

## EN 255: Short Story and Novel: “Realists of a Larger Reality”

Professor Justin Wyble  
MWF, 8:30 - 9:20 a.m.  
Hale Hoaloha Lawn

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### **Course Description**

“Hard times are coming, when we’ll be wanting the voices of writers who can see alternatives to how we live now, can see through our fear-stricken society and its obsessive technologies to other ways of being, and even imagine real grounds for hope. We’ll need writers who can remember freedom—poets, visionaries—realists of a larger reality.”

Ursula K. Le Guin, at the 2014 National Book Awards

This introductory literature course surveys classical, modern, and contemporary short stories and novels from around the world. Our guiding theme this semester will be American novelist Ursula K. Le Guin’s call for “realists of a larger reality.” We will begin with a short story collection set here in Hawai‘i: *The Watcher of Waipuna and Other Stories* by local author Gary Pak (this title is out of print, but we will be reading a free digital edition online). Then we will turn to Native American (Anishinaabe) author Louise Erdrich’s latest novel, *The Sentence*. Next, we will read P. Djèlí Clark’s recent award-winning alternate-history fantasy novel, *A Master of Djinn*. In the final weeks of the semester we will immerse ourselves in this year’s edition of *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy*, a collection of recently published short stories edited by Rebecca Roanhorse. As we read together this semester, we will be focusing on issues of service, justice, and peace.

### **Readings**

- Louise Erdrich, *The Sentence* (available in paperback on Sept. 6: 978-0062671134)
- P. Djèlí Clark, *A Master of Djinn* (978-1250267665)
- *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy 2022*, edited by Rebecca Roanhorse (available on Nov. 1: 978-0358690122)

### **General Education Learning Outcome**

Students will evaluate and articulate the social, environmental and ethical dimensions of service, justice, and peace in the context of their particular course and field or discipline of study (Education for Service, Peace, and Justice).

## **Course Learning Outcomes**

Students who complete this course will:

1. Define the elements of fiction and literary terms used to discuss them.
2. Read and analyze literary texts using the elements of fiction.
3. Situate and explain literary texts within their socio-historical contexts.
4. Describe the characteristics of the genres of literature.
5. Combine and apply interpretive skills in order to participate in class discussions of literary texts.
6. Write unified, coherent, well-developed essays about literary texts.

## **Requirements**

Attendance = 10% of your final grade

Participation (reading journal, discussion leaders, etc.) = 40%

Essay 1 = 25% of your final grade

Essay 2 = 25% of your final grade

\*English majors should save graded copies of their essays in all English classes, insofar as a subset of these essays will be required for the Senior Seminar portfolio in English 499.

## **Attendance**

If you are sick, you should not attend class. Please inform me of your absence due to illness (in advance, if possible), and I will excuse you from class.

Late arrivals and/or early departures will be counted as unexcused tardies, unless approved by the professor (in advance, if possible). Three unexcused tardies will count as one unexcused absence.

Your attendance record will directly effect your attendance grade (100 points; 10% of your total grade) as follows:

0-3 unexcused absences = 100 points

4 unexcused absences = 88 points

5 unexcused absences = 85 points

6 unexcused absences = 82 points

7 unexcused absences = 78 points

8 unexcused absences = 75 points

9 unexcused absences = 72 points

10 or more unexcused absences (the equivalent of more than three weeks of class) = 0 points

Your attendance record may also effect your participation grade.

Remember, if you are absent for two consecutive weeks or more, the professor may administratively withdraw you from the class.

## **Policies**

Late assignments will earn a 10% deduction for each day they are late.

Plagiarized assignments will earn zero points.

## **Marianist Characteristics**

Chaminade is a Marianist Institution and uses the following characteristics as a guide:

1. Educate for Formation in Faith
2. Integral Quality Education
3. Educate in the Family Spirit
4. Service, Justice, and Peace and the Integrity of Creation
5. Adaptation and Change

## **Disability Access**

If you need individual accommodations to meet course outcomes because of a documented disability, please speak with me to discuss your needs as soon as possible so that we can ensure your full participation in class and fair assessment of your work. Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations from the Counseling Center by the end of week three of the class, in order for instructors to plan accordingly. If a student would like to determine if they meet the criteria for accommodations, they should contact the Kokua Ike Coordinator at (808) 739-8305 for further information ([ada@chaminade.edu](mailto:ada@chaminade.edu)).

## **Title IX Compliance**

Chaminade University of Honolulu recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources by visiting Campus Ministry, the Dean of Students Office, the Counseling Center, or the Office for Compliance and Personnel Services.

## **Student Conduct**

Any community must have a set of rules and standards of conduct by which it operates. At Chaminade, these standards are outlined so as to reflect both the Catholic, Marianist values of the institution and to honor and respect students as responsible adults. All alleged violations of the community standards are handled through an established student conduct process, outlined in

the Student Handbook, and operated within the guidelines set to honor both students' rights and campus values.

Students should conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the ideals of the University. This includes knowing and respecting the intent of rules, regulations, and/or policies presented in the Student Handbook, and realizing that students are subject to the University's jurisdiction from the time of their admission until their enrollment has been formally terminated. Please refer to the Student Handbook for more details. A copy of the Student Handbook is available on the Chaminade website.

### **Diversity Statement**

Chaminade's Core belief statement states, "Students, both traditional and non-traditional, bring a variety of talents, traditions, cultures and abilities. This diversity brings a special opportunity to the Chaminade community, which can then nurture and guide each student to the fullest realization of potential." Consequently, this course encompasses readings that reflect and examine the diversity of our literary, cultural and environmental heritage. Additionally, the course puts special attention on the problems faced by authors seeking to write from unique personal or cultural perspectives to readers who may not share the same perspectives or cultural background.

### **Plagiarism Guidelines**

Plagiarism is presenting the work of another as your own. The guidelines for plagiarism are in the Academic Catalog. They include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Complete or partial copying directly from a published or unpublished source without proper acknowledgment to the author. Minor changes in wording or syntax are not sufficient to avoid charges of plagiarism. Proper acknowledgement (citation) of the source is always mandatory.
2. Paraphrasing the work of another without proper acknowledgement.
3. Submitting as one's own original work (however freely given or purchased) the original exam, research paper, manuscript, report, computer file, or other assignment that has been prepared by another individual.

### **Credit Hour Policy**

The unit of semester credit is defined as university-level credit that is awarded for the completion of coursework. One credit hour reflects the amount of work represented in the intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement for those learning outcomes. Each credit hour earned at Chaminade University should result in 45 hours of engagement. This equates to one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester, 10 week term, or equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time. Direct instructor engagement and out-of-class work result in total student engagement time of 45 hours for one credit.

The minimum 45 hours of engagement per credit hour can be satisfied in fully online, internship, or other specialized courses through several means, including (a) regular online instruction or interaction with the faculty member and fellow students and (b) academic engagement through extensive reading, research, online discussion, online quizzes or exams; instruction, collaborative group work, internships, laboratory work, practica, studio work, and preparation of papers, presentations, or other forms of assessment. This policy is in accordance with federal regulations and regional accrediting agencies.

### **Overview of Course Schedule**

\*Subject to change.

\*A detailed schedule of assignments will be posted on Canvas each week.

Week 1:

- Gary Pak, *The Watcher of Waipuna and Other Stories*

Week 2:

- Gary Pak, *The Watcher of Waipuna and Other Stories*

Week 3:

- Gary Pak, *The Watcher of Waipuna and Other Stories*

Week 4:

- Louise Erdrich, *The Sentence*

Week 5:

- Louise Erdrich, *The Sentence*

Week 6:

- Louise Erdrich, *The Sentence*

Week 7:

- Louise Erdrich, *The Sentence*

Week 8:

- P. Djèlí Clark, *A Master of Djinn*

Week 9:

- P. Djèlí Clark, *A Master of Djinn*
- Draft of Essay 1 due in class Monday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>.

Week 10:

- P. Djèlí Clark, *A Master of Djinn*
- Final edition of Essay 1 for peer-review workshop due in class Friday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>.

Week 11:

- P. Djèlí Clark, *A Master of Djinn*

Week 12:

- Rebecca Roanhorse, ed., *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy 2022*
- No class Wednesday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> (Prof. Wyble is attending an academic conference).

Week 13:

- Rebecca Roanhorse, ed., *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy 2022*

Week 14:

- Rebecca Roanhorse, ed., *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy 2022*
- Draft of Essay 2 for peer-review workshop due in class Monday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>.

Week 15:

- Rebecca Roanhorse, ed., *The Best American Science Fiction and Fantasy 2022*
- Final edition of Essay 2 due in class Friday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>.