**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA**

**IDH2930: (Un)common Reading:**

***Small World…* A Novel about University Life**

**SYLLABUS**

**Fall 20**17

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:**

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| **Instructor** | Dr. Dror Abend-David |
| **Office** | Pugh 337 |
| **Phone** | (352) 486-3845 |
| **Office Hours** | M 5; W 4-5 – By Appointment |
| **E‑Mail** | [da2137@nyu.edu](mailto:da2137@nyu.edu) |

**COURSE INFORMATION:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Time** | Monday, 6th Period |
| **Location** | LIT 0119 |

**Course Description:**

David Lodge, a Professor of English Literature at the University of Birmingham, has decided to write a series of novels about what he knows best: The pleasures, displeasures, passions, and intrigues of the academic world. In *Small World*, one of his best known novels that was adapted into a television series in 1988, the characters literally chase each other across the globe, discussing academic life in different countries, and unfolding a plot of conspiracy, academic politics, and, of course, a good deal of romance. Class discussion will consider Lodge’s view of academic life, and the extent to which it models the college experience of the students.

## Reading Material:

Lodge, David, *Small World*. New York, NY: Penguin. 1995.

## Requirements:

*Attendance*. **REGULAR ATTENDANCE IN CLASS IS REQUIRED**. If you have no absences, your final grade will increase by a half a point. 5-8 absences will result in lowering your grade half a point. 9 – 12 absences will result in lowering your with one point. 13 absences will result in failing the class. Since class meetings are short and typically involve active student’s participations, tardiness is especially disturbing. Being tardy three times is equivalent to one absence.

For an excused absence: **Please do not contact the instructor**. Contact the office of the Dean of Students at [umattter@ufl.edu](mailto:umattter@ufl.edu). The office of the Dean of Students will alert your instructor (and your other instructors for the relevant dates).

*Make-up Policy.* Except in the case of certified illness or other UF accepted excuse (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>), there will be no make-up option for missed exams or late assignments. Assignments cannot be resubmitted for a higher grade.

**Assignments**:

*Writing Assignment*: (25%)

Choose a single theme about academic life that is discussed in the novel. Do you feel that Lodge is describing this theme fairly? What are some of your thoughts about this theme? And how can academic studies be changed (if they need to be) in order to address the issue that Lodge raises in his novel?

*Presentation*: (25%)

Each student will be asked to present one reading assignment and suggest a theme for a class discussion to follow their presentation.

*Participation*: (50%)

Student participation is essential. Students will be asked to prepare questions and comments for each section of the reading.

*Grading Scale.*

A -100-93, A- 90-92, B+ - 87-89, B – 83-86, B- -89 -82, C+ - 77-79, C – 73-76, C- -70-70-72 , D+ - 67-69, D - 63-66, D- -60-62

S-U - 73%

*Academic Honesty.*

Students are expected to follow University of Florida Academic Honesty Guidelines. These can be found at <http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4017.htm>

Students may also wish to consult The University of Florida Student Guide Standard of Ethical Conduct found at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/stg/>

Students are also expected to follow the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures Academic *Honesty Guidelines:*

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action.

Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines include but are not limited to:

Cheating. The improper taking or tendering of any information or material which shall be used to determine academic credit. Taking of information includes copying graded homework assignments from another student; working with another individual(s) on graded assignments or homework; looking or attempting to look at notes, a text, or another student's paper during an exam.

Plagiarism. The attempt to represent the work of another as the product of one's own thought, whether the other's work is oral or written (including electronic), published or unpublished. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, quoting oral or written materials without citation on written materials or in oral presentations; submitting work produced by an online translation service or the translation feature of an online dictionary as your own.

Misrepresentation. Any act or omission with intent to deceive a teacher for academic advantage. Misrepresentation includes lying to a teacher to increase your grade; lying or misrepresenting facts when confronted with an allegation of academic honesty.

Bribery, Conspiracy, Fabrication. For details see website below.

The UF Honor Code states: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”

On all work submitted for credit the following pledge is either required or implied:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action according to the judicial process.

For more details go to: <http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4017.htm>

*Students with Disabilities.*

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Class Schedule:**

**Week 1: Introduction**

**Week 2: Part 1, chapter 1**

**Week 3: Part 1, Chapter 2**

**Week 4: Part 2, Chapter 1**

**Week 5: Part 2, Chapter 2**

**Week 6: Part 3, Chapter 1**

**Week 7: Part 3, Chapter 2**

**Week 8: Part 4, Chapter 1**

**Week 9: Part 4, Chapter 2**

**Week 10: Part 4, Chapter 3**

**Week 11: Part 5, Chapter 1**

**Week 12: Part 5, chapter 2**

**Week 13: Summary and Discussion**

**Week 14: Conclusion – Writing assignment**

**due**

No Classes:

September 4: Labor Day  
October 13 - 14: Homecoming  
November 10 - 11: Veterans Day  
November 22 - 25: Thanksgiving