



Shanghai Jiao Tong University

EN340 History of the Novel

Instructor Information:	Nathan Atkinson Home Institution: UC Berkeley Email: nsatkinson@yahoo.com Office Hour: TBD (Determined by Instructor)		
Term:	May 25, 2020 - June 19, 2020	Credits:	4 units
Class Hours :	Monday through Friday, 160 mins per teaching day		
Discussion Sessions:	2 hours each week, conducted by teaching assistant(s)		
Total Contact Hours:	64 contact hours (1 contact hour = 45 mins, 2880 mins in total)		
Required Texts (with ISBN):	N/A		
Prerequisite:	N/A		



Course Overview

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.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this subject students should

1. learn about the historical and formal development of the novel;
2. read selected novels from key eras in its development;
3. practice strategies for reading and interpreting novels;
4. write about the novels they read.

Grading Policy

Assignments	20%
Midterm exam	40%
Final exam	40%

Grading Scale

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



Class Schedule

Day 1	Introduction to class
Day 2	The historical development of the novel
Day 3	Discuss formal strategies for reading literature
Day 4	In class exercise on “narrative voice.”
Day 5	Watch: Clueless (1994)
Day 6	Finish Clueless; Introduce “Contextual Analysis”
Day 7	In class exercise on “Contextual Analysis”
Day 8	Presentations on Margaret Mitchell (Gone With the Wind), Zora Neale Hurston (Their Eyes Were Watching God) and Toni Morrison (Beloved).
Day 9	“The Great American Novel”
Day 10	In class exercise on “character and setting” in Great Gatsby
Day 11	In class exercise on The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
Day 12	Presentations: Hawthorne (Scarlett Letter), Salinger (Catcher in the Rye), Amy Tan (The Joy Luck Club)
Day 13	Midterm Exam
Day 14	Discussion and activity “Genre and the Novel”
Day 15	War of the Worlds and mass communication technology R
Day 16	Presentation on Margaret Atwood (Handmaid’s Tale)
Day 17	Finish presentations, tie up loose ends.
Day 18	Discuss Joy Luck Club
Day 19	Peer review Final Paper
Day 20	Final Exam