

Dear Class,

I am sorry, once again, for the disruption to the Fall quarter caused by the strike. I am writing here with instructions for the end of the quarter. Please note that there are **changes** here from the original syllabus. Also, please read carefully below, as there is a **choice** in how to complete this course. Once you finish reading this email, please email me at [jjjeon@uci.edu](mailto:jjjeon@uci.edu) to let me know which option for completing the course you want to choose.

1. **One last extra credit opportunity:** Please fill out the course evaluation for both the lecture and the discussion section. I would very much appreciate if you focused on the course itself and factored *out* the ongoing strike in your evaluation, though I understand that it has influenced the end of the course. You will receive extra credit once I confirm that you completed BOTH evaluations (for the lecture and discussion section).
2. The final exam is optional (see below #3 and #4), and it is a take-home final. It will consist entirely of a take home essay that is very similar to the first. This will be worth the full grade for the final exam. The take home final exam will be due on **Thursday, December 8, 2022 by noon** on *Canvas*. **There will be no in-person portion of the final exam.**
3. **OPTION 1:** If you are happy with your current grade, you are done with the requirements of the course. Congratulations! That is, *if you are happy with your current grade, you do not need to hand in the final exam take home portion*. If you take this option, for accounting purposes, I will just enter your current cumulative grade for your final exam grade and then add in any additional extra credit you have accrued. Please let me know via email if you plan to take this option.
4. **OPTION 2:** If you would like the chance to improve your grade, hand in the final take home exam on the date indicated above in #2. Again, there is no in-person portion of the final exam. Please let me know via email if you plan to take this option. Prompts for the final take home exam are below.
5. In respect of the strike, grades will not be finalized until the strike is over. But, you need to have your optional take home final in by the deadline in order for it to count for the course.
6. I hope you do take the time to finish the last two novels. The last one in particular is a lot of fun and I chose it to finish the course off with a bang. I will continue to email bonus lectures through the scheduled end of the course, but these will not be required. Also, if you would like to write on one of the last two novels for the take home final, I am fine with that as well. There are prompt that include option for the last two novels below.

Thank you all for being such a great class this quarter. It has ended more with a whimper than a bang, but I want to let you all know how much fun it has been for me. Best wishes on a restful and happy holiday season!

Sincerely,  
Prof. Jeon

Guidelines for take home Final exam. 1000 words +/- 100 words.

**Due: Thursday, December 8, 2022 by noon. Please upload the paper to Canvas.**

**There is NO In-Person Exam.**

- 1) Begin with a one or two sentence thesis statement/argument. This is what your paper will attempt to prove.
  - a. Make sure that it is not obvious (e.g. *Cloud Atlas* has many different characters and complicated plots),
  - b. but narrow enough so that you can fully defend your position within 1000 words (e.g. a thesis statement like “*Cloud Atlas* shows that all of western civilization is morally bankrupt” would be too broad because of the focus on all of western civilization.
  - c. Make sure that the thesis statement is a critical judgment (e.g. Despite its celebration of freedom, *Cloud Atlas* cannot escape the colonial legacy it so desperately wishes to eclipse).
- 2) Pro-tip: write your thesis statement last after you have done your analysis.
- 3) Beyond the thesis statement, **DO NOT WRITE AN INTRODUCTION**. Just go straight into analysis. You are still writing a coherent paper with transitions between paragraphs and a significant conclusion, but I don’t want you to spend time with initial framing.
- 4) Quote at least 4 specific passages from the novels and do detailed textual analysis of them (i.e. close readings). A good guideline here: describe how the language works, how it produces certain effects. Connect these specific observations to your broader argument.
- 5) Your essay should be *informed* by class lectures and discussions, but it should not simply reproduce them. Use in-class material as launch points for different or more nuanced analysis.

Choose ONE of the following prompts:

- 1) Consider the following argument in Dean MacCannell’s *The Tourist*: “The tourist seeks out a sense of authenticity as compensation for the generalized anxiety about the inauthenticity of interpersonal relationships in modern society in order to produce a sense of reality.” Choose two characters among the course materials, *Ghana Must Go*, *A Pale View of Hills*, *Open City*, and *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and compare the meanings of traveling for each character in relation to MacCannell’s argument.
- 2) Consider the concept of “worlding” as described in the lecture on *The Talented Mr. Ripley*: “Worlding here is a way of being in the world that is also a way of remaking the world, which, on the one hand, *serves* a very particular set of needs, desires, or interests while, on the other hand, *hiding* those particular needs, desires, or interests such that the vision of the world seems universal.” 1) Interpret Tom Ripley’s desires and crime(s) in relation to the concept of “worlding.” 2) Choose one character from other course materials whose way of life does not fit into this concept of “worlding” and compare him/her to Tom Ripley. Choose from *Ghana Must Go*, *A Pale View of Hills*, and *Open City*.
- 3) As I discussed in lecture, an *anti-hero* is an ambiguous protagonist, a complex character who has a dark side, and thus reflect the complexity of the societies they inhabit and represent. Choose an anti-hero from one of the novels we have read this quarter. Analyze their character as represented by the novel. Discuss how the ambiguity of their character reflects a social or political ambiguity in the novel. Please do not re-sue a novel that you wrote about for your midterm take home essay.