Arabic, Persian, and Japanese literature. These “Praises” will be graded not for polish but for insight and engagement. I tend to grade them much more leniently or generously than other work (provided that they make it quite clear that you have indeed read the material, and not merely read the intros and/or darkened to the lecture).

**Grading system:** Each piece of your work will be graded with a letter grade. For purposes of averaging, A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0, M[issing] = −2. In exams, the averaging of grades for each of three questions will commonly produce one-third and two-third fractions, and thus pluses and minuses on the overall exam grades. Pluses and minuses will also be used in grading term papers, with the same numeric value of one-third. Weights of the various grade components are as follows: Praises 18% (3% each); Midterm 15%; Paper 30%; Final 30%; Attendance and Participation 7%. Grades on written work that comes in late will not themselves be docked or reduced, though be warned that I will not much exert myself to grade or return it promptly. (Praises submitted on time should normally come back to you in one week, midterms in two, while timely term papers will be returned when you hand in your final exam paper.)

**Sexual Content Warning**

Literature very commonly deals with sex, and often in very uninhibited ways. This is not at all an exclusively modern phenomenon. Two centuries ago, Dr. Thomas Bowdler had an idea for correcting this “problem”; he published censored or expurgated versions of Shakespeare’s plays, so that inhibited and proper nineteenth-century young ladies could read them without scandal or embarrassment. Thus his name became a verb: “to Bowdlerize.” This course will not be Bowdlerized. If you are uncomfortable with talk or discussion pertaining to sex, I respectfully urge that you find some other course to fulfill your requirements.

**A Note on Academic Integrity**

Within modern Western Academic culture, when you submit intellectual work product for academic credit, your act signifies that the work is your own new and original stuff, the result of your own individual thinking, except as precisely noted otherwise; and that implicit statement must be the truth. Your thinking will be much enriched by others’ input, we all hope; but you are expected to digest this input thoroughly and assimilate it into your own thinking, much as your body might digest the tissue of a food plant or animal and convert it into your own body tissue. In the paper, facts and ideas (as well as actual wording) for which you are indebted to others (your sources) must be precisely noted and carefully acknowledged—even what you have more or less thoroughly “digested”—according to a standard documentation system (either MLA or APA style). Further expectations for academic integrity are that students will not collaborate on quizzes, as for instance by sharing a quiz answer key with a classmate who might yet have to make up the quiz. Demonstrable violation of these expectations will result in a reduced or failing grade for the course, and will also be reported to the University Conduct Officer, which may result in more severe sanctions if this should prove not to be an isolated offense.

**Accommodations / Accessibility Notice**

All persons coming and behaving as students are welcome in this class. Accessibility Services will work with me to honor the purposes and guarantees of 42 U.S. Code Chapter 126, by arranging reasonable and necessary accommodations. If you require such, start with Accessibility Services (Decker 202, Box 43, 755-3883, accessibilityservices[at-sign]bemidjistate.edu). Relevant disclosures direct to me are at your discretion, will be kept confidential, and may help further. Upon request we can make this syllabus itself, and other course materials, available in alternate formats.