

## **Week 4 Class Notes: Early Modern Chinese Vernacular Literature: W 2/8-T 2/14**

### **I. Introduction**

I hope you enjoyed learning about Enlightenment in Europe and the Americas during Week 3 vis-à-vis the reading, PowerPoint, and reading quiz. During Week 4 you are learning about Early Modern Chinese Vernacular Literature, and you are submitting your *Journey to the West Response Paper Draft* in SmarThinking and Turnitin in Canvas for feedback.

### **II. Reading Quiz Feedback**

Overall, the class is doing a good job of completing the assigned reading quizzes by the deadlines stated in the syllabus. You can view your quiz score in the “Grades” section of Canvas after you complete your reading quiz, and you can view additional feedback on your reading quiz during the week following the quiz deadline (in order to maintain the integrity of the quiz in our fully online course.)

If you ever see a “0” after a quiz deadline, then you are encouraged to make up your missing/late quiz as soon as possible in order to earn additional points; however, please note that your missing/late quiz score will be adjusted according to the missing/late assignment policy described in the syllabus, so it is in your best interest to complete all assignments by the stated deadlines in the syllabus.

### **III. Interim/Midterm Grades and Bronco Connect**

FSU asks faculty to enter Interim/Midterm Grades and feedback in Banner and BroncoConnect. Since this is a fully online course, Canvas is used to enter Interim/ Midterm Grades in Banner. An Interim Grade of “X-Did Not Attend” was entered if there was not a record of a student accessing our fully online course at that time; the Interim Grade of “X” was removed after a student accessed our fully online course in Canvas. If you ever stop participating in a course because you plan on withdrawing from a course, please see <http://www.uncfsu.edu/registrar/forms> for a link to “Course Withdrawal” instructions.

Midterm Grades will be entered in Banner according to scores in “Grades” in Canvas, so you are encouraged to meet assignment deadlines in order to prepare for Midterm Grades being entered in Banner. During the semester, you may receive an auto-generated message from BroncoConnect. For example, if a student earns a low or failing Midterm Grade in Banner (D/F), then the student may receive an auto-generated message from BroncoConnect. If you receive one of these auto-generated messages, please consult your “Grades” in our Canvas course for details. If you see that you have missing/late work, you are encouraged to consult relevant Canvas modules and submit any missing/late work as soon as possible to earn additional points.

Please note that you cannot reply to BroncoConnect notifications. If you would like to correspond with me following a BroncoConnect notification, you must email me directly at [avannyhu@uncfsu.edu](mailto:avannyhu@uncfsu.edu) in order for me to receive your message.

Finally, please note that you can use BroncoConnect (from the navigation menu in our Canvas course) to schedule an appointment to meet or speak with me during my available office hours, if you would like to discuss your course performance with me; however, meeting and/or speaking with me during my office hours is fully optional in this fully online course.

#### IV. **Early Modern Chinese Vernacular Literature (*Norton* Volume D, pp. 100-104 and 265-314)**

During Week 4, we will move from a review of Enlightenment in Europe and the Americas to a review of Early Modern Chinese Vernacular Literature. In order to get a better understanding of the geographical context, please consult the linked “China from Ming to Qing” map in Canvas. Also, review these class notes, and read the assigned literature in the *Norton Anthology*. This is the kind of work you would generally complete in order to prepare for a face-to-face class.

After you familiarize yourself with the period and literature, then use the *Norton* PowerPoints that are linked in the Week 4 Module (from the menu on the left) to review the assigned reading. This is the kind of review you would experience in a face-to-face class after you complete the assigned reading. You have two options with the linked *Norton* PowerPoints on the assigned reading: 1) read the PowerPoints in Canvas for a general overview; or 2) download the PowerPoints for additional information, which you can read in the "Notes" section of the PowerPoint

The Early Modern Chinese Vernacular Literature reading provides a general introduction to this literary period. As you shift from the more general background information to a specific literary example from the period, consider why *Journey to the West* is one of the most popular examples of the journey narrative in world literature. Is it the adventure, the spiritual growth of protagonists, and/or the physical journey?

If the characters and/or plot are new to you, write a brief plot summary of each of the novel's four sections as you read the novel to enhance your understanding of the novel: 1) the birth and early life of Sun Wukong, the Monkey King, that is, chapters 1-7; 2) the early life of Tripitaka, that is, chapters 8-12; 3) the journey, that is, chapters 13-99; and 4) the return of the heroes, that is, chapter 100.

After you gain a better understanding of the novel's characters and plot, consider why adaptations of the novel may focus on Sun Wukong, the Monkey King, rather than Tripitaka, the novel's protagonist. For example, what does Tripitaka represent? What does Sun Wukong represent? As you consider your response, also consider the novel's broader

context, such as Buddhism, Daoism, and Chinese mythology, as well as genres, such as poetry and prose.

If after reading *The Journey to the West*, you would like to watch a modern film adaptation, *Forbidden Kingdom* (2008) is a contemporary example that includes Jet Li. In conclusion, please consult the *Journey to the West* information on page A9 in the back of your anthology, so you have a better sense of how *Journey to the West* fits into a broader world literary timeline.

## V. ***Journey to the West* Response Paper Draft (Due in SmarThinking and Turnitin in Canvas)**

### A. ***Minimum Response Paper Requirements***

This week, you will complete and submit the first draft of your *Journey to the West* response paper. **The required *Journey to the West* response paper prompt also is included in our syllabus: “Identify aspects of [*Journey to the West*] that you consider realist and those you consider surreal (or magical). Comment on the combination of these aspects together.”** This prompt encourages you to move beyond a general understanding of the novel to a more focused analysis of novel’s “realist” and “surreal (or magical)” “aspects.”

The writing assignments in this course give you the opportunity to move beyond reading comprehension, which you demonstrate in your reading quizzes, to higher-order learning skills, such as analysis and synthesis of diverse ideas. In order to begin drafting your *Journey to the West* response paper, you might consider making a list of “realist” vs. “surreal (or magical)” “aspects of *Journey to the West*. Your list might be very long.

You do not need to address every aspect of realism and surrealism in your short response paper; however, you should develop a clear, arguable thesis in response to the prompt. State your thesis in the conclusion of your beginning paragraph and restate your thesis in the beginning of your ending paragraph. In the body of your paper, include evidence from the novel in MLA format to support your thesis statement. Frame that evidence with an informative topic sentence, introduce your evidence with a signal phrase, and interpret or explain the meaning or significance of your evidence.

As you draft your *Journey to the West* response paper, please remember that your paper must be *at least 2 ½* pages long in MLA format with a required Works Cited page on page 4 (or later). Your required Works Cited page on page 4 (or later) should at least include your required primary source, that is, *Journey to the West* from your *Norton Anthology*. Please see the syllabus and Canvas for details.

Although you must meet all minimum assignment requirements for the opportunity to earn full credit, there will not be a penalty if you exceed the minimum page and/or source requirements; however, you must maintain the quality of your writing in all submitted pages.

In other words, a longer paper with more sources is not necessarily a better paper. Please see the “Text Requirements” section on page five of our syllabus for details.

### ***B. SmarThinking Submission and Feedback***

After you complete your *Journey to the West* response paper draft this week, submit your *Journey to the West* response paper in SmarThinking (from the menu on the left in Canvas). You may need to adjust pop-up settings in order to access SmarThinking; follow the prompts, or try another browser. After you access SmarThinking, then select the “Submit My Writing” option, and the “Essay Center” option; however, you can see that you also have other options, such as a “Paragraph Review.”

Then enter the required information, such as the kinds of feedback that you would like to receive, and attach and submit your draft. After you upload your draft, a paid tutor will review your work, and share your feedback in SmarThinking, usually within 24-48 hours of your submission.

You are encouraged to return to SmarThinking to review your feedback and make revisions before the upcoming grading submission deadline on Tuesday, February 21.

*Please note that I cannot see your SmarThinking submissions or feedback, so you also need to submit your Journey to the West response paper in Turnitin in order for me to see that you have met the drafting deadline.*

### ***C. Turnitin Submission and Feedback***

After you upload your *Journey to the West* response paper in SmarThinking for feedback from a paid tutor, also upload your *Journey to the West* response paper in Turnitin via the “Assignments” section of Canvas (from the menu on the left).

You can resubmit your *Journey to the West* response paper in the *Journey to the West* area of “Assignments” as many times as you like before the grading submission deadline on Tuesday, February 21; after that time, submitted assignments will be locked, so that I can review and grade your written work.

You are submitting your draft in the same area that will submit your final *Journey to the West* response paper, so you can resolve any technical issues before the grading submission deadline.

After you submit your *Journey to the West* response paper in Turnitin, an Originality Report will be generated by Turnitin, usually within 24-48 hours of your submission. You will know that your Originality Report is availability when you can see a % of similarity; select your % of similarity to review your Originality Report.

While reviewing your Originality Report, confirm the following:

1) you only have submitted information that is new to this course—you cannot resubmit (part of) a paper that you submitted for another course this semester or in the past, as stated in the syllabus;

2) you have acknowledged all source material according to MLA style guidelines—consult your *Bedford Handbook* for details to prevent plagiarism, which has serious academic consequences, as stated in our syllabus;

3) you wrote the majority of the paper in *your words* (rather than stringing together material from other sources)—a high percentage of similarity may indicate that you need to write more information in your own words.

Revise your paper as needed after reviewing your Originality Report. If you are unsure of how to revise your paper to reduce your percentage of similarity, you are encouraged to consult the *Bedford Handbook* for assistance, or visit the FSU Writing Center.

It is important that you review your Originality Report this week, so you have time to make revisions and resubmit before the *Journey to the West* response paper is due for grading on Tuesday, February 21, since you cannot resubmit assignments for a higher grade in this class, and there is not extra credit in this class, as stated in our syllabus.

*Please note that I can see your Turnitin submission and Originality Report in Canvas; however, I will not grade your Turnitin submission or provide feedback on your submission(s) in the “Grades” section of Canvas until after the grading submission deadline has passed on Tuesday, February 21.*

#### ***D. Optional Writing Center Appointment and Feedback***

If after submitting to SmarThinking and Turnitin, you feel like you would like additional feedback on your *Journey to the West* response paper or an upcoming writing assignment, you are encouraged to make an appointment with the FSU Writing Center.

You're welcome to make your appointment via telephone or BroncoConnect to reduce your wait time. Please see <http://www.uncfsu.edu/learning-center/writing-center> for details. If there is a tutor that you enjoy working with, you can request to meet with that specific tutor.

*Please note that one of my former World Literature students, Mr. Thomas Goins, is generally available in the FSU Writing Center during the following times: MW 1 pm-6 pm; and F 9 am-12 pm. You may be interested in scheduling an appointment with him.*

## **VI. Writing in Literature with MLA Format**

After you read and review the assigned literature materials, also refresh your knowledge of writing in literature with MLA format. Consult the *Bedford Handbook* and Canvas resources

as needed, such as the “Writing in Literature” link and the “MLA PowerPoint,” which are linked in the Week 4 Module in Canvas.

In order to access the “Writing in Literature” and “MLA PowerPoint” information from the Week 4 Module, you may need to select the “Click here” link on the subsequent Purdue OWL page in Canvas; then focus on the information that is most relevant to you as you draft your *Journey to the West* response paper this week.

While reviewing the “MLA PowerPoint,” pay extra special attention to the MLA Paper Format information; use this information to begin drafting your response paper. After you format your response paper in MLA format, you can use it as a template for future writing assignments in this class; simply “save-as,” and begin future writing assignments.

Also, when you draft your response paper this week, compare it with the model paper in the “MLA PowerPoint”; note the placement of the heading and course information before the centered title. You must follow MLA format in order to meet the minimum page requirements for the writing assignments in this course. MLA format does not have a separate title page, for examples, so your response paper needs to have at least 2 ½ full pages of text before the required Works Cited page.

Purdue OWL is an excellent resource for MLA format, if you prefer electronic resources over print resources (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>); however, if you prefer paper resources, you will find similar information in your *Bedford Handbook*. Since you have various levels of familiarity with writing in literature with MLA format, I am not assigning reading from the *Bedford Handbook*; however, please consult it as needed, and note that the front and back covers of the *Bedford Handbook* include will help guide you towards relevant sections, such as page 652 for information on MLA manuscript format.

You may have heard and/or noticed that MLA has recently made format/style changes in a new edition, and you may see minor differences between the Purdue OWL examples and the slide/textbook examples. For clarity in this course, please follow the format examples provided in the MLA handout and/or the *Bedford Handbook*; however, you’re also welcome to follow the recent updates, if you’re already familiar with them—be consistent with your choice. For additional information on MLA format, consult Purdue OWL and your *Bedford Handbook* as needed during the course to draft, revise, and submit your writing assignments.

## **VII. Technical Trouble-Shooting**

Canvas seems to be working well for students this semester. If possible, follow the provided prompts to resolve technical issues, such as changing pop-up settings for SmarThinking access, for example. For additional technical assistance, please contact ITTS directly (<http://www.uncfsu.edu/itts/itts-units/helpdesk>) well in advance of assignment deadlines. Sometimes, ITTS can even screen share campus computers to see and resolve our technical issues.

Also, the Office of Faculty Development has linked multiple Canvas resources at <http://www.uncfsu.edu/facultydevelopment>. You may already feel confident navigating Canvas if you have used Canvas in another course this year; however, if Canvas is new to you, please take time to explore Canvas well in advance of assignment deadlines, so you can complete your work in Canvas by stated deadlines.

### **VIII. Conclusion**

I hope you enjoy exploring Early Modern Chinese Vernacular Literature and completing the first draft of your *Journey to the West* response paper this week.

Although this is a fully online course, you also are welcome to visit FSU's Writing Center for one-on-one writing assistance as you draft and revise your *Journey to the West* response paper this week, or revise your *Journey to the West* response paper next week. Please see <http://www.uncfsu.edu/learning-center/writing-center> for details, including resources that you can access online.

I look forward to discussing Early Modern Japanese Popular Literature with you during Week 5, which will be the last unit in Part I of our World Literature II course: 1650-1800.