

**ENGL 2110-01 (World Literature)**  
MW 2:00 pm - 3:20 pm / Pafford 306  
Spring Semester 2016

Dr. David Newton  
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**Office Hours**  
MW 8:30 - 9:30 am; 12:30 – 2:00 pm; &  
3:30 – 4:00 pm; T 9:00 am – 12 noon;  
and by appointment

**Course Description:** A survey of important works of world literature in translation. Our readings this semester will focus on works from the Middle East, Asia, Europe, the Americas, and Africa and will range historically from literature written by ancient civilizations through works written in the twentieth century. Since we cannot possibly hope to cover all of world literature in one semester, this course will introduce you to critical strategies for reading literary works from different historical eras and from a diversity of cultural traditions. The course will emphasize the critical analysis of texts and literary genres, as well as situating literary works within their appropriate historical and cultural contexts. We also will use comparative methods to analyze relationships (similarities and differences) between works written by different cultures in different historical eras and consider how these works relate to our own lives and experiences.

Prerequisites: ENGL 1101 and ENGL 1102.

This course fulfills the Core Area C.2 requirement in the core for all students.

This course fulfills the world literature requirement for English majors (all tracks) in Core Area F.

**Core Area C Learning Outcomes**

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the foundational concepts of artistic, intellectual, or literary achievement. Students will recognize and make informed judgments about fine, literary, or performing arts from various cultures.

**Course Learning Outcomes**

Students will develop the ability to recognize and identify significant achievements in world literature.

Students will understand the relevant social, historical, and aesthetic contexts of these literary works.

Students will appreciate the implications of theoretical and critical approaches to such literature.

Students will develop enhanced cultural awareness and analytical skills.

Students will demonstrate their command of academic English and of the tenets of sound composition by means of thesis-driven analytical prose.

**Required Texts**

China Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*. Anchor Press, 1994 (paperback). ISBN-10: 0385474547 or ISBN-13: 978-038547454. Available at the bookstore.

All other required reading assignments will be available electronically on CourseDen at no additional cost. Most of the readings will come from the *Compact Anthology of World Literature*, Volumes 1 & 2, Electronic Edition.

**Grading Scale:** Students are assigned a letter grade for each assignment ranging from A+ to F based on the numerical scale below. This grade will be used when calculating the final average at the end of the semester.

97-100 = A+	87-89 = B+	77-79 = C+	67-69 = D+	below 60 = F
94-96 = A	84-86 = B	74- 76 = C	64-66 = D	
90-93 = A-	80-83 = B-	70- 73 = C-	60-63 = D-	

**Course Evaluation**

20% Quizzes and Homework Assignments

10% Analytical Essay I

10% Analytical Essay II

20% Examination I

20% Examination II

20% Final Examination

**Grades and Educational Privacy Rights (FERPA):** All of the information that you need to calculate your grade is on this syllabus. It is your responsibility to keep up with your grades and average. If you need help calculating your grade, please schedule an appointment so that we can discuss it in person. I do not discuss grades during class sessions or in front of other students. UWG policy prohibits discussion or transmission of grades via email. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) prohibits discussion or disclosure of a student's grades or performance in a class with any outside party (including parents or legal guardians) without the student's written permission. Information about FERPA and forms granting permission are available at the UWG Registrar's website (<http://www.westga.edu/registrar/962.php>).

**Attendance Requirements:** I expect you to be present and on time for all class meetings. Readings and homework assignments should be completed in advance of each class. You should be prepared to participate actively in class discussions OR by simply *asking* questions. If you do not understand something presented in class or in the reading assignments, *ask*. If you are going to be absent from class, you should let me know, preferably in advance. If you find it unavoidable to miss class, be aware of the following guidelines: 1) Four (4) absences are allowed during the semester. Every absence thereafter will result in a 5 point grade reduction of your final grade in the course, regardless of the nature of the absence. After six absences, you will have two options: withdraw from the class, which will generate a W if done before the withdrawal deadline—or a WF if after that deadline; or remain on the roll (still attending classes, if so desired) and receive an F for the course/semester. If you suspect that outside responsibilities might cause you to miss more than six classes, then you should consider taking the course at another time. I do not make distinctions between excused and unexcused absences, so you should use your allotted absences wisely. Unplanned or unexpected occurrences are likely to occur, so be prepared to use absences for these events only; 2) Tardies will be counted as part of the attendance requirements. Three late arrivals (after the roll has been taken) will equal one absence. Class roll will be taken at the beginning of every class. If you arrive late, it is your responsibility to let me know immediately after class or you will be counted absent. It is your responsibility to keep up with your absences and tardies. Reasons related to outside employment or work in other classes are not legitimate excuses for missing class, leaving class early or arriving late; 3) Sleeping at any time during the class period will be counted as an absence; 4) Disruptive behavior at any time during the class period will be counted as an absence.

**Homework Assignments:** In addition to required reading assignments, you will complete short writing assignments throughout the semester to facilitate our discussions in class and to help you prepare for the analytical essays and examinations. Assignments will be announced in advance in class and posted on CourseDen. Homework grades will be combined with your quiz grades.

**Quizzes:** A reading quiz will be given at the very start of class on most days. It will cover the reading assignment(s) listed on the syllabus for that day. The questions will be objective and will assess basic reading comprehension. Quizzes typically include short questions that focus on the following: titles of works and approximate dates; identification of characters and settings; and identification of significant events and main ideas. Homework assignments (see section above) will be included in the quiz grade average. NOTE: I will drop your lowest quiz grade before calculating your final quiz average. Students who arrive late to class or who miss class will not be able to make up quizzes. I do not give make-up quizzes under any circumstances.

**Examinations:** The three examinations will be based on reading assignments, course lectures/discussions, and other materials presented in class and on CourseDen. For each examination, students will be expected to know the major historical events, literary terms and concepts, authors, and literary works (including specific passages) presented in this course. To be successful on the exams, you should read all assignments carefully, taking notes as you read as well as taking notes during class. Both examinations will include an objective component (identifications, definitions and short paragraph-length essay questions) and an interpretive component (identification/analysis of specific passages that we discuss in class). The final exam will include a cumulative written component. The date for each examination is listed on the course syllabus and cannot be scheduled at an alternate time unless you have a serious medical emergency or another legitimate reason for doing so, subject to my approval. In the event that such circumstances arise, you must let me know *in advance* to schedule an alternate time to take the examination. Otherwise, late exams will be marked down one letter grade for each day they are taken late.

**Analytical Response Essays:** You will write two analytical response essays (each approximately 2 typewritten pages). Essays will focus on a thesis-based analysis of a literary work assigned in this course. Guidelines will be posted on CourseDen. All written assignments in this course must be typed. Essays will be assessed on the basis of an argumentative thesis, organizational structure, interpretive content, use of supporting evidence from the literary work, appropriate college-level grammar, MLA paper format, and writing style as outlined in the grading rubric. I am available to assist you with your essay assignments, but I will not proofread essays for you; that step is part of your writing process as you edit your final draft. I will not review entire drafts of your essay that are emailed to me; instead, you must schedule an appointment during office hours and provide specific issues with your draft that you want to discuss. Meetings to discuss your essays need to be arranged in advance, not on the day essays are due.

**Revision Policy:** I will be available to meet with you prior to the essay deadlines to discuss topics, possible ideas for a thesis, and other questions you may have about the writing process. While I will not proof-read drafts of your essays, I will answer specific questions about drafts of any of your essays, *if* you arrange to meet with me in advance. Please note that I probably will not be able to offer any substantial assistance if you wait until the last minute to write your draft/essay or request to meet with me the day the essay is due. Advance planning on your part is essential. Students who make a grade of D or lower on the first essay may choose to revise the essay for a higher grade, *if the essay has been turned in on time*. The maximum a grade can be increased through revisions is one letter grade (for example, a grade of D can be revised to a C if all the revision criteria are met). Revisions for a higher grade are only allowed on the first essay. You must notify me within one week of receiving your graded essay if you want to revise it for a higher grade.

**Writing Format and MLA Documentation Style:** All writing assignments in this course must follow Modern Language Association (MLA) format. Assignments (unless instructed otherwise) should be typed and use Times New Roman typeface and 12 point font. Essay rubrics and guidelines for all writing, grammar, and MLA format requirements can be found on CourseDen. I will use these guidelines when I assess your essays and other writing.

**Late Assignment Policies:** Students are responsible for knowing when assignments are due. Assignments that are submitted late will be subject to the following grade deductions:

Submitted late on due date: 1/2 of letter grade or 5 points (e.g., A+ to A)

Submitted one day (within 24 hours) after due date: letter grade or 10 points (e.g., A to B)

Submitted two days (within 48 hours) after due date: two letter grades or 20 points (e.g., A to C)

Submitted three days after due date: three letter grades or 30 points (e.g., A to D)

Submitted more than a week after due date: F or 50 points

Submitted more than two weeks after the due date: Zero (not accepted for grading after this deadline).

I realize that extenuating circumstances sometimes occur; therefore, you are allowed to submit one of the two essays one class period after the submission deadline, if you make arrangements with me to do so in advance. You must email me prior to the date that the essay is due to make your request. This policy applies **ONLY** to the essays and not to other assignments. After 24 hours, the grade deductions listed above will go into effect. Other assignments should be completed on time and brought to class, since they are usually related to specific work we are covering in class.

**Extra Credit and Previous Work:** I do not give extra credit for additional work beyond the assignments listed here. Please focus on completing the above assignments successfully. Any work completed for another course here at UWG or elsewhere cannot be submitted for a grade in this course.

**Electronic Devices:** Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices before entering class. No text messaging or phone calls are permitted during class. Use of them will result from your dismissal from class and an absence on that date. Laptops can be used for class-related work only. Use for other purposes will result in your dismissal from class.

**University of West Georgia Honor Code:** At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in

acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing. Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this class, including essays, quizzes, and materials submitted for a grade. The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student's conduct record at UWG. Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student's account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. It is your responsibility to report instances of academic dishonesty if you see them occur. UWG Honor Code: <http://www.westga.edu/handbook/59.php>

**Plagiarism and Excessive Collaboration Policies:** UWG defines plagiarism as taking personal credit without correct and documented attribution for the words and ideas of others as they are presented in electronic, print, and verbal sources. UWG expects that students will accurately credit sources in all assignments. Plagiarism also includes taking someone else's writing and submitting it as your own. Even if you alter the wording completely or in part, taking ideas without documented attribution is considered plagiarism. Fabricating sources also constitutes plagiarism. Excessive collaboration occurs when someone else (a fellow student, a family member, or someone you hire) excessively writes or edits your writing to a degree that your independent abilities to produce college-level writing are not evident. Excessive collaboration is a form of academic dishonesty and will be treated the same as a plagiarism under the UWG Honor Code. If a student violates the UWG Honor Code policy, the student may receive an F for the assignment or an F for the course at the instructor's discretion, depending on the circumstances and severity of the violation. For more information about plagiarism, visit [http://www.westga.edu/writing/1326\\_1649.php](http://www.westga.edu/writing/1326_1649.php)

**Classroom Etiquette:** This is a college classroom and a professional setting, similar to a work environment. I expect students to be ready to work at the beginning of class. This means having all reading materials assigned for that day on hand and ready to use, as well as any writing instruments and paper for note-taking and other work. You may use laptops, but you may not use wireless connections to surf the Internet or email. If you need to leave class early for whatever reason, you need to let me know before the beginning of class. You may bring drinks to class (make sure containers have lids) but no food is allowed.

**Department Policy on Disruptive Behavior:** Students may be dismissed from any class meeting during which they exhibit behavior that disrupts the learning environment of others. Such behavior includes—but is not limited to—arriving late for class, allowing cell phones to ring, speaking disrespectfully to the instructor and/or to other students, checking email or texting, and using personal electronic devices. Each dismissal of this kind will count as an absence and will be applied toward the course attendance policy. Repeated disruptive behavior that interferes with teaching or affects the learning of others in the class may result in failing this course. If you have concerns about disruptive behavior or would like to talk about the classroom environment or your participation in the class, please set up a time to meet with me. UWG Policy: [http://www.westga.edu/vpsa/index\\_4615.php](http://www.westga.edu/vpsa/index_4615.php)

**Office Consultations & Assistance Outside of Class:** I am always available to meet with you outside of class to discuss your progress in this course. If you are having trouble with the material in this course or have questions and/or concerns you would like to discuss, please set up a time to meet with me. Students who seek help outside of class—either directly from the instructor, the Writing Center, or other tutorial services available on campus—typically improve their writing and critical thinking skills. An office consultation, either during scheduled office hours or during a scheduled appointment, is a time for you to discuss specific issues associated with your own learning that we cannot address in class (i.e., a specific essay, a specific in-class or out-of-class assignment, a specific grade, a specific concern as it relates to your writing, etc.). Be aware that an email asking questions about an assignment cannot replace an actual meeting. While I welcome any email correspondence, this type of correspondence is best used only when you have a very specific question that does not require an extended

discussion. My office hours are listed here on the syllabus and on CourseDen, but I am available to meet with you at other times, if we arrange a mutually convenient time in advance. I am usually here throughout the week and can arrange to meet at days and times outside of my scheduled office hours.

**CourseDen (D2L) & Technology:** This is a technology-supplemented course; therefore, you need to be familiar with CourseDen (<http://westga.view.usg.edu>) and have basic technology skills to participate in this course. Reading and homework assignments, assignment guidelines, and other supplemental information related to this course will be posted on CourseDen. General information about CourseDen is available online including student tutorials. Let me know if you need assistance with using the UWG online platform.

**UWG Email:** UWG students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. This email account is the official means of communication between the university and the student. The purpose of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is your responsibility to check email regularly. Please use your MyUWG email when communicating with me about this course. Do not use outside email accounts. According to UWG policies and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), I can only accept and answer emails you send to me from either your official MyUWG email account (you can access this remotely through webmail or through “MyUWG”) or your CourseDen account.

I expect you to communicate in a professional manner. This is a professional setting, so observe the basic rules of politeness and formality in email messages. Email messages should begin with a professional address line (e.g. “Dr. Newton”), use appropriate professional language, and reasonably edited prose (i.e. complete sentences, correct spelling, no text-messaging lingo, etc.). Always conclude your email with your name, followed by your class and section number. I teach many students and this helps me keep track of correspondence. I will not respond to email messages that do not follow these guidelines.

**Communication and Feedback Expectations for this Class:** Email communication should be sent to me at [dnewton@westga.edu](mailto:dnewton@westga.edu) from your MyUWG account. You may also email me through the CourseDen email account associated with this course, but please be aware that I will not see those emails unless I am logged on to CourseDen. If you ask direct questions via email, I will get back with you within one business day, usually sooner. Response times will be longer on the weekend since I am usually not online. If you have an emergency, you also can contact me through my office phone (678-839-4877) or through the English department secretary (678-839-6512). Please make sure to include your name, explain the nature of the emergency, and its application to class. If the emergency is of a technical nature (i.e., cannot log on to CourseDen, MyUWG, etc.), please contact Distance Education's Student Support.

**Remind:** In addition to UWG email, I use Remind (<https://www.remind.com/>) to communicate with participants in this course. Announcements may include such things as reminders about upcoming assignments, changes in the schedule, or—in rare instances—class cancellations. Information about Remind and how to use it can be found on CourseDen. You can receive announcements directly via text message or you can download the Remind app. Using Remind means you do not have to be signed on to CourseDen to see new course announcements or updates and your phone number remains private. To sign up for Remind, text [@eng12110wg](https://www.remind.com/join/eng12110wg) to this number: 81010. Or, you can go directly to this link: <https://www.remind.com/join/eng12110wg>. Once the course has ended, you will be removed from the notification system. Signing up is completely optional, but you will be responsible for any information or announcements you miss.

**UWG Writing Center:** The Writing Center assists all students in the development of their writing skills. Make an appointment with a UWC tutor (well in advance of the assignment due date) to receive additional assistance with your writing. The tutors will not proofread or edit your work, but they will assist you with specific areas that you identify. Become familiar with the Writing Center, check it out, and use it. Its mission is to work with you and help you become a better writer regardless of your level of ability or proficiency. And it's FREE! The Writing Center is located in TLC 1201 on the main floor, next to the food kiosk in the atrium. An appointment is required. Phone: 678-839-6513. Email: [writing@westga.edu](mailto:writing@westga.edu). Website: <http://www.westga.edu/writing/index.php>.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** Students with documented disabilities may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential accommodations specific to their disabilities. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. *Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given.* If you have a registered disability through UWG, see me at the beginning of the semester so that I can work with you to determine what accommodations might be warranted. For more information, contact Accessibility Services in 123 Row Hall by calling 678-839-6428 or email [counseling@westga.edu](mailto:counseling@westga.edu). You can also find information on their website: [http://www.westga.edu/studentDev/index\\_8884.php](http://www.westga.edu/studentDev/index_8884.php).

**UWG Cares:** College can sometimes be a stressful experience. There are free campus resources to help you. The number for the UWG Counseling Center (with free counseling) is [678-839-6428](tel:678-839-6428). The national suicide prevention lifeline is [1 \(800\) 273-8255](tel:18002738255). Call them if you are someone you know needs assistance. If you want someone to get help who seems unwilling to do so, visit <http://www.westga.edu/uwgcares> and use the link provided to contact the UWG professional staff anonymously. We want to do all we can to create a supportive learning environment for everyone.

**Credit Hour Policy:** The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

**NOTE:** Please make a paper and/or electronic copy of all written work you turn in to me, in case it is misplaced or lost. I will not give you credit for work you claim to turn in that I do not have in my possession.

**Weekly Class Schedule:** The schedule of readings and assignments will be available on CourseDen. IF there are changes to the class schedule, they will be communicated to you in class or through email and posted on CourseDen.

### **Spring Semester 2016 / Readings and Important Dates**

The last day to withdraw from this course with a grade of W is **Thursday, March 3, 2016**. After that date you must apply for a hardship withdrawal from *all* of your courses. Withdrawal from a course does not result in a refund of tuition and fees. Undergraduate course withdrawals during this period are subject to the UWG Withdrawal Policy.

Changes or additions to the readings may occur. These will be announced and posted on CourseDen.

All texts except *Things Fall Apart* (Achebe) are available on CourseDen. Many of the reading can be found on CourseDen in the *Compact Anthology of World Literature*, Volumes I and II. The others can be found in the Reading Assignments Module on CourseDen.

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M 1/11            Course Introduction

W 1/13            What is Myth? The Myths You Already Know.  
Read: Read the selections in the Introduction to Mythology Module on CourseDen

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M 1/18	<b>MLK Holiday (All Classes Cancelled)</b>
W 1/20	<b>No Class Today.</b> Attending the American Academy of Colleges and Universities Conference Begin Reading <i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i> (on CourseDen) and Complete the Gilgamesh Assignment on CourseDen

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M 1/25	The Epic of Gilgamesh
W 1/27	The Epic of Gilgamesh

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M 2/1	Homer, <i>The Odyssey</i> , Essential <i>Odyssey</i> (CourseDen)
W 2/3	Homer, <i>The Odyssey</i> , Essential <i>Odyssey</i> (CourseDen)

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M 2/8	Homer, <i>The Odyssey</i> , Essential <i>Odyssey</i> (CourseDen)
W 2/10	Dante, <i>The Inferno</i> , Compact Anthology, Volume I

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M 2/15	<b>Examination I</b>
W 2/17	Dante, <i>The Inferno</i> , Compact Anthology, Volume I

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M 2/22	Dante, <i>The Inferno</i> , Compact Anthology, Volume I
W 2/24	Wu Cheng'en, <i>Journey to the West</i> (CourseDen)

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M 2/29	Wu Cheng'en, <i>Journey to the West</i> (CourseDen) <b>Analytical Essay I Due</b>
W 3/2	<b>Last Day to Withdraw with a W</b> Wu Cheng'en, <i>Journey to the West</i> (CourseDen)

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M 3/7	<i>The Thousand and One Nights</i> , Compact Anthology, Volume II
W 3/9	<i>The Thousand and One Nights</i> , Compact Anthology, Volume II

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M 3/14 & W 3/16	<b>Spring Break (No Classes Held)</b>
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M 3/21	<b>Examination II</b>
W 3/23	Chinua Achebe, <i>Things Fall Apart</i>

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M 3/28	Chinua Achebe, <i>Things Fall Apart</i>
W 3/30	<b>UWG Honors Convocation (Afternoon Classes Cancelled)</b>

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M 4/4	Chinua Achebe, <i>Things Fall Apart</i>
W 4/6	Bessie Head, "The Deep River" (Course Den) <b>Analytical Essay II Due</b>

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M 4/11	Gabriel Garcia Marquez, "A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings" (Course Den) Leslie Marmon Silko, "Lullaby" (Course Den)
W 4/13	Zhang Ailing, "Sealed Off" (Course Den)

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M 4/18	<i>Beasts of the Southern Wild</i> (film)
W 4/20	<b>Last Day of Class (Course Evaluations)</b> <i>Beasts of the Southern Wild</i> (film)

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T 4/26	<b>Final Examination</b> 2:00 – 4:30 pm, Pafford 306
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M 5/1	<b>Final Grades Posted on Banweb</b>
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