E379S Travel Literature
Spring 2010 #35185/T-TH 9:30-10:45/PAR 210

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Lester Faigley
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English | Rhetoric and Writing

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Thursdays 11:00-12:15 or by appointment

DESCRIPTION

The focus of this course will be on the reinvention of travel literature as an active and diverse genre. At a time when tourism has triumphed over travel and when you can surf the Web while drinking a Coke throughout much of the world, the possibilities of travel have been rediscovered by some of the best writers living today.

We will begin the course by examining the urge to travel and what we learn from traveling, starting with Robyn Davidson's solo odyssey across the Australian desert with four camels and a dog. Then we'll read Dervla Murphy's tale of a bicycle trip from Ireland to India, Redmond O'Hanlon's trek through the jungles of the Congo, Jon Krakauer's account of disaster on Mt. Everest, and Sara Macdonald's wanderings in India.

You will keep a reading journal, which you will share with the class. You'll also write a travel essay, an essay on a travel book, and a seminar paper organized around a central issue or question raised in three travel books.

REQUIRED TEXTS


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GRADING

Please note that there will be penalties for late work. Reading journal entries must be presented on the day scheduled to receive full credit of 3 points each for the first 11 entries. (The final entry is worth 2 points.) Entries completed but not read on the day scheduled receive 1 point.
GRADING

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For projects the late penalty is 4 points for each calendar day. The late penalty applies to both drafts and final versions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points possible</th>
<th>35</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading journal</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel book map</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel essay</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Point equivalents for final grades

100-93 = A
92-90 = A-
89-87 = B+
86-83 = B
82-80 = B-
79-77 = C+
76-73 = C
72-70 = C-
69-67 = D+
66-63 = D
62-60 = D-
59-0 = F

PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE

Participation is ESSENTIAL. You expect me to report for work—on time. I expect the same of you. Coming in late is disruptive. So be punctual. Six absences results in failure of the course.

HONESTY

All work in this course must be your own creation, including photographs. If you wish to incorporate someone else's ideas or images, you must acknowledge your source. If you have questions about the use of source materials, see me before turning in the assignment. Plagiarism is a serious offense in college and can result in failure for the course and possibly expulsion.
E379S Syllabus

January 19
Introduction
View *Walkabout* in class

January 21
View *Walkabout* and *Last Wave* in class

January 26
Group T response 1
Read *Tracks* 19–115

January 28
Group TH response 1
Read *Tracks* 19–115

February 2
Group T response 2
Read *Tracks* 119–254

February 4
Group TH response 2
Read *Tracks* 119–254

February 9
Group T response 3
Read *Full Tilt* 1–112

maps of Iran
Shah of Iran
destruction of Bamiyan Buddhas
ethnolinguistic groups in Afghanistan
hunt for Bin Laden

February 11
Group TH response 3
Read *Full Tilt* 1–112
Introduction to GoogleMaps
February 16
Group T response 4
Read *Full Tilt* 113–229

**Travel Book Map due**

*Pakistan ethnic groups*

February 18
Group TH response 4
Read *Full Tilt* 113–229

**Travel Book Map due**

February 23
Group T response 5
Read *No Mercy* 2–

February 25
Group TH response 5
Read *No Mercy* 2–

**Travel Essay due**

March 2
Group T response 6
Read *No Mercy* 2–

**Submit your Reading Journal**

**Term Project proposal due**

March 4
Group TH response 6
Read *No Mercy* 2–

**Submit your Reading Journal**

March 9
View *Everest* in class
Collect your journal from professor

SPRING BREAK!!!
March 23
Group T response 7
Read *Into Thin Air* 7–147

8000-meter peaks

Ed Viesturs

Seven summits

Samantha Larson

Adventure Consultants

Mountain Madness

March 25
Group TH response 7
Read *Into Thin Air* 7–147

March 30
Group T response 8
Read *Into Thin Air* 149–301

What Really Happened in the Thin Air

Makalu Ming-Ho Gau

Ten years later

Sandy Hill

April 1
Group TH response 8
Read *Into Thin Air* 149–301

April 6
Work on project

April 8

Term Project draft due

Workshop on Term Project
April 20
Group T response 10
Read *Holy Cow* 98–209

April 22
Group TH response 10
Read *Holy Cow* 98–209

April 27
Group T response 11
Read *Holy Cow* 210–291
*Sara MacDonald* post *India*

April 29
Group TH response 11
Read *Holy Cow* 210–291

Final vers of Term Project due

May 4
Groups T and TH response 12
Final thoughts on travel and travel writing
Course–instructor survey
Submit your Reading Journal