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Summer Session I  
June 25th - July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Lit 61F: Reading Fiction

Class time and Location: Mondays and Wednesdays: 9 am to 12:30 pm @ Soc Sci 2 179/ **Soc Sci 1 153**  
**(From July 9<sup>th</sup> onwards)**

Office: Cowell, 111. Office Hours, Thursdays 10 am to 12 pm or by appointment

### **Modern Epic: Reading Herman Melville's *Moby Dick***

**Course Description:** Ralph Waldo Emerson's exhortation, "Make a Bible", to new writers, was a call to restore the heroic/epic strain to contemporary American writing of his time. This was answered grandly in the 1850s by a host of new writers arriving on the American literary scene. Herman Melville's *Moby Dick or The Whale* (1851) was the most fitting response, partly Emersonian, partly Shakespearean, the transcendental and tragic coming together to enlarge the scope and vision of the novel. In the 1920s, when Melville was only beginning to be discovered, TE Lawrence ("Lawrence of Arabia") at the height of his fame, after publishing his *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, spoke of Melville's epic novel as a "titanic" book fit to be put on the same shelf as Nietzsche's *Thus Spoke Zarathustra* and Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*.

We will try to see how Melville answers that Emersonian call, articulated fully in "The American Scholar", to restore an epic strain to the novel. The story, the setting, the adventure is all there in the foreground but there is much more than plot and spectacle to account for the grand oceanic experience of reading this novel. Melville's "titanic" book surprisingly consists of many short chapters. We will read all 135 chapters in the novel in this five week summer course paying close attention to how Melville's literary style molds the portraits of Ishmael, Captain Ahab, Queequeg, and the many minor characters that fill this grand landscape of the seas down to the indomitable white whale.

#### **Required Primary Text and Edition (Paperback edition Available at Amazon)**

Herman Melville, *Moby-Dick*: Library of America Edition, Edited by G. Thomas Tanselle, 1983, 1991

**OR**

Herman Melville, *Moby-Dick*: Third Norton Critical Edition, Edited by Hershel Parker, 2012  
(Also has a Kindle Version)

#### **Secondary Readings (Selections/Excerpts on Canvas)**

Ilana Pardes, *Melville's Bibles*, University of California Press, 2008

Charles Olsen, *Call Me Ishmael*

DH Lawrence, *Studies in Classic American Literature*

RW Emerson, *Essays and Journals*

F.O. Matthiessen, *American Renaissance: Art and Expression in the Age of Emerson and Whitman*, Oxford University Press, 1941

#### **Class Format/Discussion Sessions**

I will devote the first one-third of our class sessions to lecturing on the primary text and recommended readings. The remaining two-thirds will invite your participation in seminar discussion format. I will introduce Melville in the first class, so the June 25th session will be an exception.

**Attendance is mandatory. If you cannot attend a class, please notify me, in advance by email.**

## Schedule

### Week 1: Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> (Introduction)

*Moby-Dick*: Etymology” & “Extracts”

#### [Recommended Reading]

Ralph Waldo Emerson, “The American Scholar”

<http://digitalemerson.wsulibs.wsu.edu/exhibits/show/text/the-american-scholar>

### Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>

*Moby-Dick*: Chs 1 to 9 [“Loomings” to “The Sermon”]

#### [Recommended Reading]

Melville, “Hawthorne and His Mosses” (Canvas)

“Introduction” to *Moby Dick* by Edward Said [Library of America Edition] (Canvas)

### Week 2: July 2nd: [First Response Paper Due]

*Moby-Dick*: Chs 10-25 [“A Bosom Friend” to “Post-Script”]

#### [Recommended Reading]

Selections from F.O. Matthiessen’s *American Renaissance*

*The Vision of Evil*

*Allegory and Symbolism*

July 3<sup>rd</sup> : 11 am to 1 pm – First Response Paper returned with feedback at Cowell, 111

### July 6th: 8 am to 11:30 pm @ Social Sciences 2, Room 179

*Moby-Dick*: Chs 26-42 [“Knights and Squires” to “The Whiteness of the Whale”]

#### [Recommended Reading]

Selections from F.O. Matthiessen’s *American Renaissance*

*The World’s a Ship*

*The Whiteness of the Whale*

### Week 3 July 9<sup>th</sup>: [Second Response Paper Due] @ Social Sciences 1, Room 153

*Moby-Dick*: Chs 43-59 [“Hark!” to “Squid”]

#### [Recommended Reading]

Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Book 6 (Canvas)

Melville’s marginalia on Book 6, available at <http://www.boisestate.edu/melville>

Shakespeare, *King Lear*, Act 3, scene 2. (Canvas)

### July 11th: @ Social Sciences 1, Room 153

*Moby-Dick*: Chs 60-75 [“The Line” to “The Right Whale’s Head – A Contrasted View”]

#### [Recommended Reading]

Selections from F.O. Matthiessen’s *American Renaissance*

*A Bold and Nervous Lofty Language*

*Fate of the Ungodly Godlike Man*

### Week 4: July 16th: [ Third Response Paper Due] @ Social Sciences 1, Room 153

*Moby-Dick*: Chs 76-95 [“The Battering Ram” to “The Cassock”]

#### [Recommended Reading]

Pardes, “Introduction” in *Melville’s Bibles*

Pardes, "Playing with Leviathan: Job and the Aesthetic Turn in Biblical Exegesis" in *Melville's Bibles*

**July 18th: @ Social Sciences 1, Room 153**

*Moby-Dick*: Chs 96-120 ["The Try-Works" to "The Deck"]

**[Recommended Reading]**

Pardes, "Rachel's Inconsolable Cry" in *Melville's Bibles*

**Week 5 July 23rd: [Fourth Response Paper Due] @ Social Sciences 1, Room 153**

*Moby-Dick*: Chs 121-135, & Epilogue ["Midnight, on the Forecastle" to "The Chase. The Third Day & "Epilogue"]

**[Recommended Reading]**

DH Lawrence: *Studies in Classic American Literature*

Melville's *Moby Dick*

Selections: Charles Olsen, *Call Me Ishmael*

**July 25th: Reviewing the Novel [Cont'd]: @ Social Sciences 1, Room 153**

**[Recommended Reading]**

Selections: Charles Olsen, *Call Me Ishmael*

**Sunday, July 29th [grades submitted]**

### **Course Requirements**

4 Response Papers (3 pages each, double-spaced)

All written work submitted in class [Hard Copy].

### **Assignments and Grading**

40%: Attendance/Class Participation

60%: For four response papers. 3 pages each.

For Session 1, 2018 dates and deadlines, including 'change of grade option' (P/NP) and grades due, here is the summer academic calendar -

<https://summer.ucsc.edu/fundamentals/academic-calendar.html>

### **Disability Resource Center (DRC) Accommodations:**

The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access in this course, please submit your Accommodation Authorization from the DRC to me in person within the first week. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations, or any other disability-related matter, please contact the DRC office, located in Hahn 125 or at 831-459-2089, [drc@ucsc.edu](mailto:drc@ucsc.edu), 831-459-4806 (TTY), or <http://drc.ucsc.edu>.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of a university education. Academic dishonesty diminishes the university as an institution and all members of the university community. It tarnishes the value of a UCSC degree.

All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC.

In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, he or she may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student's transcript.

For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the [Academic Integrity page](#) at the [Division of Undergraduate Education](#).

## **Title IX:**

The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors.

The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. [Information about the Title IX Office](#), the [online reporting link](#), applicable campus [resources](#), reporting responsibilities, the [UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment](#) and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at [titleix.ucsc.edu](http://titleix.ucsc.edu).

The Title IX/Sexual Harassment Office is located at 105 Kerr Hall. In addition to the [online reporting option](#), you can contact the Title IX Office by calling 831-459-2462.

## **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**

Please do not hesitate to seek out support for any issues that troubles your personal and academic life. For more detailed information, please contact CAPS at 831-459-2089 or <http://www.ucsc.edu/counsel>.