



## Shanghai Jiao Tong University

### EN340 History of the Novel

**Term: July 3 – August 3, 2017**

**Instructor: Nathan Atkinson**

**Home Institution: Georgia State University**

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**Class Hours: Monday through Thursday, 120 minutes each day**

**Discussion session: 2 hours each week**

**Total Contact Hours: 66 contact hours (45 minutes each, 3000 minutes in total)**

**Credit: 4 units**

#### Course Description

This course introduces students to the novel as a literary form and explores its development in historical context. Students will read selected novels, and selected essays on the history of the novel and its influence on global cultures.

#### Course Goals

- ✧ Students will learn about the historical and formal development of the novel.
- ✧ Students will read selected novels from key eras in its development.
- ✧ Students will practice strategies for reading and interpreting novels.
- ✧ Students will write about the novels they read.

#### Required Texts

Thomas C. Foster, *How to Read Novels Like a Professor*, Harper (2008).

Jane Austen, *Emma*, Penguin Classics (2003).

F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*, Scribners (2003).

Amy Tan, *The Joy Luck Club*, Penguin Classics (2016).

#### Grading Policy

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4.0
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3.0



70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2.0
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1.0
≤59	F (Failure)	0

### Course Schedule

July 3	Introduction to class	No homework
July 4	The historical context of the novel	Read: “What is a Novel” by Terry Eagleton
July 5	Explain and practice the “Reading Journal.”	Read: <i>How To Read Novels</i> 1-20
July 6	Discuss strategies for reading literature	Read: <i>How To Read Novels</i> 21-66
July 10	Discuss the publication history of <i>Emma</i>	Read: <i>Emma</i> , Book 1
July 11	Discuss the prose style of <i>Emma</i>	Read: <i>Emma</i> , Book 2
July 12	Literary criticism and the novel.	Read: <i>Emma</i> , Book 3
July 13	Introduce <i>Great Gatsby</i>	Exercise One: Write a 250-word summary of <i>Emma</i> .
July 17	Due: 500 Word Summary Discuss narrative strategy in <i>Great Gatsby</i>	Read: <i>Great Gatsby</i> , Chapters 1-3
July 18	Discuss themes and imagery in <i>Great Gatsby</i>	Read: <i>Great Gatsby</i> , Chapters 4-6



July 19	In class writing lab and tutorial.	Read: <i>Great Gatsby</i> , Chapters 7-9
July 20	Discuss <i>Great Gatsby</i> 's meaning today.	Exercise Two: Write 500-word essay evaluating the opening pages of <i>Gatsby</i> .
July 24	Due: Exercise Two Discuss the contemporary novel.	Read: <i>How To Read Novels</i> 89-98, 279-290
July 25	Discuss portrayals of time in the novel	Read: <i>Joy Luck Club</i> , Section One, pages 19-83
July 26	Discuss character in <i>Joy Luck Club</i>	Read: <i>Joy Luck Club</i> , Section Two, pages 87-144
July 27	Discuss time and history in <i>Joy Luck Club</i>	No homework
August 31	The future of the novel.	Read: <i>How To Read Novels</i> 197-212
August 1	The novel in other media.	Exercise Three: "Historical Analysis" for <i>Joy Luck Club</i> (750 words)
August 2	The role of the novelist in society	Continue to work on "Historical Analysis."
August 3	Due: Historical Analysis and Reading Journals.	