

BASIC PROGRAM of LIBERAL EDUCATION for ADULTS

Summer Quarter 2024

What are Islands for, in Novels?

INSTRUCTOR	DATES AND TIMES	LOCATION
Joshua Daniel	COURSE LENGTH: 8 Weeks DATES: June 13 th —August 15 th	Remote Course
EMAIL: jlvigil@uchicago.edu Instructor can be contacted through Canvas message	DAY OF THE WEEK: Thursdays TIMES: 6:00—9:15 PM	COURSE CODE and SECTION: BASC 70243 24U1 PREREQUISITES: None

Remote courses require you to login to Canvas to access the Zoom Classroom. **You will receive an invitation to join Canvas about a week before your course begins.** Please visit <https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/academic-programs/online/learning-resources/liberal-arts> to find Canvas login instructions, Zoom instructions, and student training sessions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course covers classic and more recent ‘island novels’ with a view to asking what the island affords the novel. Not what the island means, but rather what kinds of stories the island enables the novelist to tell. And not what the island means for the characters, but rather what it enables them to do and realize that they wouldn’t or couldn’t if they were simply home. While the integrity of each work will be respected in discussion, the labor of comparison will accumulate as the course progresses, touching on topics like personal transformation and social critique. We’ll whet our appetite with Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*, before turning to the novels (Daniel Defoe’s *Robinson Crusoe*, Jonathan Swift’s *Gulliver’s Travels*, H. G. Wells’ *The Island of Doctor Moreau*, Charlotte Gilman’s *Herland* and Adolfo Bioy Casares’ *The Invention of Morel*).

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*, Bantam, 9780553213072
2. Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*, Penguin, 9780141439822
3. Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver’s Travels*, Penguin, 9780141439495
4. H.G. Wells, *The Island of Doctor Moreau*, Oxford, 9780198702665
5. Charlotte Perkins Gilman, *Herland and Selected Stories*, Signet, 9780451469878
6. Adolfo Bioy Casares, *The Invention of Morel*, New York Review of Books, 9781590170571

Students can purchase books at the Gleacher Center Bookstore online at <https://chicagobooth.bncollege.com/shop/chicagobooth/page/find-textbooks> using the Textbook order form, or by using the ISBN number to order the correct edition elsewhere.

WEEKLY READING SCHEDULE

DAY	AUTHOR	READING ASSIGNMENT
WEEK 1 June 13th	Shakespeare	The Tempest (entire)
WEEK 2 June 20th	Defoe	Robinson Crusoe (to page 122, "But now I come to a new scene of my life.")
WEEK 3 July 11th	Defoe	Robinson Crusoe (finish)
WEEK 4 June 18th	Swift	Gulliver's Travels (parts I and II)
WEEK 5 June 25th	Swift	Gulliver's Travels (parts III and IV)
WEEK 6 August 1st	Wells	Island of Doctor Moreau (entire)
WEEK 7 August 8th	Gilman	Herland (entire)
WEEK 8 August 15th	Bioy Casares	The Invention of Morel (entire)

Students will receive an invitation to join the Graham School Student Community Canvas Site, a place to read announcements, have discussions, ask questions, and find resources.

DISABILITY INFORMATION

Student Disability Services (SDS) works to provide resources, support and accommodations for all students with disabilities and works to remove physical and attitudinal barriers, which may prevent their full participation in the University community. Students that would like to request accommodations should contact SDS in advance of the first class meeting at 773.702.6000 or disabilities@uchicago.edu.