

Engl. 2325: Literatures of the Non-Western World

In this course we will read classical texts from the non-western world (in translation): *The Arabian Nights*, *The Mahabharata*, and folk tales from Japan and Africa, and pair them with contemporary literature, film, and graphic novel. Our objective in this course will be twofold: to read the classical and folk texts as each embodying particular notions of time, morality, and world view (we will arrive at these by close readings of the texts) and two, to see the manner in which these themes, preoccupations, and structures are re-worked, transformed, or rejected in the contemporary works. The aim of the course is to give you a glimpse into the diversity of stories and narrative styles from the non-western world and a sense of how these stories are always in cultural flux and contestation.