

CMLT 2111: *Western World Literature before 1700*

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Hours: TBA

This course is designed with the student in mind: here, in this classroom, you are all Comparatists, some for the first time in your lives. Here, your job is to analyze literature from an exoteric view, a view outside the literature, as well as from an esoteric view, from inside the literature and beyond to its deeper meanings. What does this all mean? This student-centered class will focus on the ever-present human nature seen in texts from different cultures and time periods from Ancient Mesopotamia to Renaissance Italy. Your job will be to point out the similarities and differences between the literature we read and the world in which we live--indeed, to Compare Literature--to yourself, your own world, and your knowledge of other times, cultures and ideas. In any job market you will enter, the skills of analyzing oneself and one's subject objectively are key, and could mean the difference between starting a conflict and ending one. Who knows? Perhaps you may decide, like me, to make a career out of this sort of thing!

DO YOUR OWN WORK: *"All academic work must meet the standards contained in 'A Culture of Honesty.' All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before any academic work."*

COME TO CLASS: Continued attendance is mandatory, not to mention especially helpful in passing the class. I reserve the right to drop any student from the course after 4 unexcused absences. Extraordinary circumstances permitting, the class cannot perform efficiently without its students.

BRING THE HEAVY BOOK: *The Norton Anthology of Western World Literature*, 8th ed., Vol. 1, Sarah Lawall, ed. ISBN# 0-393-97289-5. Available at the UGA Bookstore.

GRADING: I grade on the point system, with point values determining the grade equitably.

One Paper = 40 pts.

Seven Quizzes = ~ 16 pts. **each!**

Participation = in class!

Total pts: ~ 152 pts. possible

CHANGE IS THE ONLY CONSTANT: *"The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary."*

Class Schedule, Thru Term—June 7th thru July 31st:

Week 1 ~ Class Intro, Hebrews: Genesis 1-4, Song of Songs

Week 2 ~ Greek and Roman Women: Sappho, Sulpicia, Lysistrata, Antigone, Quiz

Week 3 ~ Rome: Pseudolus, Catullus, Ovid, Quiz

Week 4 ~ Early Middle Ages: New Testament, Perpetua, Radegund, Quiz

Week 5 ~ High Middle Ages: Marie de France, Medieval Lyrics, Fabliaux, Quiz

Week 6 ~ Late Middle Ages: C.T. Prologue, Miller's P&T, W.o.B's P&T, Quiz

Week 7 ~ Early Renaissance: Erasmus, Machiavelli, Carpe Diem Poetry, Quiz

Week 8 ~ Milton, Milton, Milton! Quiz

Week 9 ~ Papers Due August 1st!