

EN 285-01-12: Multigenerational Family Narratives
Fall 2026
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9:05-9:55 a.m.
Sacred Hearts Academy A313

Instructor

Prof. Justin Wyble
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Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:30-12:30 and 1:30-3:30 (and at other times by appt.)
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Description

This introductory literature course examines several multigenerational family narratives (novels and films) from around the world, with a focus on histories of colonialism, intergenerational trauma, immigration, and the building and sustaining of community.

Required Texts

*No ebook editions will be allowed in this class. You are required to purchase or rent paper editions of the following three books:

- Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing
- Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman
- Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods

You will also need the following supplies:

- notebook filler paper (college-ruled, perforated, three-hole punched)
- three-ring folder or small binder
- black or blue pen
- journal

In addition, you may be required to rent several films and/or tv shows.

Please note that you will be expected to write in your books. Here is the CUH bookstore's policy on acceptable use of rental books:

"Can I mark up the inside of the book with a highlighter or make notes in the margins?"
Normal use of highlighting and writing is permitted. The bookstore will use the same standards for determining acceptable condition of rental textbooks that it uses for determining condition of books sold back as used books."

General Education Learning Outcome

Students will collectively contribute to, and individually reflect upon, the building and sustaining of community (Education in the Family Spirit).

Course Learning Outcomes

Students who complete this course will:

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

Marianist Characteristics

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

- Educate for Formation in Faith
- Integral Quality Education
- Educate in the Family Spirit
- Service, Justice, and Peace and the Integrity of Creation
- Adaptation and Change

Requirements

- Attendance = 10%
- Participation (discussions, presentations, and other in-class activities) = 10%
- Journal = 10%
- Quizzes = 15%
- In-Class Writings = 15%
- Mid-Term Essay Exam = 20%
- Final Essay Exam = 20%

Attendance

Absences may be excused only if you provide a note from either your doctor or your CUH or SHA coach/professor/teacher/counselor/administrator. All other absences will be unexcused. The professor determines whether or not an absence is excused.

Late arrivals, early departures, or unauthorized breaks will be counted as unexcused tardies. Three unexcused tardies will count as one unexcused absence. Late students are responsible for seeing me after class in order to confirm that their initial absence has been changed to a tardy.

Your attendance grade (10% of your final grade) will be determined as follows:

0-3 unexcused absences = 100 points
 4 unexcused absences = 90 points
 5 unexcused absences = 80 points
 6 unexcused absences = 70 points
 7 unexcused absences = 60 points
 8 unexcused absences = 50 points
 9 or more unexcused absences = 0 points

Your attendance record may also impact other components of your overall grade. For example, in-class assignments (including discussions, presentations, quizzes, in-class writings, mid-term exam, final exam, etc.) cannot be made up unless your absence is excused.

Remember, if you are absent for two consecutive weeks or more (i.e., six classes in a row), the professor may either administratively withdraw you from the class or record an "F" for your final grade if the deadline to withdraw has passed.

Policies

No electronic devices (including laptops, tablets, cell phones, ear buds/headphones, smart glasses, etc.) are allowed in class, unless approved in advance by the professor. Please keep your devices silenced and in your bag. If I see you using an unapproved electronic device during class, I will mark you absent for the day.

In-class assignments (including discussions, presentations, quizzes, in-class writings, mid-term exam, final exam, etc.) cannot be made up unless your absence is excused. Work missed due to an excused absence may be completed during my office hours.

No late assignments will be accepted (except for work missed due to an excused absence).

Plagiarized assignments and AI-generated or AI-assisted assignments will earn zero points.

I respond to emails on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays (except for university holidays).

I expect all students to treat each other and the professor with respect at all times. This includes listening carefully and speaking thoughtfully to others during our class discussions.

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.

Please note that AI-generated and/or AI-assisted assignments will earn zero points.

Credit Hour Policy and Time Allocation

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.

This is a three-credit hour course requiring a minimum of 135 clock hours of student engagement, per the official CUH Credit Hour Policy. Students enrolled in this course are anticipated to spend approximately 36 hours in class. The remaining time (approximately 99 hours) will be devoted to the assigned readings and viewings (and related journal entries), averaging approximately 6.2 hours each week.

Schedule (subject to change)

Week 1

Monday, 8/17: syllabus; introductions

Wednesday, 8/19: Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing

Friday, 8/21 (**Meeting on Chaminade campus: Eiben Hall 202**): Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing; **In-Class Writing #1**

Week 2

Monday, 8/24: Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing; **Quiz #1**

Wednesday, 8/26: Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing

Friday, 8/28: Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing; **In-Class Writing #2**

Week 3

Monday, 8/31: Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing; **Quiz #2**

Wednesday, 9/2: Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing

Friday, 9/4: Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing; **In-Class Writing #3**

Week 4

Monday, 9/7: Labor Day (no class)

Wednesday, 9/9: Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing; **Quiz #3**

Friday, 9/11: Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing; **In-Class Writing #4**

Week 5

Monday, 9/14: Yaa Gyasi, Homegoing; **Quiz #4**

Wednesday, 9/16: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman

Friday, 9/18: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman; **In-Class Writing #5**

Week 6

Monday, 9/21: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman; **Quiz #5**

Wednesday, 9/23: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman

Friday, 9/25: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman; **In-Class Writing #6**

Week 7

Monday, 9/28: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman; **Quiz #6**

Wednesday, 9/30: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman

Friday, 10/2: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman; **In-Class Writing #7**

Week 8

Monday, 10/5: **(Meeting on Chaminade campus: location TBA)**: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman

Wednesday, 10/7: **(Meeting on Chaminade campus: location TBA)**: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman; **Mid-Term Essay Exam, Part I**

Friday, 10/9: **(Meeting on Chaminade campus: location TBA)**: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman; **Journal Check #1; Mid-Term Essay Exam, Part II**

Week 9

Monday, 10/12: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman

Wednesday, 10/14: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman

Friday, 10/16: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman

Week 10

Monday, 10/19: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman; **Quiz #7**

Wednesday, 10/21: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman

Friday, 10/23: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman; **In-Class Writing #8**

Week 11

Monday, 10/26: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman; **Quiz #8**

Wednesday, 10/28: Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman

Friday, 10/30: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods; **In-Class Writing #9**

Week 12

Monday, 11/2: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods; **Quiz #9**

Wednesday, 11/4: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods

Friday, 11/6: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods; **In-Class Writing #10**

Week 13

Monday, 11/9: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods; **Quiz #10**

Wednesday, 11/11: Veterans Day (no class)

Friday, 11/13: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods

Week 14

Monday, 11/16: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods

Wednesday, 11/18: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods; **Quiz #11**

Friday, 11/20: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods; **In-Class Writing #11**

Week 15

Monday, 11/23: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods; **Quiz #12**

Wednesday, 11/25: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods; **In-Class Writing #12**

Friday, 11/27: Thanksgiving (no class)

Week 16

Monday, 11/30: Kiana Davenport, House of Many Gods

Wednesday, 12/2: **Journal Check #2; Final Essay Exam, Part I**

Friday, 12/4: **Final Essay Exam, Part II**

Final Grades

Final grades are submitted to Self-Service (selfservice.chaminade.edu):

Grade	Range
A	90% and above
B	80–89%
C	70–79%
D	60–69%
F	59% and below

Important Information

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is an essential aspect of all learning, scholarship, and research. It is one of the values regarded most highly by academic communities throughout the world. Violations of the principle of academic honesty are extremely serious and will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for promoting academic honesty at Chaminade by not participating in any act of dishonesty and by reporting any incidence of academic dishonesty to an instructor or to a University official. Academic dishonesty may include theft of records or examinations, alteration of grades, plagiarism, **and unauthorized and/or undisclosed AI usage**, in addition to more obvious dishonesty. See catalog section *Student Use of Artificial Intelligence in Academic Work* for further information.

Questions of academic dishonesty in a particular class are first reviewed by the instructor, who must make a report with recommendations to the Director of the Academic College. Punishment for academic dishonesty will be determined by the instructor, Director, and the Dean of Academic College and may include an “F” grade for the work in question, an “F” grade for the course, academic notice, or dismissal from the University.

AI (Artificial Intelligence) Statement

Chaminade University recognizes the increasing role of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies in academic and professional environments. AI encompasses, but is not limited to, generative AI platforms, automated writing or content generation software, coding assistants, and similar tools. Students must ensure all submitted work genuinely reflects their knowledge and effort. Using AI to produce or significantly complete graded assignments, exams or other academic tasks – defined as use that substitutes for or substantially replaces a student’s own analysis, reasoning or written expression – without explicit instructor approval is considered academic misconduct and will be dealt with according to the University’s Academic Honesty Policy.

If an instructor has reasonable grounds to question whether submitted work genuinely reflects a student’s own knowledge, authorship, or mastery of course material — or whether it meets the course’s expectations for AI use — the instructor may require the student to provide additional or alternative evidence of authorship and content mastery. Such evidence may include drafts, notes, revision history, source materials, process explanations, oral discussion, in class work, or

completion of an alternative assessment. A student's refusal or inability to provide such evidence may be considered, along with other available information, in evaluating whether the work meets course requirements and stated learning outcomes. Instructors will not rely solely on AI detection software or other automated tools in making grading or academic integrity determinations. Such determinations will be based on the totality of the available information and handled in accordance with applicable University policies and procedures. See the catalog section *Student Use of Artificial Intelligence in Academic Work* for further information.

Title IX and Nondiscrimination

Chaminade University of Honolulu is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes the dignity of all people, inclusivity and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. For pregnant and parenting students, I am also obligated to provide you with similar resources for support and protections available to you. My goal is to make sure that you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

Contact information and reporting options: chaminade.edu/titleix/nondiscrimination/. File a report via the [Campus Incident Report Form](#).

Nondiscrimination Policy and Notice of Nondiscrimination

The university is committed to comply with all State and Federal statutes, rules, and regulations which prohibit discrimination. The university is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, gender identity and expression, age, religion, color, national origin (including shared ancestry and ethnic characteristics), ancestry, citizenship, disability, genetic information, marital status, breastfeeding, arrest and court record (except as permissible under State law), sexual orientation, or status as a covered veteran. Inquiries about Title IX or general Civil Rights concerns may be referred to the University's Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both and contact information may be found [HERE](#). *On-campus Confidential Resources may also be found here at* [CAMPUS CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES](#).

The University's Nondiscrimination Policy and Grievance Procedures can be located on the University webpage at: <https://chaminade.edu/compliance/title-ix-nondiscrimination-policies-procedures/>.

To report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination or make a complaint of sex discrimination under Title IX, please refer to the [Campus Incident Report form](#). Chaminade University of Honolulu prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates.

The NOTICE of NONDISCRIMINATION can be found here: [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#).

Student with Disabilities Statement- Kōkua 'Ike

Accessibility Services recognizes disability as a valued aspect of diversity and ensures equal access to the educational environment in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended; and the principles and professional standards of the Association on Higher Education and Disability Access is supported through reasonable accommodations and referrals to campus and community resources.

Appointments with the Accessibility Services Coordinator are available through Stellic at <https://chaminade.stellic.com> and may be held virtually or in person. Drop-in appointments are also welcome.

Students seeking support must meet with the Accessibility Services Coordinator as early as possible, even if they are unsure whether they have appropriate documentation of their disability or its impacts. The Accessibility Services Coordinator prioritizes listening to student's experiences and will discuss any documentation needs during the initial intake meeting. Students may seek support at any time.

Learn more at <https://chaminade.edu/ada-accommodations>

Assessment of Student Work

Chaminade University may use student work anonymously to assess achievement of course, program, and institutional learning outcomes as part of ongoing quality improvement efforts.

Campus Resources & Support Services

The following resources are available to all Chaminade students. Reach out early — these services exist to support your success.

Resource	Description	Contact / Website
Accessibility Services (Kōkua 'Ike)	Accommodations under Section 504 and ADA. Contact early — appointments via Stellic, virtual or in person.	ada@chaminade.edu chaminade.edu/ada-accommodations
Tutoring & Academic Coaching (Kōkua 'Ike)	Tutoring and Academic Coaching Services support students' progression toward their academic, personal, and professional goals with clarity and intention. Services include individualized support in English, math, nursing, sciences, and social sciences, as well as guidance in developing goals and study strategies.	chaminade.edu/tutoring-academic-coaching-services
Career Services	Career Services supports students throughout their career journeys. Services include individualized job search strategy coaching, resume reviews, job interview coaching, and access to career-related resources and opportunities.	chaminade.edu/career-services
Basic Needs Resources	Support for food insecurity, housing instability, and other basic needs.	chaminade.edu/basic-needs/
Title IX / Nondiscrimination	Reporting and support for sex discrimination and gender-based	chaminade.edu/titleix/resources-and-support/

Resource	Description	Contact / Website
	violence. Campus Incident Report Form available online.	
Hazing Prevention	Confidential support, crisis intervention, and reporting for any type of abuse including hazing.	hazingpreventionnetwork.org/athlete-helpline/
Campus Safety / SafeSwords	Security escort service for anyone who feels unsafe walking alone on campus at any time of day. Call security and a professional will escort you to your destination.	chaminade.edu/student-life/security/campus-safeswords-program/
CUH Alert Emergency Notification	Emergency text system. Register your cell number via the Chaminade portal and confirm the text to complete enrollment.	chaminade.edu