

Uncharted

[UPDATED 9/9/14]

ARLT 100 | FALL 2014

INSTRUCTOR: DR. EMILY ZEAMER, ZEAMER@USC.EDU

SECTION 35201R: TU & TH 8:00AM - 9:20AM @ WPH 103

Course description

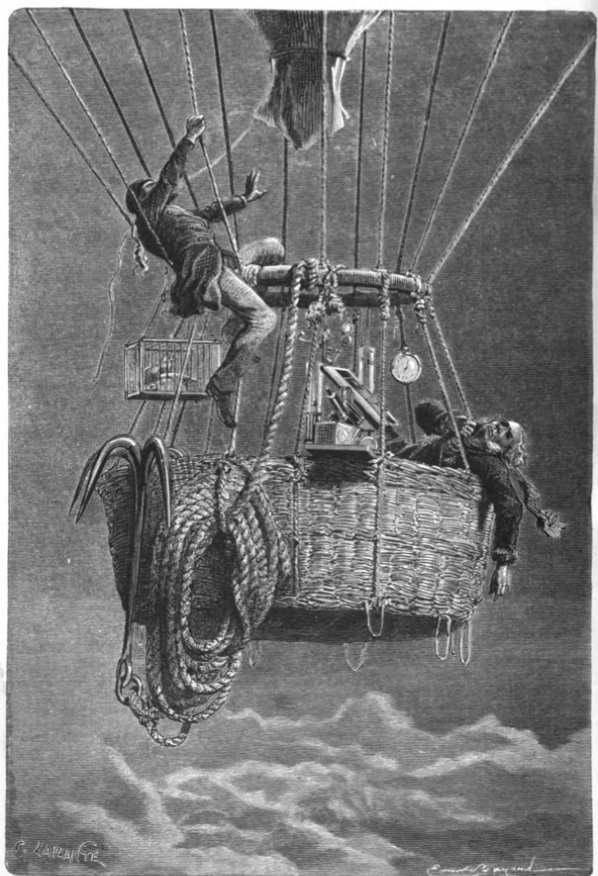
The word 'uncharted' refers as much to a state of mind as it does to any particular place. In this course, we will work toward a better understanding of that complex state of mind by examining a range of human responses to the uncertain, unmarked and unknown. Through tales of voyagers and refugees, researchers and visionaries, we will interrogate the relationship between uncertainty, discovery, and the self.

A primary goal of this course is to develop an understanding of the techniques of cultural analysis, particularly as they pertain to anthropology, or the study of culture; and epistemology, or the study of knowledge. Drawing on readings from a range of genres, we will begin by considering European histories of exploration and discovery, and their connection to -- and distance from -- contemporary modes of inquiry into the unknown and the other. We will contemplate the depths of the human mind; the construction (and dissolution) of social selves; notions of 'civilization,' and stories of its unraveling; and finally, tales of exile and freedom.

Required texts

Note that while some of these texts are available in digital form, it is recommended that you purchase a physical text where available, or print out PDFs, as the use of electronic devices -- including cell phones, tablets, laptops, and e-readers -- is discouraged in the classroom. Articles and shorter texts marked (CR) can be accessed via ARES digital Course Reserves. The following books are also available for purchase at the campus bookstore:

- Butler, Octavia. *The Parable of the Sower*.
- Douglas, Mary. *Purity and Danger*.
- Foucault, Michel. *Madness and Civilization*.
- Frame, Janet. *Faces in the Water*.
- Helmreich, Stefan. *Alien Ocean*. (recommended)
- Hoban, Russell. *Riddley Walker*.
- Maugham, Somerset. *The Moon and Sixpence*.
- Melville, Herman. *Typee*. (Penguin Edition)
- Northrop, Solomon. *Twelve Years a Slave*. (Penguin Edition)
- Saramago, Jose. *Blindness*.
- Shelley, Mary. *Frankenstein*. (2012 Norton Critical Edition)



MR. GLAISHER INSENSIBLE AT THE HEIGHT OF SEVEN MILES.

[Travels in the Air.]

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Classroom

As this is a seminar requiring active class participation, to minimize classroom distractions and a courtesy to other class participants, all electronic devices should be set to "airplane mode" for the duration of class.

In classroom discussions and outside assignments, all class participants are expected to listen and respond with respect and consideration to the viewpoints of others.

Participation

Class meets for one hour and twenty minutes twice per week, and our meetings will be a mix of lecture and discussion. As this is a seminar, you should come to each class having read all the texts assigned for that day, prepared to fully participate in class discussion.

Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory, and each recorded absence *excused or unexcused* will result in a 2% reduction of the final grade. Students who arrive more than 10 minutes late to class risk being recorded absent for that day.

Students may submit additional work to make up for no more than 2 recorded absences; see instructor for details.

ASSIGNMENTS

Response papers & teaching contribution

Each student will sign up to open and play a leading role in 2 class discussions in the semester. When more than one person is to present on same day, you are encouraged (though not required) to coordinate your presentations. A sign-up sheet will be circulated in the first week of classes to determine the schedule for these assignments.

This assignment has 2 parts:

- 1) **Response paper (2-3 pages)**. Each student must submit a response paper based on the week's readings, focusing on a topic or issue raised in the portion of the readings to be covered that day in class discussion. The deadline for the response paper is by 12 noon on the day before the in-class presentation.

This paper should draw attention to one or more key themes, ideas, or problems from the readings. This paper should serve to frame your in-class presentation; the goal for both assignments is to raise questions for further investigation and discussion, rather than draw any final conclusions.

- 2) **Teaching contribution**. Each assigned student will deliver a brief (roughly 6 minute), extemporaneous presentation drawing attention to a key theme or problem from the readings. Your aim should be to prompt a thoughtful discussion that also engages different perspectives. For the remainder of the class, each presenter will continue to participate as a key discussant in the emerging conversation.

These are extemporaneous presentations. While you may refer to notes or the course text as needed, you may not simply read from a piece of paper!

Your grade for the teaching contribution part of the assignment will reflect your grasp of the readings, *and* your openness in engaging the comments, critiques, and alternative readings offered by classmates. Bring your insights and ideas, and come prepared to act as a primary conversant in a lively conversation!

Essays

All students must write two reflection papers and two essays, each incorporating materials or from at least two different course readings. Reflection papers may examine readings covered so far in the course, in relation to at least one of the readings assigned on the week they are due. Essay guidelines will be distributed roughly one week prior to the due date.

Examinations

Both the Midterm and Final Exams will be take-home essay and short answer exams, in which students will be asked to engage in a critical or comparative analysis of materials covered up to that point in the course.

Informal and in-class assignments

Various assignments will be announced in class throughout the semester, to be completed either in class, or for the next class meeting. These assignments will be graded informally (*check/check-plus/check-minus*). Failure to adequately complete these assignments will negatively impact your class participation grade.

GRADING

25%	Class Participation & Informal Assignments
20%	2 Reflection Paper / Teaching Contributions
10%	2 Reading Response Papers @ 5% each
20%	2 Mid-length Essays @ 10% each
10%	Midterm Exam
15%	Final Exam

Some further notes:

- All written work completed outside of class must be submitted promptly by the deadline in order to receive full credit. Unexcused late work will be docked 1/3 letter grade each 24 hours it is late, with the clock starting 1 minute after the deadline.
- In-class assignments must be delivered to the instructor before the end of class to receive credit.
- Written assignments should be double-spaced: 1 page ≈ 300 words.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Readings and assignments may change throughout the semester, at the discretion of the instructor. Announcements regarding changes will be made in class and via the class email list; but it is *your* responsibility to keep abreast of these changes. *Remember, if you have any questions, just ask!*

	Topic	Date	Readings
Week 1	Introduction	Tu 8.26	(CR) "Travels In the Air," <i>Lippincott's Magazine</i> , 10:55, July 1872, pp. 21-26. (CR) Coleridge, Samuel. "Kubla Khan," In <i>Romantic Poetry and Prose</i> , pp. 254-257.
		Th 8.28	(CR) Holmes, Richard. <i>The Age of Wonder</i> , ch. 1 "Joseph Banks in Paradise," pp. 1-59, (CR) and ch. 5 "Mungo Park in Africa," pp. 211-234.
Week 2	Mysterious 'others'	Tu 9.2	(CR) Brinton, Mary. "The Fabulous East: 'Wonder Books' and Grotesque Facts," In <i>The Witness and the Other World</i> , pp. 47-86. (CR) Malinowski, Bronislaw. "Subject, Method and Scope of this Inquiry," In <i>Argonauts of the Western Pacific</i> , focus on pp. 4-8 (skim the rest).
		Th 9.4	Melville, Herman. <i>Typee</i> , pp. 1-156.

Week 3	Ethnography	Tu 9.9	Melville, Herman. <i>Typee</i> , pp. 157-253. (CR) Bohannon, Laura. (1966) "Shakespeare in the Bush," <i>Natural History</i> 75: pp. 28-33. (5)
			<i>Discussed in lecture:</i> (CR) Malinowski, Bronislaw. "Subject, Method and Scope of this Inquiry," In <i>Argonauts of the Western Pacific</i> , pp. 1-25.
	The gaze and the 'other'	Th 9.11	IN-CLASS SCREENING: <i>Bontoc Eulogy</i> , Marlon Fuentes, 1995. (CR) Miner, Horace. 1953. "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema," In <i>American Anthropologist</i> 58(3):503-507. (5)
			<i>Discussed in lecture:</i> (CR) Montaigne. "On the Cannibals," In <i>The Complete Essays</i> , pp. 228-241. (CR) Bakewell, Sarah. "10 Q. How To live? A. Wake from the sleep of habit," In <i>How To Live or A Life of Montaigne</i> , pp. 182-194.
Week 4	'Translating' cultures	Tu 9.16	(CR) Geertz, Clifford. "Notes on the Balinese Cockfight," In <i>Daedalus</i> , Fall 2005, pp. 56-86. (30) (CR) Evans-Pritchard, E. E. Ch 1. "Witchcraft is an Organic and Hereditary Phenomenon," In <i>Witchcraft, Oracles and Magic Among the Azande</i> . pp. 1-17. (17) (CR) Evans-Pritchard. ch. 2 "The Notion of Witchcraft Explains Unfortunate Events," In <i>Witchcraft, Oracles and Magic Among the Azande</i> . pp. 18-32. (14)
	'Going native?'	Thu 9.18	(CR) Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. Ch. 8 "(M)Other Love," In <i>Death Without Weeping</i> , pp. 340-399. (59) (CR) Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. Ch. 9 "Our Lady of Sorrows," In <i>Death Without Weeping</i> , pp. 400-445. (45)
		Mo 9.22	Reflection Paper (3 pages) DUE @ 12 noon
Week 5	'Going native?' cont'd	Tu 9.23	(CR) Rosaldo, Michelle Z. Ch. 2, "Knowledge, passion, and the heart," In <i>Knowledge and Passion</i> , pp. 31-60. (29) (CR) Rosaldo, Michelle Z. Ch. 5, "Headhunting: a tale of 'fathers,' 'brothers,' and 'sons,'" In <i>Knowledge and Passion</i> , pp. 137-174. (CR) Rosaldo, Renato. Ch 1, "Grief and a headhunter's rage," In <i>Culture and Truth</i> , pp. 1-21.
	Purity and danger	Th 9.25	Douglas, Mary. <i>Purity and Danger</i> , Ch. 1, 2 and 6. (CR) Turner, Victor (1995). "Betwixt and Between: Liminal Period," In <i>The Forest of Symbols</i> , pp. 93-111.
		Mo 9.29	Reflection Paper (3 pages) DUE @ 12 noon
Week 6		Tu 9.30	Saramago, Jose. <i>Blindness</i> , pp. 1-148.
		Th 10.2	Saramago, Jose. <i>Blindness</i> , pp. 149-end.
Week 7	Madness and civilization	Tu 10.7	Foucault, Michel. <i>Madness and Civilization</i> , ch. 1 "'Stultifera Navis,'" ch. 2 "The Great Confinement," ch. 3 "The Great Fear."
		Th 10.9	Foucault. <i>Madness and Civilization</i> , ch. 8 "The New Division," ch. 10 "The Birth of the Asylum," and "Conclusion."
			Midterm questions distributed in class.
		Mo 10.13	Midterm Exam DUE @ 12 noon
Week 8	Alienations	Tu 10.14	Frame, Janet. <i>Faces in the Water</i> , parts I & II. (124)
		Th 10.16	Frame, Janet. <i>Faces in the Water</i> , part III. (127)

Week 9		Tu 10.21	Shelley, Mary. <i>Frankenstein (1818 edition)</i> , part I. (60)
		Th 10.23	(CR) Freud, Sigmund. <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i> (1965), pp. 128-154, 274-315. (67) <i>Recommended:</i> (CR) Freud, Sigmund. "The Uncanny," pp. 123-162. (39)
Week 10		Tu 10.28	Shelley, Mary. <i>Frankenstein (1818 edition)</i> , parts II and III. (100)
		Th 10.30	(CR) Haraway, Donna, "The Cyborg Manifesto," In <i>Simians, Cyborgs and Women</i> , pp. 149-181. (32) (CR) Kunzru, Hari, "You are a cyborg," In <i>Wired Magazine</i> , 5:2 1997, pp. 1-7. (7)
		<u>Mo 11.3</u>	Essay (6-7 pages) DUE @ 12 noon
Week 11	Exile, escape, and freedom	Tu 11.4	Northrop, Solomon. <i>Twelve Years a Slave</i> , ch. 1-15.
		Th 11.6	Northrop, Solomon. <i>Twelve Years a Slave</i> , ch. 16-end. <i>Recommended:</i> (CR) Foner, Eric. Ch. 3 "The meanings of freedom," In <i>Forever Free</i> , pp. 76-100. (24)
Week 12		Tu 11.11	Butler, Octavia. <i>The Parable of the Sower</i> , ch. 1-17.
		Th 11.13	Butler, Octavia. <i>The Parable of the Sower</i> , ch. 18-end.
Week 13		Tu 11.18	Hoban, Russell. <i>Riddley Walker</i> , ch. 1-13.
		Th 11.20	Hoban, Russell. <i>Riddley Walker</i> , ch. 14-end.
		<u>Mo 11.24</u>	Essay (6-7 pages) DUE @ 12 noon
Week 14		Tu 11.25	(CR) Bradbury, Ray. "A Miracle of Rare Device," In <i>Worlds of Science Fiction</i> , pp. 109-125. (CR) Forester, E. M. "The Machine Stops," In <i>The Wesleyan Anthology of Science Fiction</i> , pp. 50-78.
		Th 11.27	No class: Thanksgiving
Week 15		Tu 12.2	Maugham, Somerset. <i>The Moon and Sixpence</i> , ch. 1-38.
		Th 12.4	Maugham, Somerset. <i>The Moon and Sixpence</i> , ch. 39-end.
<u>EXAMS</u>		<u>Th 12.11</u>	Final Exam questions distributed by 5pm
		<u>Tu 12.16</u>	FINAL EXAM DUE @ 5pm