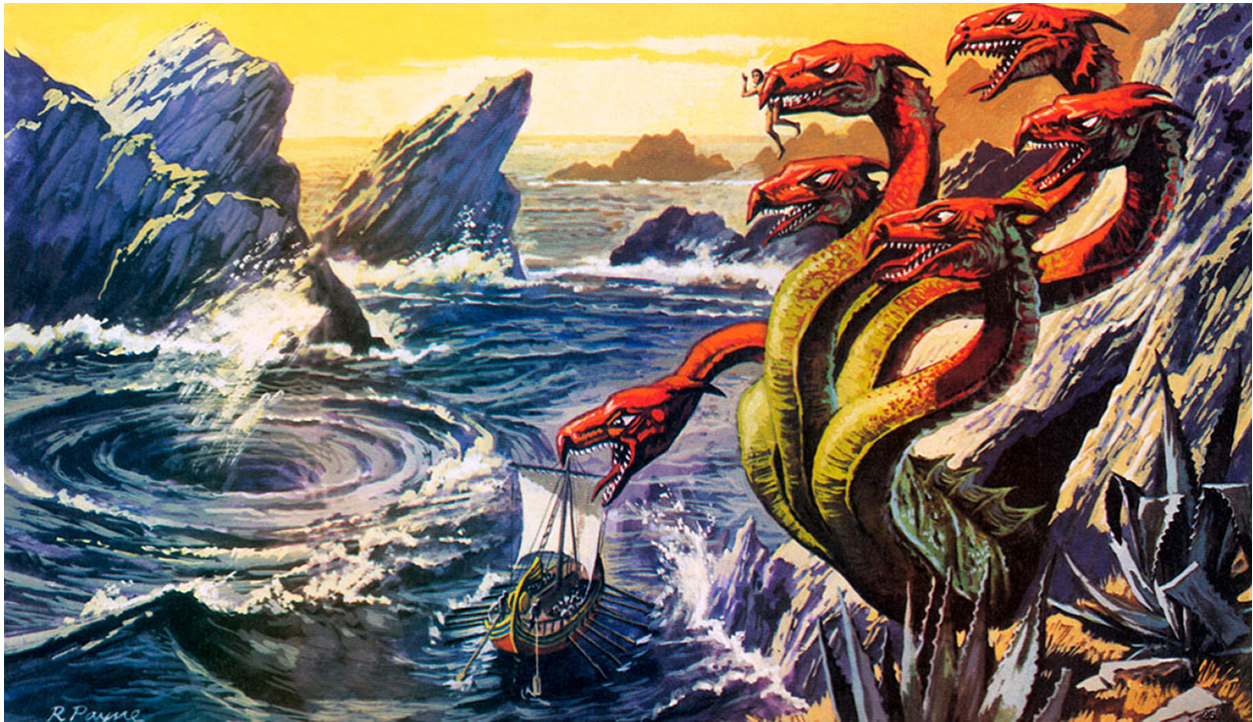


Journeying and Storytelling



Roger Payne, *Scylla Attacking Odysseus's Ship* (1980)

Course Overview

Why do journeys form the basis of so many works of literature? What is the relationship between journeying and storytelling? In this course we will examine the theme of journeying from Homer's *The Odyssey* to future visions of displacement and migration. Along the way, we will consider how stories of geographical discovery are also stories about the discovery of the self. Topics of discussion will include exile, tourism, diaspora, homelessness, and homecoming. Much like island-hopping Odysseus, our journeys will take us to many different literary forms, including poetry, short stories, novels and novellas, film, paintings and collages, and ultimately your *own* travelogue. We will also consider how newer literary forms and techniques play off of older forms. In this course the focus will be on the careful reading of the primary texts and your ability to construct and support an argument out of your own observations about the texts.

Advanced Literature Core Requirement

This course fulfills Fordham's Advanced Literature Core Requirement, and is designed to develop your understanding of literary methods and analysis. As per Fordham's Undergraduate Handbook, Advanced Literature classes are four-credit courses. What this means, is that while three-credit classes expect six hours of out-of-class work, four-credit courses expect nine hours of out-of-class work. For this class, that additional out-of-class work time will be taken up with reading, writing, and preparing for presentations.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Madeline Miller, *Circe*. Back Bay Books, 2018 (ISBN: 978-0316556323) (\$13.07).
Amazon Link: <https://smile.amazon.com/Circe-Madeline-Miller/dp/0316556327>
- Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*. Penguin Classics, Orig. 1957, Reprint, 1999. (ISBN-13: 978-0140283297) (\$14.79)
Amazon Link: <https://smile.amazon.com/Road-Jack-Kerouac/dp/0140283293>
- Octavia Butler, *Parable of the Sower*. Grand Central Publishing, Orig. 1993, Reprint 2019. (ISBN: 978-1538732182) (\$13.29)
Amazon Link: <https://smile.amazon.com/Parable-Sower-Octavia-Butler/dp/1538732181/>

We will also watch the following tv episodes and movie.

- Anthony Bourdain, *Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown*, 2013. Season 1, Ep. 8. Congo.
Amazon Link: <https://smile.amazon.com/Myanmar/dp/B00F2CYESK>
- Sofia Coppola, *Lost in Translation*, 2003.
Amazon Link: <https://smile.amazon.com/Lost-Translation-Scarlett-Johansson/dp/B001NLCBJI>
- Yann Demange, *Lovecraft Country*, 2020. Ep. 1
Free at <https://www.hbo.com/lovecraft-country>

Schedule of Classes

Mon. Aug. 31

Basho, *Narrow Road to the Interior*
Hunter S. Thompson, “The Great Shark Hunt”

Mon. Sept. 7, 2020 (No Class)

University Closed for Labor Day

Mon. Sept. 14

Homer, *The Odyssey*, Book 10
Poem Presentations

Mon. Sept. 21

Homer, *The Odyssey*, Book 12
Poem Presentations

Thur. Aug. 27.

Anonymous, “The Seafarer”
John Cheever, “The Swimmer”

Thur. Sept. 3 (Add/ Drop ends)

Jamaica Kincaid, “The Ugly Tourist”
Juliana Spahr, “Dole Street”
Evie Shockley, “Cruise Line”
Film: *Lost in Translation*

Thur. Sept. 10

Homer, *The Odyssey*, Book 9
Poem Presentations

Thur. Sept. 17

Homer, *The Odyssey*, Book 11
Poem Presentations

Thur. Sept. 24

Romare Bearden, *Black Odyssey*
Poem Presentations

Mon. Sept. 28

Madeline Miller, *Circe* (1-89)

Mon. Sept. 5

Madeline Miller, *Circe* (177-284)

Mon. Oct. 12 (No Class)

Indigenous Peoples' Day

Wed. Oct. 14

Mon.'s class held today
One-on-one Conference

Mon. Oct. 19

Tim Youngs, "Africa/ The Congo:
the politics of darkness"

Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown: Congo
Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness* (Part I)

Mon. Oct. 26

Lovecraft Country, Ep. 1

Mon. Nov. 2

Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*
(73-138)

Mon. Nov. 9

Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*
(218-293)

Mon. Nov. 16

Octavia Butler, *Parable of the Sower*
(101-224)

Mon. Nov. 23

Workshop
Essay 2 due Wed., Nov. 25 at 9 am

Mon. Nov. 30

Present Travelogues

Mon. Dec. 7 (Last Day of Class)

Workshop/ Conferences

Thur. Oct. 1

Madeline Miller, *Circe* (90-176)

Thur. Oct. 8

Madeline Miller, *Circe* (285-385)

Thur. Oct. 15

Mid-terms
One-on-one Conference
Essay 1 due Sun, Oct. 18 at 9 am

Thur. Oct. 22

Chinua Achebe, "An Image of
Africa: Racism in Conrad's
Heart of Darkness"
Joseph Conrad, *Heart of Darkness*
(Parts II and III)

Thur. Oct. 29

Jack Kerouac, *On the Road* (1-72)

Thur. Nov. 5

Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*
(139-218)

Thur. Nov. 12

Octavia Butler, *Parable of the Sower*
(1-100)

Thur. Nov. 19

Octavia Butler, *Parable of the Sower*
(225-329)

Thur. Nov. 26 (No Class)

Thanksgiving Recess

Thur. Dec. 3

Present Travelogues

Final TBD (Between Dec. 11 & 18)

Final Essay due at date and time of
Final