 Alfred, Lord Tennyson, “Ulysses,” handout
- F 9/17 continue “Ulysses”
- M 9/20 Presentation Group 1: The Grand Trunk Road: Abbey Armijo & Nelle Woodruff
- W 9/22 Presentation Group 2: Marco Polo: Riley Arndt, Minh Ahn Tran & Faith Matias reading selection from *Travels of Marco Polo*, handout
- F 9/24 Presentation Group 3: Ibn Battuta: Matthew Barton & Alaina Torres
- M 9/27 **Reading Quiz #1: *Gulliver’s Travels*, all**
Presentation Group 4: Captain James Cook: Jacob Brody & Halle Summers
- W 9/29 continue *Gulliver’s Travels*
- F 10/1 continue *Gulliver’s Travels*
- M 10/4 continue *Gulliver’s Travels*
- W 10/6 Presentation Group 5: The Grand Tour: Austin Buchanan & Alexa Schwertner

- F 10/8 Oliver Goldsmith, "The Traveller"
- M 10/11 continue "The Traveller"
- W 10/13 Leibniz, "Theodicy," handout
- F 10/15 **Reading Quiz #2:** Voltaire, *Candide*, all
- M 10/18 continue *Candide*
- W 10/20 continue *Candide*
- F 10/22 Presentation Group 6: Isabella Bird: Robert Burnett & Victoria Schneider
- M 10/25 Presentation Group 7: The Trans-Siberian Railway: Miles Duncan & Jon Parks
- W 10/27 Walt Whitman, "Song of the Open Road," all; handout
- F 10/29 continue "Song of the Open Road,"
- M 11/1 **Reading Quiz #3:** Mark Twain, *Huckleberry Finn*, all
Presentation Group 8: American Hoboes, 1880-1950: Hailey Hawkins & Eduardo Palacios
- W 11/3 continue *Huckleberry Finn*
- F 11/5 continue *Huckleberry Finn*
- M 11/8 Presentation Group 9: Route 66: Daisy Herr & Avery Ondechek
- W 11/10 Presentation Group 10: The Hippie Trail: Ramitha Irrinki & Yejun Na
- F 11/12 Presentation Group 11: Helen Thayer: Emma Labarge & Connor Morgan
- M 11/15 **Reading Quiz #4:** Edith Wharton, *The Custom of the Country*, PDF in Blackboard, all
- W 11/17 Thorstein Veblen, *The Theory of the Leisure Class*, selections, handout
- F 11/19 continue *The Custom of the Country*
- M 11/22 continue *The Custom of the Country*
- W 11/24 **Thanksgiving Break**

F 11/26 **Thanksgiving Break**

M 11/29 **MLA Citation and Documentation Workshop**

W 12/1 Robert Frost, "The Road Not Taken," handout

F 12/3 Last day of class
 Research Papers due
 Discuss final exam

Final examination: Monday, Dec. 6, 10:30am-12:30pm