

Literature Courses

LIT 210 Classics of the Western Literary Tradition (3 credits)

Studies in the major formative classics of the West. Emphasis will be on the continuing significance of these texts for understanding the human condition.

LIT 215 Black Mountain Poets (1.5 credits)

This course will be a study of the major poets of Black Mountain College, The Black Mountain Review, and Donald Allen's *The New American Poetry*. Poets to be studied will include Charles Olson, Robert Creeley, Allen Ginsberg, Robert Duncan, and Denise Levertov. Students will write one major critical essay and produce a final project which may be an analytical paper or a portfolio of their own poetry written in response to the course readings.

LIT 220 Classics of French Theater (3 credits)

This course deals primarily with the heroic, tragic and comic French theater of the 17th century (Corneille, Racine and Molière), and the evolving social commentary of the early and late 18th century (Marivaux and Beaumarchais). Representative plays will be read, studied and situated in their literary and cultural context. All classes and materials are in English.

LIT 225 French Poetry of the 19th Century (3 credits)

This study of French poetic theory and practice focuses on one of the most exciting, innovative and diverse periods in the history of French literature. Several different authors, styles and poetic schools are studied in their literary and cultural context, with special attention to representative works by major poets. All classes and materials are in English.

LIT 320 DADA, Surrealism and the Absurd in French Literature (3 credits)

A study of the origin and development of DADA, Surrealism, and the absurd in French literature at the end of the 19th century and into the 20th century. Classes will focus on textual analysis of the work of several major writers, and on the literary, theoretical and cultural context in which they wrote. All classes and materials are in English. Some prior literature study is recommended.

LIT 274 Japanese Cinema: An Introduction (1.5 credits)

One of the most vital film industries in the world is that of Japan. The course will invite examination of the genre compared and contrasted to its western companions. Set off against background readings in Japanese culture by scholars like Richie, Reischauer, and Benedict, the course will view and examine key films from The Japan Society collection and others, including works by Kurosowa, Ozu, Ichikawa, Hani, and Oshima. SEVEN SAMURI, THE BURMESE HARP, TAMPOPO, THE FACE OF ANOTHER, AND MERRY CHRISTMAS MR. LAWRENCE will be among those films considered.

LIT 275 Japanese Fiction: An Introduction (1.5 credits)

An introduction to Japanese Fiction, a vital part of modern letters rooted in ancient Japanese culture and perhaps the first novel, *The Tale of Genji*. Texts will include works by Tanizake, Kawabata, Mishima, Abe, and Oe and projects will introduce Soseki, Dazai, and others. Historical perspective will be gained from works by Benedict, Keene, Richie, and Reischauer.

LIT 325 French Renaissance Literature (3 credits)

A study of French prose and poetry of the Renaissance. The course focuses on the lyric poetry of Ronsard, the exuberant, thought-provoking stories of Rabelais; and the humanist, autobiographical essays of Montaigne. Works studied will be placed in their literary and cultural context. Classes will focus on both textual analysis and consideration of major literary styles and theories. All classes and materials are in English. Some prior literature study is recommended.