



Fall 2022

Machu Picchu: Myth, Symbol, and Wonder

Dr. William Keeth
Belknap 207B
wkeeth@mansfield.edu
570-662-4605 or 570-662-4581

[Class Schedule](#)
[Office Hours](#)



Essential Material

Adams, Mark. *Turn Right at Machu Picchu: Rediscovering the Lost City One Step at a Time*. Plume, 2012.

In this travelogue, Mark Adams, the usually home-bound travel expert, attempts to re-create the original expedition of Hiram Bingham to Machu Picchu. Following Bingham's footsteps, the writer finds himself humorously pitted against himself and other more avid trekkers.

Cohen, Harlan. *The Naked Roommate and 107 Other Issues You Might Run into in College*. Sourcebooks, 2009.

A candid and sometimes funny book about college life. Cohen provides practical tips and student advice on topics like roommates, dorm life, laundry, finances, friends, relationships, sex, and time management.

Recommended Material

Notebook (Suggested format: [Cornell Note Taking Method](#). May be kept in [PDF](#) or [Word](#) format)

Bingham, Hiram. *The Lost City of the Incas*. Phoenix Press, 2003.

In this classic example of exploration literature, the anthropologist and pre-historian Hiram Bingham describes his astonishing and memorable discover of the archeological site Machu Picchu in 1911, including descriptions of the Incan culture, climbing granite cliffs, and the Andean wilds.

Neruda, Pablo. *The Heights of Machu Picchu: A Bilingual Edition*. Trans. By Nathaniel Tarn. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1967.

Inspired by his journey to Machu Picchu, this poem is one of the finest and most famous poems written by this Chilean Nobel Prize winning poet.



Purpose of Course

In this First Year Seminar course, you will learn how different academic disciplines interpret and study the world and its many cultures. You will do this by focusing on one lost Incan city—Machu Picchu. As a 15th Century relic of the Incan civilization, this city, wrapped by the Urubamba River and towering at the height of 7,970 feet, serves as pivotal object that different academic fields can examine. You will see how, under the lens of different academic areas, it has become the source of so much history and so many scientific and cultural phenomena. It is an icon, a symbol, a World Heritage sanctuary, and so much more.

In this class, you will also explore and discuss different aspects of academic life, write some self-reflective essays, set life goals, begin your own academic inquiry, reflect on different artistic and academic works, and discuss your perception of culture, society, and language. The goal of this course is to stretch your thinking, help you integrate yourself into the academic community, and prepare you to embark on your

own academic quest. Ultimately, it should serve as a general orientation to the resources and requirements of academic life at this university.

Course Topics:

1. The journey to and from Machu Picchu.
2. Machu Picchu in various academic disciplines (Painting, Poetry, Science, History, Writing, etc.)
3. Metaphors and methods of discovery.
4. Discovery versus appropriation: Peru versus Yale.
5. Andean versus American: Culture, society, and Language.
6. The *Quipu*: Storytelling and the intellectual apparatus.
7. Self-management, Self-expression, and the Pursuit of Knowledge.
8. Critical Thinking and Writing.



Overall Goals and Benefits of the Course

After successfully completing this course, you should have:

1. Acquired an understanding of various liberal arts disciplines by reading and thinking about the experiences and knowledge embodied in these academic fields.
2. Learned to recognize some of the varied means of thinking, knowing, and experiencing employed in the Humanities and Fine Arts, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Social and Behavioral Sciences
3. Discussed and examined many of the challenge that confront new students.
4. Developed critical and analytical skills and express them in written and oral argument. Gained an appreciation of the General Education Program and how it complements each of the academic disciplines taught on campus.
5. Learned to write “academic discourse” and written at least 1500 words or more.
6. Learned how to use the library’s database sources of information to search and retrieve evidence.
7. Used evidence to form an informed opinion or judgment (including the process of analysis, synthesis, thesis development, and exposition).



System of Evaluation

Standards of Measurement			Criteria and Weight	
Performance Description	Grade	Percentage		
Excellent	A	93 > 100 %	Class Discussion/Participation	10%
	A-	90 > 92 %	Homework and Reading Journal	10%
Good	B+	87 > 89 %	Discussion Board	10%
	B	83 > 86 %	Midterm	20%
Satisfactory	B-	80 > 82 %	Essays (2)	30%
	C+	77 > 79%	Final Exam	20%
	C	73 > 76 %	Total	100%
Marginal	C-	70 > 72 %	<i>Extra Credit</i>	+15%
	D+	67 > 69 %		
	D	63 > 66 %		
Failing	D-	60 > 62 %		
	F	0 > 59 %		

Note: Be aware that some of your student work will be collected anonymously to help assess the effectiveness of the First Year Seminar Program. See “Assessment” in the Required Language section below for more details.



Important Dates

Essay 1 – Sept. 23 rd , 2022	Midterm – Sept. 30 th , 2022
Essay 2 –	Final Exam – Dec. 7 th , 2022 at 12:30 PM



Main Class Components

Class Discussion/Participation:

Think of this course's format is that of a small group of students who meet and discuss the assigned reading/s and/or critical thinking tasks. Class prizes the fluid exchange of ideas. The ultimate success of this course depends on the entire group's degree of cohesion and constructive participation. For this reason, you are expected to complete all the assigned readings before each class meeting and become involved as an active participant in discussion. Also, you are encouraged to bring questions to class about the readings, assignments, or research. You should attend class regularly and be punctual.

You will receive participation scores throughout the semester from your peers, as well as the professor. The final participation grade will be determined according to this ratio: 60% professor, 40% peers.

In order for an absence to be considered "excused" you need to document any illness, serious mitigating circumstances, or official university representation. Absences due to COVID-19-related illness, quarantine, and/or isolation will be excused as well. Any "unexcused" absence will result in a 15% reduction in your final Participation grade at the end of the semester. Any partial absence (over 15 minutes) will count as ½ a day's absence or a 7.5% loss. If you miss two classes in a row, the professor will send an email to absent@mansfield.edu for administrative follow-up.

Any work you miss during an excused absence must be completed in a reasonable and timely manner, one agreed upon by you and the professor. You must provide documentation before absences can be excused.

Homework and Reading Journal:

During the semester you will periodically be assigned (1) guided-reading questions that complement the texts being read, (2) academic exploration activities, and occasionally, and (3) brief supplementary readings. These assignments will constitute one half of the Homework and Reading grade.

You will make Journal entries daily that should reflect the work done both during and after class. These entries will constitute the other half of the Homework and Reading Journal grade. They should include academic, emotional, creative, and intellectual comments. In these journal entries, you should prepare comments and notes on the assigned readings. You can use this commentary and reflection later in class discussions or to prepare for an exam. Your daily journal entries should summarize the notes that you take during class and while reading at home. The suggested format is the [Modified Cornell Method](#).

Discussion Board:

You will also need to participate weekly on the class's electronic Discussion Board in D2L. The themes on the Discussion Board will be related to class readings and discussion. Your commentary need not be copious, but it should be consistent. Each weekly assignment is graded "Pass" or "Fail", where "Pass" equals 1pt and "Fail" equals 0pts. In a ten-week semester, for example, there would be ten points possible. At his discretion, the professor may assign extra points for exceptional entries.

Essays:

You will write two short essays during the semester (2-3 pages in length). These must be typed (12pt Times New Roman, double-spaced) and may include academic references (which must be cited according to the MLA Bibliographical Format). These Essays are designed to either foster (1) more thoughtful student engagement on campus or (2) help students reach a deeper understanding of a class theme. When each of these essays is assigned (see Calendar), you may opt to (1) express your viewpoint regarding the value of having attended a campus event (Liberal Arts Panel, public lecture, film, debate, concert, etc.) or (2) write about the theme assigned by the professor in class. In either case, your essay must include an organized argument and clear response/reaction. In the case of a campus event, you need to describe the event you participated in thoroughly and review the experience (explain why it was valuable or was not). Each topic suggested by the professor will be explained in more detail during class.

EXTRA CREDIT: You may write one additional Essay and receive an extra credit score worth up to 15% of your Final Grade. You must turn-in prior to the Final Exam.

Midterm and Final Exam:

The Midterm and Final exams will cover material from various weeks of class discussion, as well as key facts and information gained through the assigned readings. These exams will be comprehensive and accumulative in content and may include true/false, multiple-choice, fill-in the blank answers, as well as, short in-class essay. You may bring a dictionary and a pre-prepared outline and thesis statement for the short in-class essay section. In any case, you need to take the exams on the day scheduled for examination. If you are absent, then you will receive a zero (unless you have made a prior arrangement with the professor or can provide the professor with a copy of a signed excuse from a physician, coach or other authority no later than the first class period after the excused absence).



Class Citizenship

General Course Expectations:

You should attend every class, prepare your homework assignments, and maintain a class journal (containing notes taken both in the classroom and during assigned readings, or research). Active class engagement will be one of our class priorities, so you should not only come prepared daily, but also expect to periodically work in groups and make informal in-class presentations.

Technology:

Cell phones, laptop computers, etc. can be used to complete any class-related activities assigned in class. However, you should refrain from using any form of social media, sending texts or email, or surfing the web for non-course related matters. In order to keep from disturbing others, you should also leave the classroom to accept any emergency cellphone calls. And, in the interest of preserving an effective learning environment, you should turn off your cellphone or set it on “vibrate” during class.

Be aware that your professor can commandeer or ask you to turn off any electronic device for remainder of the course, should it disrupt the class’s attention or affect your participation in class activities. He may also reduce your daily Participation Grade by half.



The Syllabus, Communication, and Expectations

Make sure to monitor your progress and maintain contact with your instructor throughout the course. The professor grades and returns each assignment, but prefers not post grades on D2L. He will share a method of how to calculate them with you or you can make an office visit to discuss them. Any material or record that has been returned to you becomes your responsibility to maintain as a permanent record for the course. You are responsible for picking up/downloading any materials that are made available and/or those that are returned to you throughout class. If you lose these records and the professor does not have a copy of the material, then you could receive a failing grade for the particular activity.

You should periodically check the course web site for any updates to the syllabus and/or class calendar, because you recognize that a syllabus serves as a contractual agreement between you and the Instructor of Record. As such, Dr. William P. Keeth is only person who will issue your course grade. By attending class, you agree to the items and obligations stipulated in the syllabus and agree to any modifications made throughout the semester in class.



Required Language

Students Requesting Academic and/or Access Accommodations:

Commonwealth University at Bloomsburg, Lock Haven, and Mansfield are committed to providing equitable access to educational experiences, campus facilities, and university related opportunities for all students. Disability Services supports these requests for accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you have or believe that you have a disability, please contact the office that corresponds to your campus:

Bloomsburg University - Warren Student Services Room 043, or call [570-389-4491](tel:570-389-4491) for an appointment to discuss your requests

Lock Haven University - 205 Ulmer Hall, or call [570-484-2665](tel:570-484-2665)

Mansfield University - [570-484-2665](tel:570-484-2665) or [570-389-4491](tel:570-389-4491)

Students should contact the Disability Services office during the *first two weeks of classes* or *immediately* upon diagnosis of a disability to ensure accommodations are met in an efficient, appropriate, and timely manner. This ensures the best student learning outcome. Upon qualification, a disability professional will arrange to provide an accommodation letter to the professor that identifies the academic or

accessibility adjustments needed. You must contact the Disability Services office to renew accommodation letters at the start of each semester.

Assessment:

You should be aware that, the following class artifacts will be collected anonymously in order to assess the First Year Experience Program:

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

1. Acquire an understanding of various liberal arts disciplines by reading and thinking about the experiences and knowledge embodied in these academic fields.
2. Describe some of the varied means of thinking, knowing, and experiencing employed in the Humanities and Fine Arts, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Social and Behavioral Sciences
3. Gain an appreciation of the General Education Program and how it complements each of the academic disciplines taught on campus.
4. Develop critical and analytical skills and express them in written and oral argument.
5. Recognize, develop, and write "academic discourse" of at least 1500 words or more.
6. Use the library's database sources of information to search and retrieve evidence.
7. Use researched evidence to form an informed opinion or judgment (including the process of analysis, synthesis, thesis development, and exposition).

Artifact Collected	SLO Measured
Homework and Reading Journal	All SLO's
Discussion Board	1, 2, 3, 4
Midterm	1, 2, 4
Essays (2)	1, 3, 4
Final Exam	1, 4, 5

Health and Safety Plan for Fall 2022 and the Student Code of Conduct:

Commonwealth University's Student Code of Conduct prohibits the violation of any University policy as well as local, state, or federal laws. Expressly included in this expectation are any federal, state, regional, or local emergency orders or declarations, mandatory policies, or mandatory health advisory requirements, including those made by the University President.

Commonwealth's Health and Safety Guide for Fall 2022 recommends that members of our community comply with certain measures, including social distancing and the wearing face coverings, to help reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. Adherence to the isolation and quarantine guidance for exposure or if an individual tests positive for the COVID virus is expected of the entire campus community. Social distancing and the wearing of face coverings guidance are based on the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in all buildings and classrooms. Face coverings must cover both the nose and mouth and be of a multi-layer design. KN95 and surgical masks provide the best protection. Neck gators are not acceptable for face covering and should not be used. Students who do not conform any specified university mandate of mitigation actions are in violation of the Student Code of Conduct and subject to the appropriate sanctions. Violations of the student Code of Conduct, will be reported to the Dean of Students Offices at DeanofStudents@bloomu.edu. For more information, please, see the university's Health and Safety Plan at:

Bloomsburg: <https://www.bloomu.edu/coronavirus>

Lock Haven: <https://www.lockhaven.edu/virusinfo/>

Mansfield: mansfield.edu/health

It is important to recognize the critical nature that full compliance with these policies will play in the success of this semester. It must be understood that non-compliance with these policies by just a few could jeopardize the health and safety of the entire community, as well as our ability to continue offering in-person instruction during Fall 2022. Therefore, violations will be treated accordingly. Repeated violations shall result in the appropriate sanctions based upon the circumstances involved. Please note: Students who have medical conditions that prevent them from wearing face coverings or complying with other risk-mitigating mandates must contact the following based on home campus:

Bloomsburg University - Warren Student Services Room 043, or call [570-389-4491](tel:570-389-4491) for an appointment to discuss your requests

Lock Haven University - 205 Ulmer Hall, or call [570-484-2665](tel:570-484-2665)

Mansfield University - [570-484-2665](tel:570-484-2665) or [570-389-4491](tel:570-389-4491)

Statement on Diversity and Inclusion:

At Commonwealth University of PA, we recognize our responsibility to continuously support a living, learning, and working environment that values the diverse contributions from all members of our campus community. Our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion enriches our campus community and is instrumental to our institutional success. Commonwealth University of PA strives to cultivate a climate that allows all members to embrace diversity, equity and inclusion. We strive to achieve success both in and out of the classroom, in our work responsibilities, and in our professional lives beyond our time at BU/LHU/MU. We uphold our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion at each campus community by:

- Actively supporting and promoting the intellectual and personal growth of our students, inside and outside of the classroom.
- Providing workshops, trainings, programs designed to broaden the knowledge and understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion within our campus community.
- Ensuring that all learning and living environments throughout our campus are welcoming and capable of serving all individuals.

Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity refers to the adherence to agree upon moral and ethical principles when engaging in academic and scholarly pursuits. An act of academic dishonesty involves fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in attempting to obtain academic credit or influence the grading process by means unauthorized by the course instructor or inconsistent with university policy.

Academic honesty is breached when a student willfully gives or receives assistance not authorized in course work, and/or intentionally fails to adhere to or assists others in failing to adhere to the university policy on academic honesty. The university's academic integrity policy is part of an effort to nurture a community where trust, honesty, and personal integrity guide all of our dealings with one another. Personal integrity is vital to our pursuit of educating and becoming educated. Faculty are expected to instruct students in ways of avoiding these forms of academic dishonesty.

Attendance Policy:

Regular and punctual class attendance is expected and is the foundation for academic success. When class work is missed due to extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control, the student communicates the need for special arrangements as soon as the need is known. Official documentation is provided to verify the reason for the absence if requested by the instructor. Legitimate excuses may include illness, serious mitigating circumstances, official military service, or official university representation. In these cases, faculty members will permit students to make up all graded course components without penalty in a reasonable manner at a time agreeable to the instructor and student. Students must provide documentation before absences can be excused. All instructors are expected to make their class participation and attendance policies clear in the course syllabi. Policies stated in syllabi must be consistent with the university's attendance policy. Faculty will accept notification from the Dean of Students or Health Services offices as verification of excused absence for students who are unable to notify faculty through no fault of their own.

Copyright:

Commonwealth University fully supports and adheres to the Copyright laws of the United States and other nations. Respect for intellectual labor and creativity is vital to academic discourse and enterprise. This principle applies to any original work in any tangible medium of expression. Images displayable on computer screens, computer software, music, books, magazines, journals, photographs, and articles are among items subject to copyright. A work need not be explicitly labeled with a copyright notice to be afforded copyright protection. For more information on Copyright please consult the library guides:

Bloomsburg: <https://www.bloomu.edu/copyright-law-and-fair-use-andruss-library>

Lock Haven: <https://library.lockhaven.edu/copyright>

Mansfield: <http://mansfield.libguides.com/copyright>.

Student Consumer Rights and Responsibilities:

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) was enacted in 2008 and reauthorized the amended Higher Education Act of 1965. HEOA requires postsecondary educational institutions to distribute or make publicly available a broad range of information collectively known as Student Consumer Information. Topics covered under HEOA include student financial aid, campus health and safety, student outcomes, as well as general institutional information. For more information, you refer to the following websites:

Bloomsburg Student Consumer Information website: <https://www.bloomu.edu/higher-education-act-hea-student-consumer-information>

Lock Haven Student Consumer Information website: <https://lockhaven.edu/about/consumerinfo.html>

Mansfield's Student Consumer Information website: <http://mansfield.edu/HEA/>.

Title IX and Protection of Minors Legislation: Reporting Obligations:

Commonwealth University and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students.

Sexual Discrimination or Misconduct and Title IX Requirements

In order to meet this commitment and to comply with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, all University officials, volunteers and employees (including student employees) are obligated to report incidents of sexual misconduct of which they become aware to the Title IX Coordinator/designee, unless: 1) they serve in a role that makes such reports privileged or are recognized as providing a confidential resource; or 2) they are a faculty member and learn of the report from a student during a classroom discussion, in a writing assignment for a class, or as part of a University-approved research project. These reporting exceptions do not apply to report of sexual misconduct involving an individual who was, or is, a child (a person under 18 years of age) when the abuse allegedly occurred. When a report involved suspected abuse of a child (an individual under the age of 18 at the time of the incident(s) as reported), all University employees, officials and volunteers are required to notify the University police and the Child Line run by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.

Reports regarding Title IX and sexual misconduct should be directed to Title IX Coordinator titleixcoord@bloomu.edu or by completing an online form on the Title IX webpage.

Additional information regarding the reporting of sexual violence and the resources that are available to victims of sexual assault and/or harassment can be found at the links below.

Bloomsburg: <https://www.bloomu.edu/offices-directory/title-ix>

Lock Haven: <https://www.lockhaven.edu/hr/titleix/>

Mansfield: <https://www.mansfield.edu/title-ix/>

Protection of Minors Requirements

Faculty members are obligated to report sexual violence or any other abuse of a student who was, or is, a child (a person under 18 years of age) when the abuse allegedly occurred. Mandated reporters must immediately make an oral report of suspected child abuse to the Department of Human Services (DHS) by calling 800-932-0313. Immediately following the report to DHS, the mandated reporter must notify Human Resources (570-389-4151), as designated in the University's Protection of Minors Policy. No exceptions apply to this reporting obligation. Detailed information is available at:

Bloomsburg: <https://www.bloomu.edu/prp-2410-background-screening-protection-minors-volunteerism>

Lock Haven: https://lockhaven.edu/about/documents/LHU-48_Minors_Handbook_July2020.pdf

Mansfield: <http://www.mansfield.edu/hr/protection-of-minors.cfm>.