**Eastern European Learning Module**

Bridging Cultures

Kim Revay, Adjunct Faculty

Business, Arts, Sciences, and Technology

Community College of Beaver County

**Course Title**: Eastern European Literature. (This course has not been taught at the college. This course is formulated from the existing British Literature course taught at the college.)

**Lesson/Module Title**: Displacement/Dislocation

**Learning Objective**: The purpose of this module is to introduce and expose students of the study of literature, particularly to those students who have had possibly a semester in American Literature or British Literature to become familiar with another addition of Eastern European Literature. The students will read and respond, through writings and oral presentations, the texts of various Eastern European writers, in the content of being displaced or dislocated through economic, political, social, and environmental situations imposed on these writers. Students will also compare, through familiar American writers, what the difference, if any, lies between these two groups according to the texts and the multiple meanings of displacement and dislocation.

Students will compare Dubravks Ugresic in her treatment of dislocation to Pawel Huelle’s means of dislocation.

Students will research and respond, in written essays, the literary elements according to the Eastern European implementation as presented in Angels Beneath the Surface. Students, in oral presentations, will present the differences between Serbian, Slovenia, and Lithuanian writers through Voices In the Shadows: Women and Verbal Art in Serbia and Bosnia, Afterwards: Slovenian Writing 1945 - 1995, and The Earth Remains: Anthology of Contemporary Lithuanian Prose.

**Description of Module**: Displacement is the difference between the initial position of an object and a later position. Dislocation is to displace from normal connections.

A survey of Eastern European Literature will allow students to gather information of what life is like in the Eastern European region through the texts of those who have been displaced and dislocated, according to the region’s history. This survey will concentrate on writers from Serbia, Bosnia, Croatia, Poland, This module will introduce students to those voices through fiction, poetry, essays, and memoir. Students will also contrast the Eastern European writers with American writers - a description of displacement and dislocation will apply in addition to the concept of what makes an “American” or “Eastern European” writer.

**List/description of Learning Activities**: The semester will be broken down into *three* month sections.

1. All three months will include readings from the Eastern European writers along side American writers.
2. The second month will initiate the discussion of comparing and contrasting the two groups.
3. The third month will bring presentations of at least one Eastern European writer with one American writer and the presentations will take form of written responses plus oral presentations to the class. Also, an exchange of a possible Skype with students from an educational institution within Eastern Europe to the students of the class , as in a question and answer session on the effect of displacement and dislocation in literature will complete the final requirement of the class.
4. **A prerequisite** of one literature class will be necessary for the students to have experience of literary critical analysis.

**List of Eastern European Literature:**

Afterwards: Slovenian Writing 1945 - 1955 by Andrew Zawacki.

Angels Beneath The Surface: A Selection of Contemporary Slovene Fiction by Mitja Cander and Tom Priestly.

The Croatian Nation In Its Struggle for Freedom and Independence by Antun F. Bonifacic and Clement S. Mihonovich.

The Earth Remans: An Anthology of Contemporary Lithuanian Prose.

Moving House by Pawel Huelle

Nobody’s Home by Dubravka Ugresic and Ellen Ellas-Bursac

Voices in the Shadows: Women and Verbal Art in Serbia and Bosnia by Celia Hawkesworth.

**List of American Literature:**

Open to the student’s discretion under the tutelage of the instructor.

**Various handouts of fiction, poetry, essays, and memoirs will be provided by the instructor according to the pace of the class.**