Required Texts

Hope, Anthony. *The Prisoner of Zenda* (Oxford)
Konstantinov, Aleko. *Bai Ganio* (U of Wisconsin P)
Shaw, Bernard. *Plays Pleasant* (Penguin)

Supplementary Texts (not required):

Goldsworthy, Vesna. *Inventing Ruritania: The Imperialism of the Imagination*;
Mazower, Mark. *The Balkans: A Short History*;
Todorova, Maria. *Imagining the Balkans*.

Course Guide

Why name geographically European states—such as Albania, Bosnia, or Bulgaria—Balkan, and not European? What makes a state Balkan, and what are the implications of calling it so? Throughout this course we will search for answers to these questions by looking at patterns of representation of the Balkans in both Western European and Balkan literature from the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century—the period that in many ways defined the Balkans as we perceive them today. The course will be conducted as a seminar, so student participation will be a crucial part of it. I expect you to read diligently all the assignments before you come to class and to be ready to ask and answer questions about them.

At Drake, the First Year Seminar functions as an introduction to college-level writing. Therefore, we will spend time discussing writing-related issues, including clarity, cohesion, style, and revision. Assignments for this course will include response papers, a research paper, and lots of in-class writing. Please note that the course uses a workshop method where student writing is frequently revised and discussed by fellow students and the instructor. Therefore, students should consider all their work submitted as public.

Assignments and Grading Percentages

Textual Analyses (2)—30%
Research Paper and Bibliography —25%
Presentation—10%
Quizzes—15%
Portfolio—10%
Attendance and Participation—10% (Participation includes regular contribution to in-class discussion and informal writing)
Grading Policy

A: Achievement that is outstanding;
B: Achievement that is significantly above requirements;
C: Achievement that meets the basic requirements.

Course Policies and Expectations

Attendance: Because the work done in class is vital to the understanding of the texts we will read, as well as to the successful completion of the writing assignments, it is mandatory that all students attend class regularly. More than two absences may result in a lower grade for the class. Students who miss more than four classes should expect to fail the course. Students who represent the university in some capacity (such as athletes) and who must miss class are excused, but must make up all work assigned. Students who suffer from a chronic illness will also be excused (up to six absences), provided they notify me in writing. Be aware that even excused absences in excessive amounts can affect your grade negatively.

Classroom Courtesy: Students are expected to arrive on time and be prepared for the beginning of class at 12:30. Students are also expected to remain in their seats until dismissed by the instructor. Laptops can be used in the classroom, but solely for learning purposes: to take notes, complete assignments, or conduct research. Please remember to turn off all electronic and other noise-making devices before the beginning of class.

Late and Incomplete Assignments: Students are required to make a copy of all drafts of their assignments prior to submitting them for grading. In the event a paper or an exam is lost, the student will be expected to produce a copy. It is your responsibility to submit the assignments on time. Papers received after their due date will be penalized one letter grade for each day they are late. Note: Only final drafts will be accepted late (with the afore-mentioned grade reduction). Rough drafts and in-class assignments will not be accepted after the due date. Missing a rough draft also takes a letter grade from your final draft.

Incompletes: Incompletes will not be given, except in the most extraordinary circumstances—in cases of medical emergency, or if very little of the course work remains to be completed.

Students with disabilities: If you have a disability requiring accommodation in this class, please notify me at the beginning of the semester.

Scholastic Dishonesty: A student who submits as his or her own work a thesis, draft, completed essay, examination, quiz, or any other written work which is taken in whole or in part from another person’s writing without proper acknowledgement (that is, the use of quotation marks and documentation for directly quoted material or some sort of specific citation for paraphrased material) is guilty of plagiarism. A student who submits a plagiarized paper or allows another person to copy his or her work is subject to any one or all of the following actions:
- receiving a 0 grade for the paper;
- receiving an F grade for the course;
- being reported to the university for possible disciplinary action.
Tentative Schedule

Aug 26  Intro to the class.
Discussion of syllabus (assignments and expectations)
Reading strategies.
What do you know about writing and the Balkans?
For R: Read pp. 21-37 from *Imagining the Balkans* (to be provided in class).
Annotate one page from the readings and bring it to class.

Aug 28  Discuss readings.
Criteria Sheet for Presentations. (group assignments)
For T: Read Act I from Shaw’s *Arms and the Man*. Annotate 2 pages of your choice, and bring them to class.

Sep 02  Strategies for effective presentations.
Discussion of readings.
For R: Read Act II from *Arms and the Man*.

Sep 04  Criteria sheet for Textual Analysis (TA) papers.
Writing Process.
Discussion of readings.
For T: Read Act III from *Arms and the Man*.

Sep 09  Presentation Group 1 (Matthew L., Matthew M, Theresa), Macedonia.
Discussion of Readings.
For R: Prepare first draft of TA paper 1.

Sep 11  Due: First drafts of TA paper 1.
Writing Workshop—Paragraphs.
Peer revision and in-class editing.
For T: Prepare final drafts of TA paper 1. Read Roland Barthes’ “Writing Reading” (to be provided in class).

Sep 16  Due: Final drafts of TA paper 1.
Discussion of readings.
Free-Write: Reflecting on TA paper 1 and *Arms and the Man*.
For R: Read Introduction and pp. 3-48 from *Bai Ganyo*.

Sep 18  Presentation Group 2 (Jordan Wic., Jordan Win., Margo), Bulgaria.
Intro to *Bai Ganyo* and Aleko Konstantinov.
Discussion of Readings.
For T: Read pp. 49-85 from *Bai Ganyo* and annotate 2 pages.

Sep 23  Discussion of readings.
In-class writing: Have you seen Bai Ganyo lately?
For R: Read 89-132 from *Bai Ganyo*. 
Sep 25  Discussion of readings.
In-class readings of scholarly responses to Bai Ganyo.
For T: Start working TA paper 2.

Sep 30  Finish Bai Ganyo discussion.
In-class writing.
For R: Continue working on TA paper 2.

Oct 02  Presentation Group 3 (Lauren, David, Zach).
Writing workshop—paragraphs, coherence, organization.
For T: Prepare first draft of TA paper 2.

Oct 07  Due: First draft of TA paper 2.
Peer revision and in-class editing.
For R: Read the Introduction to The Bridge on the Drina, pp. 3-11.

Oct 09  Due: Final Drafts of TA paper 2.
Reflecting on TA paper 2 and Bai Ganyo.
Intro to The Bridge on the Drina.
For R: Read pp. 13-72 from The Bridge on the Drina.

Oct 14  No class-Fall break.

Oct 16  Discussion of readings.
For T: Read pp. 73-102 from The Bridge on the Drina.

Oct 21  Presentation Group 4 (Lexi, Tom, Katy).
Discuss Research Paper assignment. What is a Bibliography?
Discussion of readings.
For R: Start preparing a Tentative Proposal for your research paper (100 words).

Oct 23  Library Trip.
For T: Read pp. 102-134 from The Bridge on the Drina. Prepare Tentative Proposal for research paper.

Oct 28  Due: Tentative Proposal (100 words).
Discussion of readings.
For R: Read pp. 134-172 from The Bridge on the Drina.

Oct 30  Presentation Group 5 (Nihad, Ian, Mallory).
Discussion of readings.
For T: Bring to class whatever concerns or questions you may have.

Nov 04  Due: Bibliographies.
Employing sources and textual evidence.
In-class writing and discussion.
For **R**: Read pp. (to be announced) from *The Bridge on the Drina*.

Nov 06  **Presentation Group 6 (Sibgha, Ben, George).**  
Final Discussion on *The Bridge on the Drina.*  
For **T** and **R**: Conferences—prepare first drafts of Research Paper (at least 2 pp.).

Nov 11  Conferences.

Nov 13  Conferences.  
For **T**: Prepare drafts of Research Paper.

Nov 18  **Due**: Second drafts of Research Paper.  
Writing Workshop—Works Cited Page, Format.  
Peer Revision.  
For **R**: Prepare final drafts of Research Paper. Read pp. 5-43 from *The Prisoner of Zenda.*

Nov 20  **Due**: Final Drafts of Research Paper.  
Discussion of Readings.  
For **T**: Read pp. 44-131 from *The Prisoner of Zenda.*

Nov 25  Discussion of Readings.  
For **T**: Read *The Prisoner of Zenda* to the end.

Nov 27  No Class—Thanksgiving.

Dec 02  Discussion of Readings.  
Discussion of Portfolio Assignment.  
For **R**: Bring all portfolio documents to class.

Dec 04  Writing Workshop—Portfolio.  
Evaluations.  
(Last Day of Class)

Dec 09  **Due**: Final drafts of Portfolio.  
Portfolios should be submitted in my mailbox by 4:00 o’clock!