



## HEROES AND VILLAINS

**Global Great Books 4000F: Capstone Course**  
**Tuesdays 10:30-12:30 & Thursdays 10:30-11:30**  
**Room H-227**

**Professor:** Dr. John P. Hope  
**Email:** jhope24@huron.uwo.ca  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday 12:30-1:30, Thursday 11:30-12:30, and by appointment  
**Office:** A-15

### **Learning Objectives**

This course aims to help students to:

- Explore heroism, virtue, and the problem of evil in the context of narrative
- Understand the historical and cultural contexts of ideas
- Analyze and articulate their own beliefs and preconceptions
- Improve their ability to understand and engage with philosophical arguments
- Increase their skills in literary analysis
- Gain familiarity with works from a variety of global traditions
- Hone their ability to write clearly and argue convincingly
- Independently design and pursue a major research project

### **Course Method**

Class will unfold primarily as discussion, with occasional forays into lecture when necessary. Students are expected to come to class having done the reading and identified questions and topics of interest. The last weeks of the course will consist of student-led classes.

### **OWL Forum Posts**

Included in your class participation grade is the requirement to contribute *at least six* paragraph-length postings to our OWL discussion board. To encourage consistent participation throughout the semester, you will have two posts due by October 6, two more by November 10, and the last two by December 8. Doing more than three in the first third of the semester does not get you out of having to write posts for each of the next two parts, and so on, but showing greater engagement can only help your grade.

Your posts may take the form of a comment, a question, or an idea you want to try out. I encourage you to read and respond to each other's posts – this is meant to be a discussion. To receive full credit, you should post by 9:30 the morning of class – this will ensure that I can incorporate your thoughts and questions into the day's discussion.

### **Assignment Structure**

Students in this course will produce a major research paper (30 pages, inclusive of endnotes and bibliography). The work towards this paper will be scaffolded, with students writing a research statement, an annotated bibliography, and a draft before making revisions and submitting the final copy. A project in a different format (such as a film or podcast) but similar heft is also very much an option.

### **Assessment**

Grades will be determined by the following assignments:

- Preparation and participation: 20%
- In-class presentation: 20%
- Annotated bibliography: 20%
- Final essay: 40%

(NB: The final essay will not be accepted without the prior submission of a draft.)

### **Required Resources**

The works below are required for the course and are available at the university bookstore:

- *The Epic of Gilgamesh* (Andrew George), Penguin Classics, 2020
- Luo Guanzhong, *Three Kingdoms: A Historical Novel* (Moss Roberts), U. of California Press, 2014
- Mikhail Lermontov, *A Hero of Our Time* (Natasha Randall), Penguin Classics, 2009

### **Attendance**

In its essence, this course is meant to be a conversation, and this conversation can only happen if you are there to participate. For your sake and for the sake of your classmates, attendance is mandatory. After three unexcused absences, each additional absence will result in your participation grade being lowered by a letter (B → C, etc.). If you have a compelling reason to miss class, I ask you to let me know. If you are unsure as to whether your reason is compelling, please discuss it with me. See also Huron's policies on academic accommodations and the resources available to you.

### **Missed or Late Work**

Late assignments will not be accepted, and as a rule I do not grant extensions mere days before an assignment is due. However, some flexibility is possible. I encourage you to look over the syllabus and check it against your schedule. If you have a conflict, I am willing to work with you to set a new deadline, provided that you contact me **well in advance**. For more information on academic accommodations for medical and non-medical reasons please consult the appendix below.

## SAMPLE COURSE SCHEDULE

Thu.	9/8	Course Introduction
Tue.	9/13	<i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i>
Thu.	9/15	<i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i>
Fri.	9/16	<b>PROJECT TOPIC DUE</b>
Tue.	9/20	Euripides, <i>Medea</i>
Thu.	9/22	Luo Guanzhong, <i>Three Kingdoms</i> (Chapters 1-27, pp. 3-93)
Tue.	9/27	<i>Three Kingdoms</i> (Chapters 28-40, pp. 94-174)
Thu.	9/29	<i>Three Kingdoms</i> (Chapters 41-49, pp. 174-272)
Tue.	10/4	<i>Three Kingdoms</i> (Chapters 50-76, pp. 272-337)
Thu.	10/6	<i>Three Kingdoms</i> (Chapters 77-105, pp. 337-407) <b>Two OWL posts due by today</b>
Tue.	10/11	Abolqasem Ferdowsi, <i>The Shahnameh</i> (“The Story of Rostam and Esfandiyar”)
Thu.	10/13	<i>The Shahnameh</i> (“The Tragedy of Sohrab and Rostam”)
Tue.	10/18	Mikhail Lermontov, <i>A Hero of Our Time</i> (“Bela”)
Thu.	10/20	Mikhail Lermontov, <i>A Hero of Our Time</i> (“Maxim Maximych,” “Taman”)
Tue.	10/25	<i>A Hero of Our Time</i> (“Princess Mary”)
Thu.	10/27	<i>A Hero of Our Time</i> (“The Fatalist”)
Tue.	11/1	<b>Reading Week</b>
Thu.	11/3	<b>Reading Week</b>
Mon.	11/7	<b>RESEARCH STATEMENT &amp; ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE</b>
Tue.	11/8	In-class screening: <i>White Sun of the Desert</i>
Thu.	11/10	Discussion of <i>White Sun of the Desert</i> <b>Two more OWL posts due by today</b>
Tue.	11/15	Student-led class
Thu.	11/17	Student-led class
Tue.	11/22	Student-led class
Thu.	11/24	Student-led class
Fri.	11/25	<b>FINAL PAPER DRAFT DUE</b>
Tue.	11/29	Student-led class
Thu.	12/1	Student-led class
Tue.	12/6	Student-led class
Thu.	12/8	Course Conclusion <b>Final two OWL posts due by today</b>
Thu.	12/8	<b>FINAL PAPER DUE</b>

## **Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Fall/Winter 2022**

### **Pandemic Contingency**

Huron will continue to follow the guidance of public health and government officials. It is anticipated that there will be no further disruptions to in-person instruction. This is subject to change.

### **Student Code of Conduct**

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

### **Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

### **Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

### **Statement on Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: [Academic](#)

[Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](http://www.uwo.ca) .The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf).

### **Turnitin.com**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

### **Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)**

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

### **Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

### **Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence**

- (a) **Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade:  
Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising**

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

**b) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising**

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

**c) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca).**

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [accommodation\\_medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca) for any further questions or information.

**Support Services**

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services at

[huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>

Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>

Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

### **Wellness and Health Supports at Huron and Western**

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: [huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca)

Community Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

Western Calendar - Policy Pages -

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](https://www.uwo.ca/academic-calendar/)