

CMLT 2210: WESTERN WORLD LITERATURE 1
Fall 2007 MWF 10:10-11:00 Park Hall 74

Instructor: Will Abney
Call Number: 03-520
Office Location: 226 Joseph E. Brown Hall
Office Hours: MWF 9AM-10AM (and by appointment)
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Required Readings:

Epic of Gilgamesh, Anonymous. Penguin Epics. Penguin: New York, 2001.

ISBN 978-0141026282

Utopia, Thomas More. Digireads.com: Stilwell, KS, 2005.

ISBN 978-1420922493

Course Reader available at Bel-Jean Printing (across from the arch). (Abbreviated "CR")

**FEEL FREE TO PURCHASE THESE TWO BOOKS ONLINE –
THAT IS WHY I HAVE INCLUDED THEIR ISBN'S!**

Course Description:

We will be reading literature of the Western World (primarily Europe, but you will notice the Middle East in there, too) from the earliest written texts to the beginning of the Modern Era (roughly 400-500 years ago).

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, you should be familiar with some of the most influential literary works on the Western worldview. This is a course in comparative literature, so you should be able to work with texts from multiple national and linguistic backgrounds in order to see themes that are similar and different throughout the Western tradition. You will be given the chance to compare these texts through a series of short writing assignments (designed to improve your abilities to write on a literary topic) and tests (designed to measure your comprehension and retention of the literary works discussed).

Course Policies:

- Attendance – In a literature class that revolves around discussion, your attendance is crucial to the class. Sometimes, though, things happen beyond our control. I will not ask for a note from your doctor or from your parent/guardian if you miss up to three class meetings. You will, however, lose two (2) points from your final grade for every absence after your third. N.B. – texting, sleeping, playing games on a laptop or doing classwork for another class all constitute an absence.
- Tardiness – Don't be tardy. I will consider any late arrival as ½ an absence, even if you come in one (1) minute late. Be respectful of your classmates. When the door opens, it distracts everyone and derails the discussion.
- Participation – Come to class having read the assigned texts for the day and with ideas to discuss. Without your participation, the class will stagnate. I advise you to come to each class with three (3) questions that will stimulate discussion. You will never be asked to

turn in those questions, but they will help facilitate the discussion. And keep in mind, **informed** participation counts for 10% of your final grade.

- Course assignments are expected to be completed on time. This includes daily readings and papers. I will not accept late work, and quizzes cannot be made up.
- It is the policy of the University of Georgia to accommodate persons with disabilities. Students with a disability or health-related issue who need accommodation should make an appointment with the instructor as soon as possible.
- Safe Space: I am a UGA-trained Safe Space faculty member. My office is a Safe Space and this classroom will be one as well. We will be respectful of other peoples' opinions and lifestyles; no derogatory remarks of a sexual, religious or racial nature will be tolerated.



Evaluation:

Short Essays: 30% (2 of these at 15% each)

Explication: 15%

Midterm Exam: 15%

Final Exam: 20%

Informed Participation: 10%

Unannounced Reading Quizzes: 10%

Short Essays: You will write two short (3-5 pages) essays in the first half of the course. These will be comparative and reflective in nature. You will be asked to compare at least two texts that we have read in class. These essays will be reflective, meaning they represent **your** thoughts; no outside reading or research is required. They are due at the beginning of class on the due dates indicated.

Explication: This is your opportunity to focus on a single text. The chosen text should be short – around 100 lines from a piece of literature read in class – and allow for you to develop your thoughts regarding its relevance to the surround text and to the text as a whole. Like the essays, no outside reading or research is required. It should also be 3-5 pages in length.

Midterm and Final Exam: These will be mainly objective in nature. Each test will be concerned with half of the course: the midterm will consist of questions pertaining to the first half and the final exam will cover material from the second half.

Quizzes: These will be sporadic and unannounced, being concerned with the content in the assigned texts for the day. You can count on having a quiz at least once every other week.

Academic Honesty: The provisions of the UGA Honor Code will be strictly enforced. Your work in the class must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty,” found at the following address for more information:
<http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/acadhon.htm>.

Course Schedule:

(This is a general plan for the course. Modifications may be necessary from time to time.)

Week 1

8/17 Introduction to the Course / Overview of Western Literature

Unit 1: Creations and Floods

Week 2: Hebrew Mythology: *Genesis*

8/20 *Genesis* 1:1-2:25 (CR)

8/22 *Genesis* 3:1-5:32 (CR)

8/24 *Genesis* 6:1-11:9 (CR)

Week 3: Mesopotamian Mythology: *Gilgamesh*

8/27 *Gilgamesh*, pp. vii-24

8/29 *Gilgamesh*, pp. 25-49

8/31 *Gilgamesh*, pp. 50-63

Week 4: Roman Mythology via Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*

9/5 Book 1 (CR)

9/7 Book 14 (CR)

Unit 2: Classical Commentaries

9/10 Introduction to Greek and Roman Epic Literature (**Essay 1 due!**)

Week 5: Greek Drama: Aristophanes

9/12 *Wealth* (CR)

9/14 *Wealth* (CR)

Week 6: Latin Satire

9/17 Horace: *Satires* 1.1-1.5 (CR)

9/19 Juvenal: *Satires* Book 2 (CR)

9/21 Juvenal: *Satires* Book 4 (CR)

9/24 Seneca: *Apocolocyntosis of the Divine Claudius* (CR)

Week 7: Classical Wit

9/26 Aesop: *Fables* (Selections) (CR)

9/28 Martial: *Epigrams* Books 1 and 4 (Selections) (CR)

Unit 3: Medieval Love, Religion and the Vernacular

10/1 Introduction to the Medieval World (**Essay 2 due!**)

Andreas Capellanus: “The Rules” in *The Art of Courtly Love* (CR)

Hartmann von Aue

“If a man takes his delight” (CR)

“I said I wanted to live always for her” (CR)

Week 8: Courtly Love

- 10/3 Gace Brulé
 “When I see daybreak coming on” (CR)
 Thibaut de Champagne
 “I am like the unicorn” (CR)
 Adam de la Halle
 “It is a miracle what a wish I have” (CR)
 Walther von der Vogelweide
 “*Diu minne lâst sich nennen dâ*” (CR)
 “*Ez ist in unsern kurzen tagen*” (CR)
 Hartmann von Aue
 “My service to my lady” (CR)
 “No one in this world is a happy man” (CR)
 “By your leave I depart” (CR)
- 10/5 Hartmann von Aue: *Poor Heinrich* (CR)

Week 9: Short Literature

- 10/8 Marie de France: “The Lay of Lanval” (CR)
- 10/10 Fabliaux: (CR)
 “The Snow Baby”, Anonymous
 “The Butcher of Abbeville”, Eustache d’Amiens
 “The Miller and the Two Clerics”, Anonymous
 “The Woman Who Hanged Her Husband’s Body”, Marie
 “The Man Who Had a Quarrelsome Wife”, Marie de France
 “The Priest’s Breeches”, Jean de Condé
- 10/12 Rutebeuf: *Miracle de Théophile* (CR)

Week 10: Midterm Stuff

- 10/15 Review Session for Midterm
- 10/17 Midterm**

Weeks 11-12: The Chivalric Tradition (More Arthur!)

- 10/19 *Mabinogion: Pwyll Lord of Dyved* (CR)
- 10/22 Thomas Mallory: *The Death of Arthur* (excerpt) (CR)
 Andreas Capellanus: *Courtly Love* (excerpt) (CR)
 Chrétien de Troyes: *Lancelot* (excerpt) (CR)
- 10/24 Wolfram von Eschenbach: *Parzival* (excerpt) (CR)
 Gottfried von Strassbourg: *Tristan and Isolde* (excerpt) (CR)
- 10/29 *Aucassin and Nicolette* pp. 1-30 (CR)
- 10/31 *Aucassin and Nicolette* pp. 31-59 (CR)

Unit 4: The Ends of the Ages

- 11/2 Introduction to the Renaissance
- Week 13: Cross-section of Life in Chaucer: *Canterbury Tales*
- 11/5 The Prologue (CR)
- 11/7 The Miller’s Tale (CR)
- 11/9 The Friar’s Tale (CR)

Week 14: Italian Renaissance via Dante: *Inferno*

- 11/12 Cantos 1, 3, 4 (CR)
 11/14 Cantos 8, 11, 12 (CR)
 11/16 Cantos 31-34 (CR)
11/19 Early Modern Overview (**Explication due!**)
Utopia, pp. 5-7

Week 15: Renaissance Idealism in Thomas More

- 11/26 *Utopia*, pp. 8-35
 11/28 *Utopia*, pp. 36-63
 11/30 *Utopia*, pp. 64-90

Week 16: English Renaissance

- 12/3 Shakespeare: *The Winter's Tale* Acts 1-2 (CR)
 12/4 Shakespeare: *The Winter's Tale* Acts 3-4 (CR)
 12/5 Shakespeare: *The Winter's Tale* Act 5 (CR)

12/14 Final Exam from 8AM-11AM in Park Hall 74

Dates to Remember:

2 Short Reflective Essays (3-5 pages each)

Due: 9/10, 10/1

Explication of a Short Text (3-5 pages)

Due: 11/19

Midterm Exam: 10/17

Final Exam: 12/14 (Friday) 8AM-11AM

Schedule Notes:

Labor Day 9/3

Fall Break 10/25-10/26

Thanksgiving Break 11/21-11/23

"Friday Schedule" 12/4