

## In the Name of God

**Semester:** Fall 1398-99

**Course:** contemporary literature

**Prof:** Nahid Mohammadi

### Course Objectives:

This course aims at introducing 1. Magical realist fiction and its correspondences with paintings of the same movement, 2. metafiction and the reason for its emergence, and 3. Pseudo-modernist fiction and its relation with cultural context.

Regarding the scope and content of the course, the participants are expected to present a team term project of their own choice.

### Course Syllabus:

- 25.06.1398** Introducing the course and explaining the term project
- 01.07.1398** magical realist fiction, its rise and characteristics
- 08.07.1398** discussing the magical realist short story “Walimai” by Isabel Allende
- 15.07.1398** discussing the magical realist short story “Chac Mool” by Carlos Fuentes
- 22.07.1398** watching a collection of magical realist paintings and discussing their correspondences with the two short stories
- 29.07.1398** introducing metafiction, its features, its differences from the fiction of the pre-world-war II
- 06.08.1398** discussing metafiction in the pre-school children’s story “The Monster at the End of This Book”!!! and contrasting it with the classical children’s story, “Little Red Riding Hood”!!!
- 13.08.1398** discussing the short story “Lost in the Fun House” by John Barth
- 20.08.1398** watching a collection of cubist paintings and discussing what they have in common with metafiction
- 27.08.1398** discussing pseudo-modernist culture and the technology which caused a shift in literature
- 04.09.1398** explaining features of pseudo-modernist literature
- 11.09.1398** discussing the novel *Breakfast of Champions* by Kurt Vonnegut
- 18.09.1398** discussing the novel *Breakfast of Champions* by Kurt Vonnegut
- 25.09.1398** discussing the novel *Breakfast of Champions* by Kurt Vonnegut
- 02.10.1398** Term Project Presentation
- 09.10.1398** conclusion of the course

### Grading

- Final exam 12/20
- Participation in class discussions 2/20
- Term Project 6/20